

Mount Isa Athletics

PRESS RELEASE

8 April 2015

The stars keep shining bright at the Mount Isa Athletics Club as they are now able to add three more names to their ever growing list of athletes which have performed on the international stage.

Mitchell Hujanen (16), Carmen Preston (17) and Open Athlete Kale Johnson were recently informed of their success in qualifying to be part of the Regional Australia team that will be competing in the Oceania Area Championships in Cairns on the 8th to 10th of May. The Regional Australia Team will be 85 strong and one of the largest teams competing at this year's Championships. They will be pitted against some of the best athletes from the 22 Oceania Federation countries which will include New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu and many others.

Our three new stars are following in the footsteps of the club's new president Brianna 'Thor' Smith who has competed in the last 3 Oceania Championships (2012-2014), Cam Clayton (2012) and Cat 'Rocket' Hannell (2013), Mount Isa Athletics Club can now boast having no less than six of their athletes that have competed on the international stage in the last four years, not bad for a country town in the middle of nowhere.

2014 Male 'Runner of the Year' Kale Johnson, better known as "BlackFlash" will be competing in the Open Men's 100m and Long Jump. If father of 4 can replicate or better his mid 10 second runs of 2014 and his Long Jump of over 7.00m from the ANQ Championships he will no doubt be a force to be reckoned with in Cairns.

Seventeen year old Carmen 'Zeus' Preston had a very consistent year with the Javelin averaging 35 to 37m at every club day but she proved herself as a big game player when she recorded a 4m personal best at the Secondary Schools State Championships throwing 41.17m which was well and truly enough to qualify her for the championships.

Mitchell Hujanen (16), nicknamed 'Casper' and 2014 Male 'Thrower of the Year', was faced with the added pressure of having to post a qualifying distance with the Hammer during the off season as he has just entered the U/18yrs age group and is now having to throw a 5kg hammer. He had to achieve his qualifier in one of three trials organized by the club. Mitch easily accounted for the distance with a 38.89m throw which was nearly 7m over the qualifier.

This will be the first international competition for all three athletes and all are buckling down for some serious training with the Championships now less than a month away.

CLUB VENUE

Sunset Oval
Able Smith Parade
Mount Isa, Queensland

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