

# Mount Isa Athletics

## PRESS RELEASE

18 October 2015

Five of Mount Isa's finest Primary School age athletes have just returned from Townsville where they represented the North West Region at the Primary Schools State Track and Field Championships. The weekend was filled with highs and lows but one thing all the athletes agreed on was that it was a fantastic and enjoyable experience. The five consisted of four first timers in 10yr olds Rico Waerea, Gabe Wood, Sienna Hume and Kadea O'Donnell as well as championship veteran 11yr old Denzil Perkins.

Denzil won his 100m heat with a time of 13.37 which qualified him 2nd fastest for the semi final. He went on to post a personal best time of 13.12s to qualify for the final. Running 13.50s in his third 100m for the day was only enough to place him 6<sup>th</sup>, the slowest time of his three races. Had he run his semi time in the final it would have placed him in 3<sup>rd</sup> but it was not to be. He also made it through to the semi's of the 200m but his time of 27.98s placed him 11 out of the top 16 and was not enough to get him through to that final.

Also contesting the 100m was Sienna Hume. Sienna has only recently returned to the Mount Isa Club and ran a respectable time of 15.67s which was a full half second off her current PB. Had she been able to run her PB she would have qualified 5<sup>th</sup> fastest in the semi's. She does still however have bragging rights as the 33<sup>rd</sup> fastest 10yr old girl in the state.

Another athlete that was hoping for a better result was Kadea O'Donnell who had no end of trouble finding the Long Jump board and ended up a full half metre off her personal best. The club coaches are sure though that she will live up to her club nickname of 'Little Machine' and come back stronger and harder next year.

Gabe Wood competed in the 100m, 200m and 800m and posted PB's in all three events. His time of 14.80s in the 100m saw him finish 25<sup>th</sup> in the field of 45 sprinters. He improved his placing coming home 22<sup>nd</sup> fastest in the 200m running 30.24s. His highlight though was his 800m where his 15 second personal best time of 2m 41.32s saw him reach his goal of top 20 on the state coming in 18<sup>th</sup> fastest.

An athlete that club coaches have pegged as a future multi-event athlete is Rico Waerea who competed in the 100m, 200m Long Jump and Discus at the Championships. His 100m & 200m times of 14.78s and 31.20s were at or around his PB's and saw him finish 23<sup>rd</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> respectively. A one metre PB in Discus of 20.51m wasn't enough to get him near the top 7 which were all over 30m and the winning throw was a massive 38.21m. Rico's favourite event of the champs was definitely the Long Jump. He and Kadea had been putting extra training sessions with Mount Isa's 'Coach Awesome' David Scott which enabled him to reach his goal of jumping over 4m. His best for the day was 4.11m placing him 9<sup>th</sup> out of 35 competitors and allowing him to go home very happy.

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### CLUB VENUE

Sunset Oval  
Able Smith Parade  
Mount Isa, Queensland

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All the athletes had a great time competing in the 4 x 100m relays where some of them felt like they ran their fastest 100m ever.

Social Media was a buzz after the champs with all the athletes' parents showing their admiration and pride for the youngsters on how they handled themselves throughout the weekend.

The Secondary school athletes get to step up this weekend with 3 more locals in Lachlan McCoy, Breanna 'Cannon' Waerea (Rico's older sister) and Carmen 'Zeus' Preston head off to Brisbane for their State Championships.