



ATHLETICS AUCKLAND INC

ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26



ATHLETICS AUCKLAND INC

ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26

As we come together for the 2026 AGM, I do so with quiet pride and gratitude for all that Athletics Auckland has achieved over the past year. It has been a year of steady progress, shaped by the efforts of many good people who care deeply about our sport.

Across our clubs, events, programmes, and administration, we have seen what is possible when people work together in a spirit of service. Our strategic plan for 2024–2029 continues to provide helpful direction as we grow participation, support our people, and look after the future of athletics in Auckland.

It was especially pleasing to see participation continue to grow through our competitions and programmes. From junior championships and relays through to track and field, cross country, and road events, athletes of all ages have taken part with enthusiasm, commitment, and obvious enjoyment.

We have also shared in the pride of seeing Auckland athletes represent New Zealand internationally. Their performances are a credit to their own dedication, and also to the families, coaches, clubs, officials, and wider athletics community who support them along the way.

Our affiliated clubs remain at the heart of Athletics Auckland. We will continue to walk alongside them through resources, workshops, networking opportunities, school and community programmes, and ongoing support for facilities and equipment.

Most of all, we are reminded again of the people who make our sport possible. Officials, coaches, administrators, parents, committee members, and volunteers give their time quietly and generously. Much of this work happens in the background, but its value is felt in every event, every club night, and every athlete's experience.

On behalf of Athletics Auckland, I offer my sincere thanks to our staff, volunteers, coaches, officials, convenors, Board members, partners, and supporters. I warmly acknowledge Raewyn Rodger, Neil Bartlett, Fiona Free, Petro Geldenhuys, Paul and Dianne Craddock, and Bryce Hall and all who have given so willingly throughout the year.

As we look ahead, I believe there is good reason for confidence. If we continue to grow participation, deliver good events, strengthen our relationships, and welcome people into our sport, Athletics Auckland will remain a place where many can belong and contribute.

Thank you for your continued support. With goodwill, patience, and a shared love of athletics, I am sure we can continue to build an organisation of which we may all be proud.

Rodger Brickland QSM

President

FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Whāia te iti kahurangi, ki te tūohu koe, me he maunga teitei.

"Pursue that which is precious, and should you bow your head, let it be to a lofty mountain."

(Meaning: Strive for excellence and refuse to let minor obstacles deter you.)

Kia ora koutou katoa

Franklin D. Roosevelt, the 32nd President of the United States, once said:

"The only limit to our realisation of tomorrow is our doubts of today."

One of New Zealand athletics' great stories began not with certainty, but with doubt: a young athlete unsure of their place, their promise, and whether they truly belonged among the best. Yet within that uncertainty lay strength not yet trusted, and talent not yet fully claimed.

What changed the course of that journey was belief from another: a voice that listened, a hand that steadied, and a vision strong enough to turn hesitation into momentum. Together, they showed what can happen when courage is nurtured and people choose to move forward as one.

That story still echoes through our sport, and through Athletics Auckland today. It reminds us that progress is rarely the work of one person alone; it is built when people lift one another, choose connection, and create the conditions for others to thrive.

That same spirit is at the heart of one of our guiding values: **Together Better**.

We embrace working together. We listen. We engage and work with others to be better tomorrow than we are today.

This year, **Together Better** has been more than a value on a page. It has shaped how we have listened, made decisions, supported our clubs, and continued to build a stronger, more connected athletics community across Tāmaki Makaurau.

None of this would be possible without **you**: our athletes, coaches, volunteers, officials, clubs, supporters, funders, partners, staff, and Board. Each of you brings something essential to our shared story. Your perseverance, care, leadership, service, guidance, good humour, and commitment give our sport its heart. By listening, engaging, and working together, we are building an Athletics Auckland that is better for everyone.

Delivering on Our Strategic Plan

That shared approach has also brought our Strategic Plan to life. Through stronger events, better systems, deeper community engagement, and a renewed focus on coaching, we are turning **Together Better** into practical action that supports athletes, clubs, officials, volunteers, coaches, and whānau across the region.

Governance and Stewardship

Alongside this work, the Board has remained focused on strong governance, financial responsibility, and long-term sustainability. In doing so, we have sought to reflect **Together Better** in the way we listen, engage, and make decisions for the long-term benefit of the whole region.

Looking Ahead

With these foundations in place, the year ahead is rich with possibility. As we prepare to host the National Track and Field Championships again and continue building a sport that reflects

the diversity, energy, and ambition of Tāmaki Makaurau, we do so with confidence in the strength of our collective effort.

And so, we return to where we began: to the story of a young athlete who doubted their ability to achieve something remarkable. Their breakthrough came not from certainty, but from connection; not from confidence alone, but from community.

Their greatness emerged because someone believed in them before they believed in themselves.

This is the journey of many athletes. It is also the journey of many organisations. It is our journey too: to be ambitious, to choose belief, to choose connection, and to rise together.

Only later did the world come to know that athlete's name. Only then did we see what shared belief can achieve.

That young athlete was Sir Peter Snell — double Olympic champion.

His story reminds us that doubt does not define destiny. What defines us is how we choose to move forward: with shared belief, collective courage, and the spirit of **Together Better**.

Mā te kotahitanga e anga whakamua ai tātou.

"Through unity, we move forward."

In the spirit of shared belief, collective courage, and **Together Better**, I have pleasure in presenting our annual report for the 2025–2026 year. Just as that young athlete's journey was transformed by belief from others, our future will be shaped by the people who believe in one another and carry that spirit forward.

