## Mount Isa Athletics

## PRESS RELEASE

Student Games, Allcomers & Qld State Masters – 5<sup>th</sup> June 2016

It's not often you get to rub shoulders with current and future Olympians but that's what the Mount Isa Club athletes were greeted with when they arrived at the Combined ANQ Student Games/Allcomers meet/QMA State Championships in Townsville on the weekend. All of the Mount Isa athletes made the most of the opportunity to get some happy snaps with the likes of Hurdler Michelle Jenneke and Decathlete Cedric Dubler. There was no shortage of spectacular viewing for the spectators who were able to see clearances of 2.18m in the high jump and 5.30m in the Pole Vault throughout the weekend.

It really was a case of David and Goliath when our very own Coach Awesome (David Scott) was asked to upgrade his Decathlon nomination from Masters to Open to enable another athlete to gain a potential Olympic qualifier. He can now brag that he has competed against Cedric Dubler who is heading to Rio in August for the Olympics.

The nine Isa athletes competed in a total of 92 events between them and accumulated 37 personal bests. A very spectacular number considering quite a few of the events within the 92 had not been contested so far this year meaning they were unable to achieve PB's in those events.

Our own champion, Denzil Perkins, once again took out Age Champion this time for the 12 year boys. Denzil accumulated 8 gold and 1 silver medal over the weekend and took out Club records in the 200m – 27.90s, 400m – 1m03.24s, 90m hurdles – 17.14s and Long Jump – 4.53m. He obviously revels in the competition securing 10 PB's from the 13 events he competed in. His Long Jump result was also an ANQ Development Squad qualifier.

Denzil's sister, Trinity, also did well finishing with 4 PB's from her 10 events, 3 bronze medals and earned herself Club Legend Certificates in the 400m and 800m.

Jade Scott put in a stellar effort in her 15 years Triple Jump and 90m Hurdles. Her triple jump distance of 9.44m was a 40cm PB and only 6cm short of the ANQ Development Squad qualifier. Her 16.72s time in the 90m hurdles was enough to secure her the Isa Club Record.

Lachy McCoy is steadily rising the 16 year Mens Triple Jump record towards his goal of 13m, his latest effort at the Student Games now has the record set at 12.16m.

All the male athletes aged 15 years and over competed in the Multi events, plus a few extras for fun. Ryan Hujanen, 15, contested the Octathlon while Lachlan McCoy, Mitchell Hujanen, Josh Scott, David Scott and Ken Dickson all went at it in the Decathlon. All six added between 1 and 5 extra events to their itinerary to fill in the gaps.

Ryan managed three PB's in his Octathlon on his way to a bronze in the event. His brother Mitchell placed the same in the U18 Decathlon behind team-mate Lachy McCoy who placed first. The result could have potentially been much closer had Mitch's discus not let him down on day 2.

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To add to his pain Mitch sustained a substantial gash to his lower calf from his new spikes during Pole Vault. Lachy took out the event with 3758 points and also went home with a silver in triple jump. Mitch also achieved gold in the U18 Hammer throw. Josh Scott also competed in the U18 Decathlon but fell ill Saturday night putting him out of contention.

Masters, David Scott and Ken Dickson, both realised they have more work to do in the lead up to the World Masters Championships in Perth later this year with fitness currently being their downfall in the Decathlon. Davids' highlight, other than competing against an Olympian, was his triple jump battle in the QMA State Championships which saw him pipped for gold in the final jump.

Dicksons' recent entry into the 50-54 year age group saw him take 5 Isa Club records in 60m, 400m, Long Jump, Javelin and Decathlon points but was definitely let down by his track events. His main consolation being his 39.06m throw in the Decathlon javelin. He also took gold in the QMA State Championships in Shot Put and Javelin and was, like David, pipped in the final round by a mere 11cm in discus.