Little Athletics NSW

NEWSLETTER - November 2010

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Congratulations

Congratulations to LANSW staff member Hayley McBurney and her partner Donny, on the birth of their first child, Kenzie Lee, on Tuesday, October 19, 2010.

Little Athletics Australia Roll of Excellence

Eight outstanding Australians, including 3 NSW nominees, were inducted into the Little Athletics Australia Roll of Excellence at a gala dinner on Saturday October 23 in Hobart. The Little Athletics Roll of Excellence recognises former participants in Little Athletics who have subsequently excelled in their chosen field within four categories: Track & Field, Sportsman, Achievers and Volunteers.

The 2010 inductees were: Olympic medallist Jane Saville (NSW), fellow Olympic medallist, John Steffensen, world top 10 ranked golfer Geoff Ogilvy, Australian Opals basketballer Hollie Grima, inspirational paraplegic pilot Janine Shepherd (NSW), sports medicine doctor Chris Bradshaw and Little Athletics volunteers George Harvey and Peter Wickes (NSW).

Registration Rebates

As previously advised, the Association registration fee of $45 per athlete, allowed for a rebate of $5 per registration, for all registrations recorded on the IMG database as active and financial, AND with fees paid to the office by the 31st October, 2010. Rebates will be paid for approximately 29,000 athletes.

2011 Centre Grant Scheme

Reminder that applications are open for the 2011 Centre Grant Scheme. To download an application form, click here. Applications close December 31, 2010.

Country Athletes Support Program

Reminder that applications are open for the newly introduced Country Athletes Support Program, which is designed to assist talented young athletes from country areas of NSW to access Little Athletics competitions held in Sydney Metropolitan area. For further information and an application form click here.

Applications for the Centre Grant Scheme and the Country Athletes Support Program close on December 31, 2010.

Annual Conference

The Association will be establishing a focus group to assist in the development of the agenda for the 2011 Annual Conference in Orange.

Regional Conferences

With all Regional Conferences now concluded, a summary paper will be compiled and placed in the Centre Login section of the website.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

The Financial Reports of **ALL** Centres will be checked this year. Failure to supply will prevent new season paperwork from being distrbuted.

McDonald's Special Helper Awards will be launched on December 5.

Zone/Region Restructure

The working party has now had 3 meetings. As a result of some of the deliberations at those meetings, the Board of Management has asked the Championships Advisory Committee to consider how we can accommodate an increased number of athletes qualifying to the State Championships, commencing from the 2011/12 season.

The focus of the upcoming meetings will be to look in detail at the Region structure.

A more detailed statement of progress will be provided to Centres and Zone Co-ordinators shortly.

Photo Finish Training

Currently 5 people are being trained in the use of the equipment and it is planned to be in use at a number of carnivals this season.

Meet Manager Training

Approximately 22 people are being trained from Regions 1, 2 and 3; 4 people from Region 4; and 14 people from Region 5.

Computers have been purchased to run Meet Manager within Regions. They will be used to train operators at the scheduled training sessions in the coming months and will have qualifiers from Zone loaded on them before being shipped to each Region.

Centre Financial Reports

It should be noted that the LANSW will be doing a 100% check this year of Centre financial reports. Centres will also need to send a copy of their Department of Fair Trading Annual Statement return to the LANSW, before new paperwork will be supplied in the following year.

Centre Computer Systems

The Association has looked at various alternatives for a Centre Computer system in the past and intends to finalise this project early in the new year. A review is being made of possible Centre Computer systems – eLAD; NARS; and Timing Solutions, to enable a preferred supplier to be determined.

McDonald's Special Helper Awards

The McDonald's Little Athletics NSW Special Helper Awards will be launched on Sunday 5 December to coincide with International Volunteers Day.

Nominations can be made for all adults that undertake volunteer roles for Little Athletics Centres in NSW. A nomination form will be available from the LAANSW website and will need to be submitted to McDonald's.

