

Zone championships report 2014

I don't think we have ever had more challenging weather in the lead up to a Zone championships. Unrelenting rain left the track very waterlogged, to the point where the 2 inner straight tracks were un-usable. We owe a huge thank-you to Zone co-ordinator Cathy Eaton and her team who completely re-wrote the track program and worked tirelessly all weekend in order to be able to get the carnival done – a massive job. In the end we were fortunate with the weather over the weekend, which enabled the carnival to go ahead.

Once again, putting together a team of 176 athletes from our club, with hundreds more from other clubs is a big undertaking, and certainly a team effort. Thanks again to all the age managers, and to Daven Timms and Trish Hirst for their help in choosing teams, organising rosters etc; to our coaches for their work week to week, and of course to our athletes for coming along and giving their best performances. All weekend there was a great team atmosphere, and despite the program delays on Saturday there was a wonderful spirit amongst the team. Thanks too to the many officials who generously volunteered their time to make the carnival run: from Cherrybrook, thanks to Moose Moore, Carl Oberg, Colleen Reid, Craig Little, David Cowell, Phillip Lamperts, Elizabeth Jones, Fiona Liu, Hugh Anstee, Ros Read, Trish Hirst, Claire Eaton and Peter Jones. We also had various parents who helped out well beyond their rostered duty times to fill in gaps – so thank you!! Can I also say a special thank you to Peter Bowrey who yet again spent many hours collecting, transporting and setting up all our tents and other gear with a great team of other helpers – thank you all.

Now, onto the carnival itself. What a weekend of athletics! Whilst the times on the soggy track were not necessarily blistering, some of our performances certainly were! We had a number of our senior athletes missing this year due to illness and injury, but we certainly made up for that elsewhere.

Our under 7's are our youngest athletes competing at Zone, and this year's group were particularly impressive. Special mention to 2 amazing athletes who each finished with 4 GOLD medals: Marcus Papadimitriou winning the 50m,100m,200m and shot put; and Ruby Perkins who also came home with 4 GOLD medals in the 50m, 70m, 100m and Long jump...amazing! A number of our other under 7's come home with medals – Akith Ekanayake – 2 SILVER medals in the 50m, 70m and BRONZE in the 500; Thomas Bishop BRONZE in the long jump along with 3 other top 10 finishes, and Kaylah Bennet who won BRONZE in the 500, as well as 3 other top 8 finishes. Bronsen Brown and Serena Vanderklauw were both unlucky not to medal, ending out with 3 top 8 finishes...so the future looks bright! Hopefully these athletes will all be back next year where they will get the chance to progress through to the regional Championships.

There were so many other great performances at Zone that it is hard to know where to stop! Numerous athletes won multiple events, and we had over 100 athletes finish in the top 6 in 1 or more events, who automatically qualify to represent Cherrybrook at the Regional Championships in February. Other athletes will make it through as one of the next 6 fastest qualifiers.

Particular mention to three Zone record breakers this year – Danielle Osifo who jumped and impressive 9.54m to win the U11 girls triple jump, Kevin Yang who won the U14 boys shot put with a throw of 15.62m, and Kristina Moore in the U15 girls who broke 2 zone records – throwing 38.82m to win the discus, 35.26m to win the javelin, and narrowly missed the shot put record by 1cm throwing an impressive 13.61cm– well done!

Those who stayed to the end of Sunday's competition were given a real treat when it came time for the 4x100 relays, where Cherrybrook performed brilliantly to win all 4 races. Congratulations to our relays teams who gave the vocal crowd of Cherrybrook supporters plenty to cheer about:

Junior Girls: Sierra Timms, Emily Crawford, Jud Hijazi and Scarlett Prowse

Junior Boys: Harry Clark, Sam Marsden, Donovan Bradshaw and Connor Bond

Senior Girls: Eleanor Lamperts, Kate Collett, Katie Devitt and Carla Takchi

Senior Boys: Morgan Little, James Roffe, Nicholas Ramakrishnan and Jordan Shelley

Full results from Zone are available on the Cherrybrook website – follow the links below.

[Full zone results](#)

or Cherrybrook results only:

[Cherrybrook zone results](#)

All athletes who have come top 6 and qualified through to the regional championships and do not already have a Cherrybrook regional shirt that fits them, have hopefully given me their size requirements – if not please email jenbishop@optusnet.com.au ASAP to let me know the size you need.

Wishing everyone a very happy and safe Christmas. Friday night competition starts up again on January 9th, so hopefully we will see many of you then.

Jenny Bishop
Championships Officer
Cherrybrook Little Athletics