Ngā mihi nui

Bryce Hall

Chairperson





What we achieved – 2025/2026

Being Visible

2.7
MILLION

Summer Social Media
Campaign Views

1.1 million

Winter Social Media Campaign Views

575,000

Summer Campaign
Audience

330,000

Winter Campaign Audience

2026 NZ Track & Field Champs

260 Athletes

2025 NZ Cross Country Champs

72 Athletes

\$21,500

New Equipment Investment

\$20,000

Marketing Investment

Investing in Athletics

Achieving Outcomes

Athletes Entered

8,300

13,900

Event Entries Managed

+8.5%

+8.6%

45

2025/2026
Events Held

Senior National
T&F Titles

15

20,300

School Students
Hosted at Mt Smart

2,500

John Walker FOD
Students Coached

115

Aspire Academy
Attendees

Future Athletes

Enabling, Empowering and Inspiring Athletics for All



Celebrating the Success of Our Athletes

Auckland athletes who won senior titles

Tommy Te Puni 200m
Lex Revell-Lewis 400m
James Steyn Pole Vault
Matt Walsh Triple Jump
Connor Bell Discus Throw
Zoe Hobbs 100m
Laura Nagel 5000m and Half Marathon
Eliza McCartney Pole Vault
Maddison-Lee Wesche Shot Put
Jaden Movold T54 1500m, 5000m
Charli Gardiner-Hall F37 Discus Throw
Paddy Walsh F64 Long Jump
Georgie Grgec 1 Mile Road
North Harbour Bays (Amara Rae, Laura Nagel, Lucy Jacobs, Clara Lachurie, Olivia Gold, Holly Manning, Brigid Dennehy) National Road Relay, senior women.
Keith Burrows 24 Hour Track Title.



Auckland athletes who set a New Zealand Record

Senior

Tommy Te Puni Resident & National 200m 20.35 +1.2 21.02.26 Christchurch
Lex Revell-Lewis National 400m 45.87 14.03.26 Adelaide Aust.
Lex Revell-Lewis National 400m 45.82 19.05.26 Darwin Aust.
Lex Revell-Lewis, Jordyn Blake, Tommy Te Puni, Holly Rule, National 4 x 400m mixed relay 3:19.39 22.05.26 Darwin Aust.
Zoe Hobbs National 100m 10.94 +0.6 24.06.25 Ostrava Czech Republic.

Under 20

Sascha Letica Under 20 5000m 15:48.21 23.04.26 Philadelphia USA

Under 18

Fernanda Tirado Under 18 Hammer Throw 64.43m 07.03.26 Waitakere

Under 17

Rianco Haggard Under 17 300m hurdles 37.00 07.12.25 Hastings

PARA ATHLETE

Open

Mitch Joynt T64 Open 200m 22.86 +1.4 05.07.25 Eugene USA
Mitch Joynt T64 100m 11.74 +0.8 18.05.26 Darwin Australia
Zach Orbell T35 Open 100m 13.08 +1.6 29.11.25 Auckland
Zac Orbell T35 Open 200m 28.03 -0.7 14.02.26 Hamilton
Michael Whittaker T13 Open 3000m 8:56.56 25.02.26 Auckland
Paddy Walsh T64 Open LJ 4.89m -1.2 03.10.25 New Delhi India
Kate Danaher T37 Under 18 200m 34.42 -1.4 01.11.25 Auckland
Gabrielle Wright T54 Open 800m 2:08.21 17.05.26 Weltklasse Switzerland
Zachary Orbell T35 200m 27.57 -0.5 20.05.26 Darwin Australia
Gabrielle Wright T54 Open 200m 33.21 -0.3 21.05.26 Nottwil Switzerland
Gabrielle Wright T54 Open 800m 2:07.21 21.05.26 Nottwil Switzerland
Gabrielle Wright T54 Open 400m 63.27 22.05.26 Nottwil Switzerland
Gabrielle Wright T54 Open 100m 18.81 +1.3 23.05.26 Nottwil Switzerland

Under 20

Sionaan Murphy F37 discus throw 26.51m 12.10.24 Mt Smart Stadium
Sionann Murphy F37 3kg shot put 8.78m 30.11.24 Mt Smart Stadium
Sionann Murphy F37 3kg shot put 9.09m 18.01.25 Lower Hutt
Sionann Murphy F37 3kg shot put 9.09m 09.02.25 Henderson
Sionann Murphy F37 3kg shot put 9.22m 15.02.25 Hamilton
Brian Wilson F20 1.75kg discus throw 19.97m 23.03.25 Mt Smart Stadium

Under 19

Charli Gardiner-Hall F37 Under 19 and 20 DT 27.28m 05.03.26 Auckland
Charli Gardiner-Hall F37 Under 19 and 20 DT 27.41m 07.03.26 Auckland
Charli Gardiner-Hall F37 Under 19 3kg SP 9.03m 07.03.26 Auckland
Charli Gardiner-Hall F37 Under 19 3kg SP 9.13m 12.04.26 Sydney Australia
Charli Gardiner-Hall F37 Under 19 and 20 3kg SP 9.43m 20-23.05.26 Darwin Australia
Charli Gardiner-Hall F37 Under 19 and 20 DT 28.57m 20-23.05.26 Darwin Australia

Under 18

Brian Wilson F20 Under 18 and 19 6kg SP
8.54m 29.11.25 Auckland
Brian Wilson F20 Under 18, 19 and 20 1.75kg
DT 20.86m 29.11.25 Auckland

Auckland senior athletes, New Zealand Representatives

World University Games, Lohrheidestadion,
Bochum-Wattenscheid, Germany July 2025:
Lex Revell-Lewis, Tommy Te Puni, Hannah
Adey, Jordyn Blake, Peyton Leigh, Kimberley May, Isabel Neal, Marielle Venida.



