

## 2017 Zone championships report

We once again were very blessed with pleasant weather for this year's Zone championships at Barton Park. Zone always has a great competitive atmosphere, and we are very fortunate to have an excellent venue for some great competition between the 5 clubs in our Zone – Ryde, Northern Suburbs, North Rocks Carlingford and Parramatta. This year a number of our very best athletes were missing as they were competing either at the National Championships or All Schools Knockout in Adelaide. Those athletes have all received automatic entry through to Region. Particular congratulations to Donovan Bradshaw who came away from the National Championships with 4 Gold medals in the 100m, 200m Long Jump and relay, as well as silver in the 400m – well done.

Our under 7 agegroup are the youngest agegroup to compete at Zone. This year we had 15 U 7 athletes competing which bodes very well for the future of Cherrybrook LA's. The U 7 agegroup receive Zone medals if they place in the top 3 as they do not progress to the regional championships. Particular mention to our 5 under 7 medalists -Layla Burkhardt GOLD in LJ, Makenzie Gartner BRONZE in 500m, Katelyn Orchard BRONZE in Shot put, Sian Stewart GOLD in Shot put, and Gabriella Omage who finished with 3 GOLD medals in the 70m, 100m and 200m – well done. We hope that they will come back next year in the U8's for their chance to make it through to Region.

Athletes from U8 and upwards make it through to the Region Championships automatically if they finish in the top 6 at Zone, with the next 2 fastest qualifier from each of the Zones in our region also making it through. Overall Cherrybrook performed extremely strongly – out of 165 athletes competing at Zone from the U8's and up, an amazing 119 have made it through to the regional Championships in February.

It is very difficult to single out other results as there were so many amazing performances. However, special mention must be made to our very strong U9 girls and U10 boys agegroups. The 9 girls medalled once or more in all of the field events including a 1,2,3 finish in the discus. Our U10 boys made almost a clean sweep of all the track events – finishing 1,2,3 in the 100m, 200m and 400m; 1,2,4 in the 800m and 1500m, and 2,3,4 in the 60hurdles and 1 & 3 in the 70m – absolutely incredible results – well done

Congratulations also to Tayla Moore (9G) who set a new Zone record in the U9 Girls Shot where she threw an amazing 7.75m to add about 20cm to the previous record – well done Tayla. Any of you who looked through the standard of the Zone records will know what a high standard these are, including some of our best former Cherrybrook such as our 2 Olympians Michelle Jenneke and Jenny Blundell.

Lastly well done to our relay teams who competed very well despite our Senior teams in particular being a bit depleted by the absence of our athletes competing in Adelaide. Our Junior girls team of Sophie Durham, Verity Beech, Sarah Anne Koot and Tara Webb finished 4<sup>th</sup>. Our Senior girls team comprising Abigail Omage, Scarlett Prowse, Milena Visser and Ellie Lamperts finished 3<sup>rd</sup>. Of the boys, our Junior team of Joel Moresi, Cooper Rawhiti, Marco Bocaletti and Nicholas Bradshaw finished 5<sup>th</sup>, and senior boys team of Robbie Cullen, Alex Durham, Ajai Mohanraja and Ryan Jones finished 3<sup>rd</sup>.

A reminder that Friday night Athletics will re-commence on January 12<sup>th</sup>

Jenny Bishop

Cherrybrook LA's Championships Officer