One (1) Special Helper Award will be awarded to a volunteer at each Little Athletics Centre throughout NSW, who will receive a McDonald's notepad and pen gift (valued at approximately $7); and five (5) Be Our Guest Free Espresso Pronto vouchers (valued at $15).

The Awards will be used to highlight in the local media, the important roles that volunteers play in our sport.

CHAMPIONSHIPS & OFFICIALS

Trans Tasman

The Trans Tasman Trials which was held on Sunday 7th November at Blacktown Olympic Park had 364 athletes entered from the Under 11 and 12 age groups. Each athlete competed in 2 track and 2 field events and the State Selectors undertook the task of selecting the best team of 30 athletes each age group of girls and boys. The team announcement will be made on Monday 15th November on the Little Athletics NSW website, plus all successful athletes will also receive a letter of congratulations on that day.

State Relays

State Relays entries have now closed and there are 60 Centres with athletes entered in 1220 teams which is very similar to last years entry. The Relays will be at Sydney Olympic Park on Saturday 26th for the Under 8 – Under 11 athletes and on Sunday 27th for the Under 12 – Under 17 athletes.

November is a very busy month for our great group of State officials who volunteer their time and expertise so willingly.

Zone Championships Visits

Visits by Directors to the various Zone Championships will be as follows: -

Blue Mountains	Greg Dickson
Central West Met	Heather Mitchell
Hunter	Greg Dickson
Lake Macquarie	Trevor Hinwood
Mid South Coast	Tony Kish
Mid West Met	Trevor Hinwood / Peter Barnes
New England	Dereck Fineberg
Northern Met	Neil Sandall
Outer West Met	Greg Dickson
South West Met	Neil Sandall
Southern Met	Heather Mitchell
West Met	Dereck Fineberg

The Trans Tasman Team will be announced on the LANSW website on Monday November 15.

DEVELOPMENT

JETS

Fifty-nine Junior Encouragement & Talent Squad (JETS) members took part in the first JETS coaching session of the new season on Sunday October 24 at Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre.

The session began with guest speaker James Nipperess (NSW Open 1500m champion and NSWIS scholarship holder) leading an informative and entertaining session that was enjoyed by athletes and parents alike.

Following James's talk, despite some cold and wet weather, the athletes responded to the high standard of coaches present by making the most of their opportunities and putting in their best efforts in the difficult conditions.

It was commonly agreed that the clinic was a huge success.

The JETS members are now looking forward to the next coaching session on Sunday November 14 at the Sylvania Waters Athletics Track.

The JETS Coaching Clinics are for JETS members only. JETS is a development program for athletes in the Under 13 - 17 age groups.

Applications are still being taken for the 2010-2011 JETS Program. To apply for the program, athletes/parents should be directed to click on the JETS logo on the left-hand-side of the NSW homepage on the Little Athletics website.

Centres are asked to make athletes in the Under 13-17 age groups who are showing talent aware of this program as a recognition and encouragement of their ability. Thank you to those Centre personnel who I know have been doing this.

2011 State Team

The selection policies for the 2011 LANSW State Team program have been posted on the Little Athletics website.

To view the selection policies, and all other 2011 State Team Information, go to the NSW section of the website and click on "Competitions" then "Championships" and scroll down to the section entitled "Australian Little Athletics Championships – State Team". For all enquiries that are not addressed by the information currently posted on the website, please contact the Little Athletics NSW office.

Centres are encouraged to draw any talented Under 13 or Under 15 athlete's attention to this information so that the athlete has a fair and full opportunity to make themselves available for selection.

The 2011 State Team selection policies are now available on the website.

Skills in Centres

Congratulations to those Centres that have instigated skill development activities for their athletes as part of their weekly program, in response to presentations given by Alvin Umadhay and Darren Wensor at the Annual Conference in Port Macquarie. The feedback that we have been provided has been overwhelmingly positive. Make sure that you read about the experiences of Winton Hills Little Athletics Centre in the upcoming "Run for Fun" e-magazine.