World Athletic Championships Tokyo Japan September 2025: Zoe Hobbs 100m, Eliza
McCartney Pole Vault, Imogen Ayriss Pole Vault, Olivia McTaggart Pole Vault, Ethan Olivier
Triple Jump, Connor Bell Discus Throw, Maddison-Lee Wesche Shot Put Bronze Medal.

World Para Athletics Championships, New Delhi, September/October 2025: Joe Smith T37 100m, Mitch Joynt T64 100m, 200m, Paddy Walsh F64 Long Jump, Michael Whittaker T13 5000m.

World Mountain and Trail Championships, Canfranc Pirineos, Spain, September 2025: Jessie Speedy, Lisa Cross, Benjamin Rickerby.

IAU 24 Hour Running Championships, Albi, France, October 2025: Wayne Botha, Brendan Dean, Deen Abu Bakar, Jade Overy.

46th World Cross Country Championships, Apalachee Regional Park, Tallahassee Florida USA, January 2026: Katrina Andrews, Christian De Vaal.

World Athletics Indoor Championships, Kujawsko-Pomorska Arena, Toruń, Poland, March 2026: Lex Revell-Lewis, James Harding, Thomas Cowan, Zoe Hobbs, Imogen Ayriss.

World Athletics Relays, Gaborone, Botswana, May 2026: Zoe Hobbs, Lex Revell-Lewis.



Auckland Athletes representing New Zealand at the Oceania Championships, Darwin, Australia May 2026

Senior Men; Antonie Smal, Blessing Sefo, Jacko Gill, Joseph Dunn, Josh Hawkins, Kadin Taylor, Kahurangi Cotterill, Lex Revell-Lewis, Matt Walsh, Noah Retford, Rafe Couillault, Samuel Rickerby, Tommy Te Puni, Zhan Bowden.

Senior Women; Celine Pearn, Annabel Richardson, Caitlin Marx, Holly Rule, Jordyn Blake, Samantha Lathwood, Kendra Scally-Tui, Zoe Hobbs, Cleo Loader, Krystal Clark, Samantha Korck.

Men under 18; Ethan Mora, Connor Brady, Daequan Su, Finn Birch, Rianco Haggard.

Women under 18; Sina-Maria Su'a, Fernanda Tirado, Paige Fletcher, Hannah McManus, Gemma Smith, Jordan Viljoen, Jessica Lathwood, Eden Moyle, Emkhe Joubert, Amy Thomson, Molly Bremner, Greta Hunter, Esme Reid, Madison Earley.

Para Athlete; Mitch Joynt T64, Paddy Walsh F64, Charli Gardiner-Hall F37, Sionann Murphy F37, Zachary Orbell T35, Kate Danaher T37.

Athletics NZ Annual General Meeting, Taupo, 28 September 2024

At the AGM outgoing Chairman of Athletics New Zealand Board Cameron Taylor of Auckland received a Merit Award and Christine Waring of North Harbour Bays a Long Service Award.

Royal Honours

John and Val Robinson of Counties Manukau both received the MNZM, for services to Orienteering, in the 2026 New Year Honours.

Beatrice Faumuina ONZM, was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to sport and governance in the 2026 King's Birthday Honours.

Obituaries

Athletics Auckland and Pakuranga Club stalwart **Trevor Cowley** passed away on Wednesday 9 July 2025 aged 90.

Popular Masters field event national champion and record holder **Anne Goulter** of North Harbour Bays passed away on Thursday 7 August 2025 aged 62.

Long distance runner during the 1960's, 70's and '80's **Fred Smith** of Owairaka passed away on Wednesday 27 August 2025, aged 83.

Marathon runner during the late 1960's **Graeme Douglas** of Manurewa passed away on Wednesday 10 September 2025 aged 89.

Blind marathon runner **Tui Te Rupe** of Papakura passed away on 20 September 2025 aged 82.

Prominent junior throwing exponent in the 1950's **Ron Chadwick** of Auckland passed away on 21 October 2025 aged 92.

John Moffitt, well known and successful South Auckland coach at Pukekohe passed away on 25 October 2025.

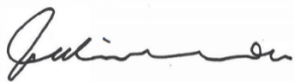
Life Member of the Pakuranga Athletic Club **Terry Mitchell** passed away on 28 December 2025 aged 80.

National masters cross country champion and leading age group triathlete **Tiare Lund** of Owairaka passed away on 16 February 2026 aged 80.

800m runner during the 1980's **David Savidan** of Auckland University passed away on 20 February 2026 aged 58.

Steeplechaser and cross country runner during the 1970's **Nathan Healey** of Lynndale passed away on Friday 6 March 2026 aged 76.

Long serving Auckland University runner **Robin Shaw** passed away on 21 May 2026 aged 87.



Murray McKinnon QSM JP
Patron

Strategic Plan 2024-2029

The Athletics Auckland Board continues to work on the aspirations espoused in our strategic plan to guide us going forward to 2029. Our underlying Strategic Intent is to grow participation in athletics in Auckland in all its forms.

