

NEWSLETTER to CLUBS

December 2021

TO: All Clubs and Interested Parties,





COVID Impact - As we celebrate the Festive season, we can reflect on yet another year where our lives have been impacted by the Covid pandemic which has taken an impact on families and the way we live. Fortunately, here in Wellington we have managed to stage a good number of events on the AW Calendar even if some have needed to be postponed or modified. We express empathy to those event organisers particularly, participation events like marathon and road race events that had to be cancelled under alert level guidance. After modifications with restrictions, we have managed all track events in some form except the first Junior Interclub. The loss of the NZ Secondary School Championships has impacted on many of our school athletes. This was a decision made to align with School Sport NZ that all national schools events were cancelled due to the northern Covid restrictions.

Athletics NZ guidelines under Orange are available HERE

Newtown Park - Wellington City Council have mandated that use of their facilities at Newtown Park, is a 'My Vaccine Pass' venue only. Therefore, all future events at the stadium will be gated and admission only to people with their MVP. In the New Year council intend having a personal gate which will require key or toggle holders to swipe, identifying they are a MVP accredited users. More details will be available in the New Year, and you can keep up to date with changes at Newtown Park access HERE

Recent Events – The local summer season has successfully managed to stage all Senior track & field meetings with some great work by organisers in our greater region. The Central Athletics League team competitions were held in Inglewood, Palmerston North and Sola Power Academy and Masterton. Special thanks to Mark Harris and all the club leaders for driving this competition across the region. Here in Wellington, the Wellington Scottish Club deserve credit for their staging of The Agency 10000 metres doubling as the Athletics NZ Challenge championships, Lifestyle Sports Night of Miles and two twilight mid-week meets in associated with AW. The Track & Field committee have manged all Open meetings lead by T&F Chairman Yarride Rosario. The AW Junior Committee with diligent innovation by Chair Willy Szeto and Secretary Marshall Clark manged three out of four AWJC Interclubs two of which were in an abridged format.





UPCOMING EVENTS – January to March is the traditional high season for Track & Field – A key list of **BIG DATES** in the next two months are here with further information and links following below.

January

Thu to Fri 7th – 9^{th:} Colgate Games at Newtown Park

Sat 22nd: Potts Classic Hastings

Sat 29th: Peter Jack Throwers meeting

Sat 30th: Cooks Classic Wanganui

February

Fri 4th: Team Ledger Harcourt Capital Classic at Newtown Park

Sat 5th: Sola Power Academy Meeting - Lower Hutt

Sat & Sun 12th & 13th: Senior T&F Championships at Newtown Park

Fri 18th: Athletics Wellington Annual Award Dinner at NZCIS Upper Hutt

Sun 27th: AWJC Interclub # 5 at Newtown Park

See the Athletics Wellington website Events Calendar for all events and information.



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North Island Colgate Games 2022 – This is Wellington's biggest meet of the year hosting over 1000 young athletes entered from ages 7 - 14 years. This is a massive undertaking by the Local Organizing Committee led by Stacey Wilson and a huge team in conjunction with Athletics NZ. The event was finally determined to go ahead on 3rd of Decembers as a 'My Vaccine Pass' only event. All attendees except those under 12 years & 3 months will not be able to attend at Newtown Park without a MVP. The event runs from 9.00am to 5.00pm each day.

The LOC event organisers are still looking for support of

- Officials and Volunteers over the weekend to spread the load
- If you can HELP for set up on Wednesday and Thursday email sheelaghprosser@gmail.com
- Any **local nurses or doctors** to be available for some times at the stadium to support our two physiotherapists
- > Any additional Club Tents to support sunshade







Team Ledger Harcourts Capital Classic – Friday 4 February, NewtownThis twilight special is the 18th edition of the event and with valuable World Athletics ranking points available in Permit events for the 2022 World Championships & Commonwealth Games qualifying spots we hope to see many of NZ's leading athletes at the park. Entry is only \$10.00 and family passes will be available. The athletes shoot for prizemoney of over \$10.000.00 made possible by major sponsors **Team Ledger Harcourts**. More information available at www.acesports.co.nz



Sola Power Academy Meet – Saturday 5 February at Woburn Lower Hutt. The hard-working Shaka Sola has built is Academy up over the years with coaching and events and now gets approved to stage a World Athletics has allocated the Shot-Put event as a Permit meet event. Shaka's Academy recently featured on TVOne News – view the article Link
For all information on the meeting visit Facebook page Here



Athletics Wellington Senior Track & Field Championships

Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th February at Newtown Park.

The draft programme and entry site is now available. The AW track & field committee look to hold the two-day championship for the following grades from Under 16 through to Seniors including the Wellington Masters Championship held in conjunction with this event.

ENTER NOW HERE

Draft Programme and Competition Rules are available **HERE**



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FRIDAY 18 February NZCIS Conference Facility Upper Hutt

6.oopm: Doors Open **6.3opm:** Dinner

Ticket prices \$45.00 Limited to 100 people includes

- Three course dinner
- ✓ Cash bar available

ATHLETICS WELLINGTON ANNUAL AWARDS EVENING

An opportunity to experience the New Zealand Campus of Innovation and Sport facility and recognise Athletics Wellington's best athletes, coaches, officials, and volunteers.

Nominations are now Open for the 2020-2021 Athletics Awards. Due to COVID the 2020 event was delayed until late August 2020. The nomination period is from 1 May 2020 - 31 December 2021

PLEASE NOMINATE the deserving Athletes and Officials NOW at this LINK

AWARD CATEGORIES are: Masters, Seniors, Under 20 and Under 18 athletes across all stadia [track & field] and non-stadia [Cross country, Road, Trail, Mt Run etc.,.] events groups and **Special Award** categories will be for Coaches, Graded Officials and Volunteers.

ATHLETICS WELLINGTON TEAMS INFORMATION

Age Grade Interprovincial Competitions

1. Under 18/Under 16

Due to Covid pandemic the Youth [U18/U16] IP 2022 LOC and Youth IP competition committee decided that the Youth IP 2022 would be a virtual type of competition. With no direct competition between athletes from different centres and with no official prize giving or socializing. While it was recognised some positive aspects to this competition for our Youth in normal years these grades of athletes have ample competition across the summer and some athletes appeared to not be in favour of a virtual competition. An additional factor is these age grades do not align to Senior athletics at that time of year of the youth IP's

Therefore, at its most recent meeting the **Athletics Wellington Board considered these limitations deemed** that a Youth IP team would not be selected for 2022 and going forward.

AW through its management will pursue alternative options for competition and development opportunities to support our youth athletes. This likely to include a youth coaching weekend[s] and greater support of selected athletes to the Athletics NZ Championships.

2. Age 12/13 IP's

AW Board considered its ongoing support of this age group event and questioned the competition particularly in relation to Sport NZ and Athletics NZ adoption of the "Balance is Better" programme, which focuses on best practice of youth development. This is specific to early specialization and regional team representative selections.

The **AW Board agreed to support the IP 12/13 team for 2022** since preparation by hosts and some logistics were in place for AW to participate.

3. Athletics Wellington Senior Team

Selection criteria and Expression of Interest for representing Athletics Wellington at the Nationals Track & Field Championships in Hastings will be released in the New Year.

NZSS Team Selection - CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Will Anthony** [Scot's College] **Corran Hanning** and **Jamie Kearns** [Wellington College] **and Oliver Krijnen** [St Patricks College, Silverstream] on their section in the team for the Internal NZ Tour for the Classics in January and February



Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and a Safe Festive Season