

## Zone championships report 2015

After last year's unrelenting rain, we counted our blessings this year with pleasant weather. Zone has a great atmosphere, and it's always great to see the younger and older athletes mingling in together and everyone looking after each other – I think our families will agree that it was a great weekend. It was also terrific to have a large group of U17s in what for some will be their last Zone championships – our Cherrybrook athletes really led the “lap of honour” - we hope they enjoyed it.

Putting together a team of around 180 athletes from our club, with hundreds more from other clubs is a big undertaking, and certainly a team effort. Particular thanks to our Zone co-ordinator Cathy Eaton and her “team” for all their hard work and organisation in putting together a great carnival. Thanks too to the many officials who generously volunteered their time to make the carnival run, some of whom toiled away as officials for the whole weekend – without you there would be no events!! Our Cherrybrook officials included Sean O'Connor, Moose Moore, Colleen Reid, Craig Little, Phillip Lamperts, Elizabeth Jones, Fiona Liu, Trish Hirst, Claire Eaton, Nicola Craig, Phillip and Lyn Lamperts, and Jill Ingram. We also had various parents who helped out well beyond their rostered duty times to fill in gaps – so thank you!! And again a special thank you to Peter Bowrey and family who transported, set up and re-packed all our tents and other gear....thank you all for helping make it a great weekend for our athletes. We must also thank all the parents, coaches and others who have supported and encouraged all our athletes to achieve their very best and helped cultivate a great team spirit at Cherrybrook.

Now, onto the carnival itself. Unlike last year when the soggy track slowed our sprinters down, this year conditions were great, and there were many great times achieved, particularly in the sprints where there was a handy tail wind most of the weekend. Our under 7's are our youngest athletes competing at Zone, and this year's group again did very well. Special mention to four of our U7 athletes who medalled in their first ever championships: Natasha Flahey achieved silver in the U7G Discus, Sadie James also picked up silver in the U7G shot put and, Joel Moresi picked up a bronze in the 500m as well as 4th in the 200m sprint. Tayla Moore came home as a triple gold medallist winning the U7 girls 50m, 100m and shot put, so clearly had a great weekend! Unfortunately our U7's don't go through to Region, but hopefully will be back next year to try and make it through. Of our other junior athletes, special mention to Marcus Papadimitriou U8B who repeated his efforts from last year with four 1st place finishes. In fact the whole U8 group performed particularly well, with 12 of our U8 athletes making it through to their first regional championship including Marcus Papadimitriou, Bronsen Brown, Idris Burkhardt, Akith Ekanayake, James Lubrano, Andy Zouein and Tom Bishop in the boys, and Ruby Perkins, Kaylah Bennett, Samantha Budden, Kollah Cannon and Serena Vanderklauw in the U8 girls – well done, and best of luck at Region in February. Special mention also a couple of other junior multi event winners: to Sienna Bond in the U11 G who also came home with four golds, winning all 4 of her events including 2 new records, as well stepping up to fill in in a winning relay team also – well done. Samara Bond also won 3 events, as well as a third place and gold in the relay – a great effort.

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 will have a big regional team this year of well over 120 athletes who finished in the top 6 in 1 or more events, so will automatically qualify to represent Cherrybrook at the Regional Championships at Narrabeen in February. Other athletes will make it through as one of the next 4 fastest qualifiers.

Particular mention to a number of Zone record breakers this year: Sienna Bond jumped superbly, breaking records in both the long jump with a great leap of 4.74m, and triple where she jumped 9.61m. Josh Baddock also jumped amazingly well, with a leap of 6.80m in the U17 boys long jump to break the Zone record, as well as winning the U17B triple jump and high jump. Amie Bowrey added the U14 girls Zone record to her list of previous records, with a massive throw of 36.48m in the javelin. Oliver Clarke U17B also set a new record in the 800m with a fast finishing 2.04.69 in the 800m. Aleisha Scanlon and Katie Devitt also took turns breaking our own Shelly Jenneke's U17 100m record, with Katie winning the final in the fastest time of the day at 12.34.

Our senior athletes are allowed to compete in up to 6 events, and a number of them will be very busy at region having qualified in 5 or more events including: Lachlan Antoinette, Connor Bond, Amie Bowrey, Kate Collett, Joel Davidson, Rachel Ingram, Emily Jones, Ryan Jones, Morgan Little and Aleisha Scanlon – what a talented group of athletes we have at Cherrybrook.

A small but vocal group of Cherrybrook supporters stayed all the way to Sunday afternoon for the all-important 4x100 relays, where Cherrybrook performed really well to win 2 races, as well as a 2nd and 3rd place finish, which means all our relay teams make it through to Regional. Congratulations to our relays teams who gave the Cherrybrook supporters plenty to cheer about:

**Junior Girls:** GOLD to Samara Bond, Sienna Bond, Madi Zouein and Emily Crawford

**Junior boys:** BRONZE to Marco Boccaletti, Nicholas Bradshaw, Lachie Dewar and Donovan Bradshaw

**Senior girls:** GOLD to Scarlett Prowse, Eleanor Lamperts, Kate Collett and Katie Devitt

**Senior boys:** SILVER to Connor Bond, Morgan Little, James Roffe and Beau Ingram

[Full Cherrybrook results from Zone](#) are available on the Cherrybrook website

If you want to review [full N Met zone results](#)

We should receive official notification of additional qualifiers in the next week. Check the LANSW website under championships/region/region5.

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](mailto:jenbishop@optusnet.com.au) by the end of the weekend to let me know the size you need.

Wishing everyone a very happy and safe Christmas. Friday night competition starts up again on January 8th, so hopefully we will see many of you then.

Jenny Bishop  
Championships Officer, Cherrybrook Little Athletics