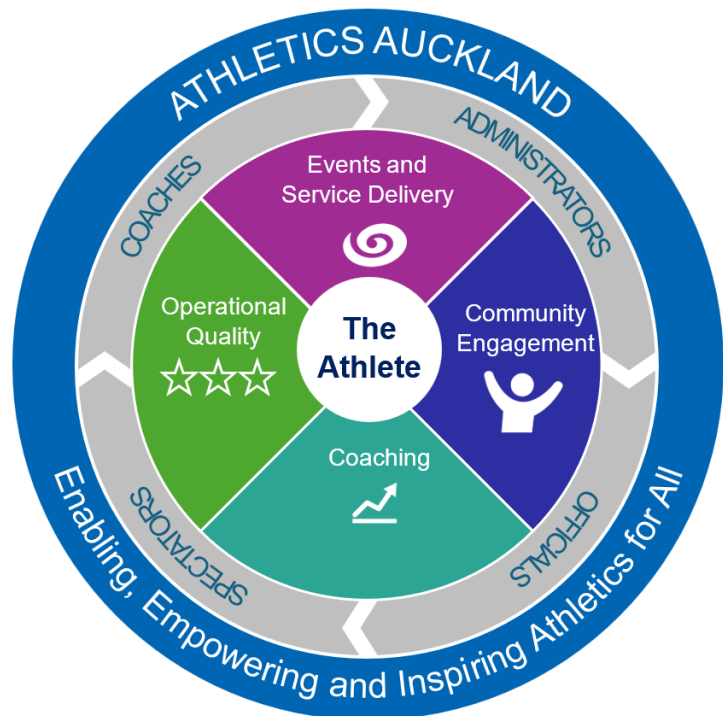
We put the athlete at the centre of all that we do as we seek to be an organisation with over 10,000 members by 2029. This is supported by our four strategic pillars:

Event and Service Delivery

Operational Quality

Community Engagement

Coaching



In moving towards 2029, we will be guided by the values we will be known by and judged against as an organisation:

People First

We create a positive, supportive, respectful, social, and inclusive environment that allows our people to thrive and be retained in the sport.

Athletics Centred

We are passionate about delivering quality athletics experiences for all our people, in all situations, all the time.

Flexibly Innovative

We are ambitious. We seek out new ideas. We embrace change. We take informed risks and learn from our experience so we can continuously get better at serving our people.

Together Better

We embrace working together. We listen. We engage and work with others to be better tomorrow than we are today.



Auckland Senior Track & Field Season Review 2025-26

Another “full on” season with many highlights, including hosting the NZ Senior T&F Championships in March 2026. We would like to thank our sponsors Fujifilm, who provided photocopiers and paper for Nationals, Bunnings, who provided some equipment, and Sanitarium, who provided breakfast ingredients for the officials. Their generosity saved AAI several thousand dollars.

The season started in mid-October 2025 and finished in early April 2026.

Athlete numbers competing is significantly up on the previous year throughout the season. One pre-Christmas meet had just under 300 individual athletes entered.

Senior T&F Committee

Currently there are 9 people on the committee representing just 6 of the Senior T&F Clubs in Auckland. It would be beneficial to have a wider spread of Club participation, and a couple more members to share the workload. Can you help? Our monthly meetings are generally on-line on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7.30 pm. Please let the office know if you can assist.

School Athletics Days

Pre-Christmas the primary and intermediate schools were prominent at Mt Smart. Then in the New Year, the secondary schools had their athletic days during February and March.

For the second year, College Sport held their Auckland Championships over 2 days at Mt Smart.

We are, again, grateful to the regular group of officials who assist at these meets.

College Sport Auckland Records Broken

Rianco Haggard (Howick College) - Senior Boys 200m 21.56s

Rianco Haggard (Howick College) - Senior Boys 100m 10.67s

Tyler Poland (Long Bay College) - Junior Boys 1500m 4:20.36min

Kona Kelly (ACG Sunderland) - Intermediate Boys 1500m 4:01.98min

St Kentigern College - Int Girls 4x100m Relay 50.09s

St Cuthberts College - Sen Girls 4x100m Relay 48.66s

Auckland Grammar School - Senior Boys 4x100m Relay 42.99s

Emkhe Joubert (Pukekohe High School) - Int Girls 400m 56.77s



Matthew Fleming (Westlake Boys High School) - Senior Boys 400m 47.91s
Sina-Maria Su'a (Diocesan School for Girls) - Intermediate Girls Shot Put 15.61m
Sina-Maria Su'a (Diocesan School for Girls) - Intermediate Girls Discus 47.08m
Brian Wilson (Orewa College) - Para Boys Discus 20.47m
Brian Wilson (Orewa College) - Para Boys Shot Put 7.94m
Etena Gibbons-Vaiouga (Mt Albert Grammar) - Junior Boys Hammer 28.94m
Paige Fletcher (St Kentigern College) - Senior Girls Hammer 62.29m
El-Mikhe Joubert (Pukekohe High School) - Junior Girls 200m Hurdles 29.11s
Emkhe Joubert (Pukekohe High School) - Intermediate Girls 300mH 44.07s
JD Hawkins (Howick College) -

Junior Boys 200m Hurdles
29.01s

Rianco Haggard (Howick
College) - Senior Boys 300m
Hurdles 37.47s

Amy Thomson (Rutherford
College) - Senior Girls 2000m
Steeplechase 7:14.69min

Olivia Stone (Botany Downs
Secondary College) - Junior Girls
2000m Steeplechase 7:21.86min

Nathan Barron (Westlake Boys High School) - Junior Boys 2000m Steeplechase 7:11.56min

Finn Birch (Green Bay High School) - Intermediate Boys 2000m Steeplechase 6:36.89min



McKinnon Shield Meets / Points

The McKinnon Shield competition continued to provide a variety of options for our athletes to compete on a regular basis with their performances earning points for their clubs in the season long pursuit of the McKinnon Shield.

At the completion of nine McKinnon Shield rounds, the points table had Lynndale Athletics Club being crowned McKinnon Shield Champions for 2025/2026, with North Harbour Bays finishing second.

In the Cup Division, Beachlands were the top club followed by Riverhead and Pukekohe who were tied for second.

With the **Auckland Schools Cups** for 2025/26 awarded to

Secondary Schools Challenge Cup: Mount Albert Grammar followed by Auckland Grammar.

Secondary Schools Champions Cup: St Cuthberts followed by St Kentigens.



