

Mount Isa Athletics

PRESS RELEASE

4th October 2014

It has proven very difficult to select any one single highlight from the Mount Isa Athletic Clubs performances at the ANQ Championships in Townsville last weekend. The team of 36 returned with 2 Championship Records, the Junior Boy and Girl Points Champions, 16 Club Records, 5 new Development Squad Qualifiers, 113 placings and 118 PB's from 270 events.

It was obvious that the team was in for a good weekend when Kale "Blackflash" Johnson led out with a soaring 7.15m Long Jump Club Record early Friday night. While around the same time 12 year old Conor Bowden was setting a new Championship Record for the 200m Hurdles. Mitchell Hujanen at this point had already added a metre to the 15 year Mens Isa Club Record with a throw of 36.58m in Hammer and Barbara Baker was about to improve the 40 – 44 year Womens 1500m Walk Club Record.

Definite contenders for the highlight of the Championships were when 10 year old Denzil Perkins and 11 year old Michelle Bracs were announced as the Junior Male and Female Points Champions. Denzil had amassed 6 gold and 2 bronze medals, 1 Meet Record, 5 Club Records and 5 personal bests from 9 events. Similarly Michelle's haul was 3 gold, 4 silver and 1 bronze, 1 Club Record and 4 PB's from 8 events.

Club Records seem common place with Tarell Rae adding the 12 year Girls Long Jump – 4.55m and 100m – 13.79s to the ever growing list as did Breanna "Cannon" Waerea's Shot Put of 10.29m Lachlan McCoy 400m – 58.13s and Triple Jump – 11.08m, Kale "Blackflash" Johnson added the 100 Yards – 10.03s to his Long Jump Record, David Scott's shoulder injury was enough to force him to run a discounted height in the 110m hurdles but still managed to break the Club Record for the lower height. Master athlete Barb Baker again chipped away at the 40-44 year 60m lowering the time to 11.23s.

The Club as a whole managed to attain personal bests in nearly half of the events they contested. Barb Baker was one of the shining stars finishing the weekend with 8 PB's from 10 events. Not to be outdone 12 year old Tarell Rae had a perfect run of 6 from 6 PB's netting herself the season's final Perfect Score medallion. 17 other athletes - Tyler Te Wani, Trinity Perkins, Kadea O'Donnell, Denzil Perkins, Connor Baker, Michelle Bracs, Melanie Butler, Terri-Anne Knight, Ben Smith, Conor Bowden, Andrew Butler, Jade Scott, Teaghan Goodger, Lachlan McCoy, CJ Brice-Houseman, Joshua Scott and Kale Johnson – all PB'd in half of their events or better. Patrick Bakers' massive schedule of 16 events saw him come away with 8 Personal Bests.

One thing that was amazing was the margin that some of the Personal Bests were being improved by particularly in the middle distance events like the 800m. Big improvers in the 800m were Trinity Perkins – 8 seconds, Kadea O'Donnell – 8 seconds, Sienna Te Wani – 7s, Connor Baker – 7s, Melanie Butler – 4s, Terri-Anne Knight – 19s, Conor Bowden – 11s, Tarell Rae – 9s and Jade Scott – 17s. Massive improvements weren't only confined to the 800m - Lachlan McCoy and Conor Bowden added 1 metre to their Triple Jumps, Dan Grant – 3m to his discus, Teaghan

CLUB VENUE

Sunset Oval
Able Smith Parade
Mount Isa, Queensland

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Goodger – 11cm to High Jump, Conor Bowden and Melanie Butler – more than 3 s off their 400m times and Connor Baker added a massive 1 metre to his Shot Put PB.

Even athletes not fairing so well in the PB stakes such as Danial Butler and Ryan Hujanen were only slightly off the mark recording results very near to their best in most events.

Julia Creek newcomer, Ben Smith, was impressive posting results only just short of Club Records in all of his four track events.

The Clubs' three new Multi-eventers, Jade Scott, Teaghan Goodger and Courtney Boshoff, all acquired multiple PB's in their Heptathlon events with Jade Scott finishing up with 6 PB's from her 7 events. Teaghan Goodger emerged victorious finishing with 2134 points which also saw her gain a Silver Development Squad qualifier for Heptathlon. It was high tension for Jade and Courtney when Courtney failed to record a distance in the Javelin allowing Jade to slip into second place coming into the final event, the 800m. Both athletes ran PB times but Courtney's strong finish secured her second place behind Teaghan.

Along with Teaghans' Heptathlon qualifier three others also added new events to the Silver Level Development Squad list – Tarell Rae 200m and Long Jump, Ryan Hujanen 1500m walk and Mitchell Hujanen High Jump.

14 more Legend Certificates went to Ben Smith, Conor Bowden, CJ Brice-Houseman, Michelle Bracs, Terri-Anne Knight, Connor Baker, Jade Scott, Kadea O'Donnell and Lachlan McCoy. This number has now pushed the Legend Certificate total to 261 surpassing last year's record total by 5; a pretty impressive feat considering the Club has 18 less registered athletes than it did last year.

The athletes can now look forward to the Club break-up and trophy presentation on the 18th October where the Club will celebrate another extremely successful season.