McKinnon Shield Premier Division

Pos		Affiliation	Score	Points
Premier Division				
1		Lynndale	189,693	77
2		North Harbour Bays	124,974	65
3		Takapuna	64,596	50
4		ACA	59,612	45
5		Pakuranga	57,686	45
6		Waitakere	42,659	34
7		Owairaka	37,457	31
8		Papakura	26,496	22
9		Oratia	16,547	16
10		TTT Runners	6,278	7

Schools Cup Top 10

Pos	Affiliation	Score	Points
Premier Division			
1	Mt Albert Grammar	28,773	418
2	Auckland Grammar	25,151	417
3	Green Bay High School	21,290	414
4	Kings	20,457	411
5	Dilworth	15,060	394
6	Takapuna Grammar	11,124	392
7	Westlake Boys	25,479	391
8	ACG Strathallan College	11,744	390
9	Westlake Girls	10,957	385
10	Lynfield College	11,165	383



Halberg Games Athletics

Halberg Games has established itself as an important part of our annual calendar, normally in early April. The event is held at Kings College, which provides not only sporting venues but also accommodation and catering for the athletes and their families.

Athletes come from across New Zealand to compete at the Games over 3 days of a wide variety of sports.

Unfortunately, this year due to weather conditions, some of the sports were cancelled resulting in some athletes leaving early. However, others took the opportunity to compete in the athletics events which were completed on the Saturday without weather disruption. Athletes aged from 7 to 22 competed. Again, around 35 officials turned out to assist.



John Walker and Millie Sampson Miles

Following feedback from participating athletes in the last year's sweltering Invitational mile events, the Track & Field Committee shifted the races later in the programme for 2026, with the aim of providing better conditions for the runners. The Mile races were held on the Herb Towers Track at Mt Smart Stadium #2 on January 10th, 2026 in conjunction with McKinnon Shield #7 meeting, the first Athletics Auckland competition for the New Year. Millie Sampson was on hand to watch the races and present the podium finishers with their prizes.

2026 John Walker Junior Mile

Due to scratchings and a clash of events, only two of the Auckland athletes initially selected for the event, Quinn Moss and Ethan Mora, were on the start line, with five Waikato Bay of Plenty runners making up the rest of the field.

The race was won by Waikato Bay of Plenty's Ronin Dickens in a time of 4:14.53 with Auckland's Quinn Moss second in a PB of 4:15.08, and Jake Lomas from Waikato Bay of Plenty in third place with 4:15.96. Ethan Mora took 4th place for Auckland in 4:20.98

2026 Millie Sampson WU23 Mile

Five Auckland runners were selected for the 4th Millie Sampson WU23 Mile – Nina Chalmers, Sophia Haines, Lisa Hellyer, Sarah Hellyer and Hannah MacManus. Daisy Ruthe from Waikato Bay of Plenty was the sole regional representative in the women's race.

Not unexpectedly, the Aucklanders made a clean sweep of the event – with Lisa Hellyer winning in 4:43.00, beating the previous best time recorded for the event by Peyton Leigh in 2024 by over 9 seconds. Second place was Sarah Hellyer in 4:50.10, and third was Nina Chalmers in 4:50.45. All three athletes achieved mile PB's. Daisy Ruthe was 4th in 4:54.44, also with a PB.

The performance by Lisa Hellyer in the Millie Sampson Mile ranked her 3rd in the Athletics NZ Open Women's Mile rankings for 2026. Like many of our top young runners, Lisa and Sarah Hellyer and Nina Chalmers are all taking up athletics scholarships at U.S. colleges in mid-2026.

Sir Graeme Douglas (SGD) International Meet

Although this is an Athletics NZ event, AAI again played a significant role in the presentation of the SGD meet by providing equipment and organising the officials.

SGD continues to be an event where NZ athletes can showcase their ability and chase standards for overseas meets.

NZ Combined Events Championships 2026

The Combined Events Championship event was held in conjunction with our AAI Combined Events Championships.

Being a National Championship, Athletics NZ appointed a TD to oversee the meet.

In the **ANZ Championships** we hosted

Decathlon Senior Men: 9. A very close competition with Angus Lyver first with 7281 points followed by Jack Henry on 7269 points.

Decathlon U20Men: 5.

Decathlon U18Men: 2.

Decathlon Masters Men: 1.

Octathlon U16Men: 3.

Heptathlon Senior Women: 3. Also a closely fought competition. Maddie Wilson first with 7281 points and Briana Stephenson second with 7269 points.

Heptathlon U20Women: 5.

Heptathlon U18Women: 8.

Heptathlon Masters Women: 1.

Pentathlon U16Women: 1.

All the Auckland athletes in the above events, also competed in the **AAI Combined Events Championships**. There were a number of athletes only competing in our Championships as their Grades/Events are not in the National Championships:

GirlsU14 Pentathlon: 1.

Masters Women Pentathlon: 2.

Masters Men Pentathlon: 2.

Masters Women Throws Pentathlon: 1.

Masters Men Throws Pentathlon: 4.

This year no McKinnon Shield events were held on the Saturday due to a venue clash with an Auckland FC game. However, on the Sunday morning the Junior Section held their Mile Championships.

2026 Athletics New Zealand Track and Field Championships, Auckland

This year was the first of three years with Auckland hosting the NZT&F champs. It was nice to have a home-ground championship at the Sir Graham Douglas Track in Waitakere. It certainly was an event to remember, and the Track Stars evening showed the stadium in full capacity with a high-energy atmosphere.

With a team size of over 260 athletes, we showed up in good numbers wearing the blue and white of the Auckland Centre.

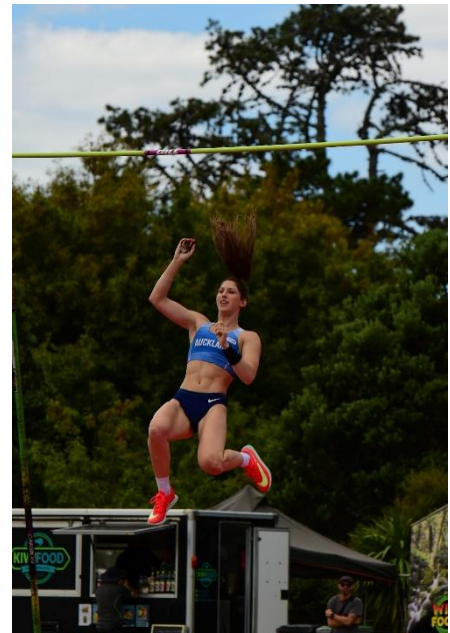
With support from the Athletics Auckland Board, we made sure our home-town athletes were looked after with a base along the grass bank. We provided gazebo shelter, sitting space and a chill-out area for our athletes. This worked particularly well for our U16 and U18 athletes and their families as a place to relax between events and to refuel. The U20's and seniors also took advantage of the base being able to grab fruit, snacks or even take an ice bath should they need after their events. We acknowledge the donation of a pallet of water bottles (1000+) provided by Pure NZ Water through Board member Rajal Middleton.



This set up worked really well, and it is hoped we can continue to provide this for our athletes and families over the next two years of hosting. As the Team Manager, I sincerely appreciated the support from Chris Day and Ally Fletcher throughout the competition week, with early morning starts and there until the very end, we could not have run the base camp without them. Also, we are very grateful to Raewyn Rodgers and Sue Potter who provided support leading up to the championship event.

We look forward to continuing to grow the team energy within the Auckland region into the future.

The Peter Booker Memorial Trophy is awarded to an athlete who competed at NZ T&F Nationals for Auckland and who reflects sportsmanship, dedication and excellence in their event. This year the trophy was awarded to Eliza McCartney for her World Championship qualifying effort.



AAI Board Business Plan

Events & Service Delivery:

- During the season several smaller items of new gear have been purchased. Funding applications have been made to allow purchasing of gear identified as essential, particularly for the National T&F Championships.
- Weekly meets hosted by AAI throughout the season apart from a short break over Christmas/New Year.
- New officials have been trained.



Community Engagement:

- The website and Facebook have been used to communicate with AAI athletes, coaches, officials and families.

Operational Quality:

- Athlete performances and other achievements have been highlighted via social media each week.

2026/2027 Summer Track and Field Season

Since the end of the 2025/26 season in April, planning has been underway for the 2026/27 season. This includes

2026/27 Calendar.

One of the key tasks is to book Mt Smart for both the Junior and Senior meets. The calendar will change as we get date/time confirmation of other users of the Mt Smart complex. This will mean some morning meets as in 2026/27 and potentially Friday night meets.

National Championships.

As mentioned in the last report, AAI has been awarded the ANZ Senior T&F Championships, U16 to Senior grades, for 2026, 2027 and 2028. The Local Organising Committee, LOC, was formed along with a fundraising group.



Originally it was planned for the Championships to be held at Mt Smart. However, Athletics NZ negotiated a 2 ½ hour segment on TV1 for the Saturday night. Because of television requirements the venue was shifted to Trusts Stadium, Waitakere.

This was not confirmed until mid-year and changed the responsibilities of the LOC to include providing and transporting equipment to The Trusts, volunteers, breakfast for officials (funded by AAI), and initial allocation of officials' roles.

The Saturday night Track Stars programme was well received by the public, both on TV and at the venue. The stadium was filled with 7500 spectators spread through the grandstand and around the track perimeter who watched some of New Zealand's top athletes compete in both the field events and on the track.

For 2027 and 2028, the ANZ, supported by the LOC, has the opportunity to build on 2026's success.

Equipment Purchases.

AAI continues to purchase new equipment to maintain a high level of quality equipment and ensure we keep up to date with technology as it provides greater opportunities for our sport. In recent years AAI has invested in:

- A programme to generate the results for McKinnon Shield meets. This will also open up opportunities for other local and national competitions without the need to travel.

- Replaced the main pole vault mats.
- Bought a back-up start system.
- Purchased new specification 700 gm javelins.

Currently being purchased, or, proposed to be purchased, in 2026:

- Additional doubled sided time clocks.
- Replacement cover for the #2 pole vault mats.
- Replacement digital displays for the pole vault uprights.
- Training hurdles.
- A second long jump camera.
- A replacement #3 camera.



Finally, I would like to thank all who have assisted during the season – the athletes, the parents, the officials, the Senior T&F Committee, the AAI Office staff and anyone else who have contributed to the seasons' success.

Contributions from,

Judy Revell

Team Manager, Auckland Senior T&F Team.

Sue Potter

Convenor – JW & MS Miles.

Paul Craddock

Acting Convenor Senior T&F.

Auckland Junior Track & Field Season Review 2025-26

Auckland Junior Relay Championships

The Auckland Junior Relay Championships for the 2025 season were held as a single-day event at Mt Smart Stadium on Saturday 29 November 2025, delivering a full programme of 4 × 100m relays, 4 × 200m relays, and Field Relay events.

The day was super-hot, dry, and sunny, creating challenging conditions for athletes and officials but contributing to a vibrant, energetic atmosphere throughout the stadium.



This year, the decision was made to only run 4 x 100m and 4 x 200m Relays across all age groups (in recent years, we've run 4 x 400m for 10-14 years). Collectively, the delegates have agreed this idea seems to work and makes the day run much faster. 4 x 400m Relay options were offered at the North Harbour Bays Night of Fives, and although not well-frequented, definitely added something to the event. Also, of note, was the opportunity at the 4 x 400m relays for clubs to combine with other clubs, bringing together some wonderful team situations and the chance for athletes from wider clubs bond together.

Participation numbers were solid across most age groups, with strong representation from Pakuranga, Waitakere City, Takapuna, North Harbour, Riverhead, Papakura, Eastern, Lynndale, Hillsborough, Pt Chevalier, Owairaka, Ellerslie, and Pukekohe. The atmosphere was positive, competitive, and supportive, with clubs working together to ensure smooth event delivery.

Another great session from the perspective of making sure we avoided Tag Nationals clashes, ensuring numbers across all clubs were up on previous years where we have coincided with this event. The Junior Delegates committee will continue to ensure that no such clashes exists moving forward, to best assure maximum numbers in terms of club representation.

4 × 100m Relays

The 4 × 100m relays formed the core of the day's track programme, with competitive racing across all age groups. Some standout winners included:

- Girls 7 Years — Waitakere City 'A' (73.85)
- Boys 7 Years — Eastern 'A' (70.89)
- Girls 8 Years — Pakuranga 'A' (64.83)
- Boys 8 Years — Pukekohe 'A' (66.28)
- Girls 12 Years — Waitakere City 'A' (54.83)
- Boys 12 Years — Papakura 'A' (53.62)
- Girls 11 Years — North Harbour 'A' (55.58)

- Boys 11 Years — Pakuranga 'A' (56.39)
- Girls 9 Years — Waitakere City 'A' (62.48)
- Boys 9 Years — Pakuranga 'A' (59.53)
- Boys 14 Years — Pakuranga 'A' (47.23)
- Mixed 14 Years — Takapuna 'A' (52.91)

These races showcased excellent baton skills, speed, and teamwork across the region.

4 × 200m Relays

The 4 × 200m relays were also contested in 2025, providing an important middle-distance relay challenge for athletes aged 7–14. These races reward speed endurance, smooth baton transitions, and depth across squads.

Clubs traditionally strong in the 200m format; including Pakuranga, Takapuna, Waitakere City, North Harbour, Riverhead, and Papakura; again fielded competitive squads.

Double-Gold/ Triple Gold Relay Winners (4 × 100m + 4 × 200m and Field Relays)

It was so exciting to see several teams from a wide variety of clubs achieve double Golds across the 4 x 100m and 4 x 200m Relays – and in some instances, triple Gold across all three events. Pakuranga, Waitakere and Bays all had several ages that were able to gain the double or triple gold, a testament to the athletes coming through these spaces.

Event Delivery & Conditions

The single-day format worked well, though the extreme heat made the day physically demanding. Clubs collaborated smoothly, officials were efficient and supportive, and athletes showed impressive resilience.

Club pride and inter-club encouragement were evident throughout the stadium, contributing to a positive and successful championship.



Auckland Junior Pentathlon Championships

The Auckland Junior Pentathlon returned to Mt Smart on Saturday 13 December 2025, giving junior athletes the chance to test themselves across a range of track and field events. Combining running, jumping and throwing disciplines, the Pentathlon rewards versatility, determination, perseverance and the willingness to take on something a little different.

The day began with the 7–9 year olds competing in a three-event programme of 100m, long jump and discus. The shorter format kept athletes moving throughout the morning, with very little waiting between events and plenty of excitement around the venue. There were smiles,

personal bests and lots of encouragement from teammates, parents and officials as athletes gave every event a go. For many, it was their first experience of a combined events competition and a chance to discover new strengths while enjoying a fun morning of athletics.

The afternoon session saw the 10–14 year olds tackle the full Pentathlon programme of 200m, 800m, long jump, shot put and discus. There was strong competition across most grades, with athletes needing to show speed, endurance, strength and technique to perform well across the five events. Just as impressive was the support athletes showed one another throughout the afternoon, with competitors cheering each other on from event to event.



Grade titles were shared across several clubs, reflecting the depth of junior athletics in Auckland. Winners were Nathan Moulton (North Harbour Bays, 10 Boys), Olive Castles (Pakuranga, 10 Girls), Carson King (Pakuranga, 11 Boys), Alyssia Vaili (Pakuranga, 11 Girls), Renzo Johnston (Papakura, 12 Boys), Ruby-Lee Waite (Waitakere, 12 Girls), Phoenix McQuoid (Takapuna, 13 Boys), Aal Ratumaitavuki-Naqau (Waitakere, 13 Girls), Nacho Esquivel-Garcia (Papakura, 14 Boys) and Giselle Campbell (Pakuranga, 14 Girls).

A big thank you to the officials, volunteers and parent helpers whose hard work made the event possible. Their efforts behind the scenes ensured another successful day of competition and a positive experience for all the junior athletes who took part.



Auckland Junior Championships

The Junior Championships were held over the last weekend in February 2026 at Mt Smart Stadium.



For the Auckland Junior Championships to succeed, it is essential that Clubs also provide volunteer helpers. This year the committee stuck with the same decision that we have used over the last couple of years indicating that if clubs did not carry out their assigned duties during the championships, all that club's athletes would be excluded from the event. It was pleasing to see that all clubs that had been assigned duties at the championships fulfilled those duties.



Over the championship days, in the order of 550 athletes entered almost 1,600 individual events with thirteen championship records broken this year, including:

Grade/ Gender	Event	Time/distance	Name (s)	Club
8 Girls	800m	2min 52.14 secs	Anya O'Meara	Pakuranga
10 Girls	400m	1min 04.79 secs	Riley McKay	Pakuranga
10 girls	800m	2min 25.09 secs	Riley McKay	Pakuranga
10 Girls	1500m	4min 53.74 secs	Riley McKay	Pakuranga
10 Girls	Mile	5min 20.03 secs	Riley McKay	Pakuranga
11 Girls	Mile	5min 21.89 secs	Hannah van der Watt	North Harbour Bays
12 Girls	Mile	5min 31.92	Fenella Foden	North Harbour Bays
14 Girls	Shot Put	14.744m	Sina-Maria Su'a	Takapuna
7 Boys	800m	2min 50.14 secs	Bodhi Huston	Eastern
9 Boys	800m	2min 37.77 secs	Asher Ama	Pakuranga
10 Boys	400m	1min 02.55 secs	Levi Kastermans	Pukekohe
10 Boys	Mile	5min 36.66 secs	Viggo Burke	Takapuna
11 Boys	800m	2 min 19.90 secs	Jonty Farrell	Lynndale

The Junior Championships takes a large amount of coordination to ensure that everything runs to plan. A big thank you to those who volunteer their time to make it all happen.

GO! Series

In the 2023-2024 season we launched the GO! Series which is an inter-club competition for athletes from 5- to 14-year-olds to engage our young athletes in a different athletics experience.

Over the 2025-2026 summer season we held 5 GO! Days, including a very well attended Friday night event and introduced the GO! Series Shield as a way to reward clubs for consistently turning out athletes.

After 5 GO! Days of competition, Pakuranga Athletics Club had earned the GO! Series Trophy with Lynndale Athletics Club being awarded the GO! Series Shield.



Based on the feedback received from parents, the GO! Series will return over the summer of 2026-2027 for a fourth year with refinements to make it bigger, brighter and more GOier than ever before.

 	
25-26 FINAL GO! TROPHY TABLE	
#	Club Points
1	 Pakuranga Athletics Club 1190P
2	 Papakura Athletics & Harrier Club 1110P
3	 North Harbour Bays Athletics Club 1080P
4	 Lynndale Athletics & Harrier Club 1055P
5	 Point Chevalier Athletics Club 1035P
6	 Ellerslie Athletics Club 1020P
6	 Pukekohe Amateur Athletic & Harrier Club 1020P
8	 Riverhead Athletics Club 1005P
9	 Waitakere City Athletics Club 855
10	 Hillsborough Athletics Club 835
11	 Manurewa Athletics & Harrier Club 780
12	 Owairaka Athletics Club 680
13	 Takapuna Amateur Athletic & Harrier Club 625
14	 Eastern Athletic & Harrier Club 570
15	 Roskill South Athletics Club 425
16	 Beachlands Maraetai Athletics Club 380
17	 Auckland City Athletics Club 270
18	 Calliope Athletics Club 150
19	 Warkworth Athletics Club 135
20	 Hobsonville Point Athletics Club 130

 	
25-26 FINAL GO! SHIELD TABLE	
#	Club Points
1	 Lynndale Amateur Athletics & Harrier Club 1170P
2	 Ellerslie Athletic & Harrier Club 1050P
3	 Riverhead Athletic Club 1025P
4	 Pakuranga Athletic Club 1000P
5	 North Harbour Bays Athletics Club 990P
6	 Point Chevalier Amateur Athletics Club 965P
7	 Papakura Athletic & Harrier Club 945P
8	 Pukekohe Amateur Athletic & Harrier Club 895P
9	 Manurewa Athletics & Harrier Club 870
10	 Hillsborough Junior Athletics Club 855
10	 Waitakere City Athletics Club 855
12	 Owairaka Athletics Club 695
13	 Takapuna Amateur Athletic & Harrier Club 565
14	 Eastern Athletic & Harrier Club 550
15	 Roskill South Athletics Club 465
16	 Auckland City Athletics Club 295
17	 Warkworth Athletic & Harrier Club 145
18	 Hobsonville Point Athletics Club 140

Auckland Junior Prize Giving

The prizegiving was held on Sunday 19 April 2026 at the Waitakere City Athletics Club with guest athlete James Trathen attending. After prizegiving a shared lunch was eaten and many conversations had.

We acknowledged all Junior age group winners, Championship and Resident Record holders.

Regular junior section volunteers and officials during the 2025/26 season were recognised at the prizegiving through the award of service certificates.

Sportsperson of the year were split into track and field with the winners being:

Girls Track Riley McKay (Pakuranga)

Girls Field Sina Marie-Sua (Takapuna)

Boys Track Nacho Esquivel-Garcia (Papakura)

Boys Field Aidan Barret-Hamilton (Waitakere)

A special recognition award was presented to Louisa Smith who has been the Junior Event secretary for many years who retired from the role at the end of the 25-26 summer season.

Regional Challenge Day

Building on the initial Regional Challenge Day held in the 2023-2024 season, and 2024-2025 seasons, a combined 10-11 and 12-13 Regional Challenge Day was held on Saturday 31 January at Massey Park in Papakura.

Looking forward to 2026-2027, the Junior committee is working with our counterparts in the Northland and Taranaki regions to create an exciting combined inter-regional competition to provide another opportunity for our young athletes to engage with the sport and create friendships across a wider sphere of people.



Finally, we would like to acknowledge and thank all those people who contribute to Junior athletics in the Auckland Region. Without you, our athletes would not have the rich opportunities that they currently enjoy.

AAI Junior Track & Field Committee

Auckland Cross Country and Road Season Review 2025

2025 was a season with some subtle changes. We started as before with our Half Marathon Championships as part of the Waterfront Half Marathon. The race director, Rob Docherty, continued with his great support of our event. The number of athletes competing grew once more with the Night Ninjas once again showing their strength, with many orange singlets standing out on the course.



This is such a good way to advertise our Clubs to the growing number of social athletes and I would strongly encourage our Clubs to use this method of advertising, as our Club uniforms stand out, both in organised events and training sessions.



2025



SENIOR LEAGUE FINAL POINTS - OVERALL

POSITION	CLUB		POINTS
1		Night Ninjas	536
2		Pakuranga	371
3		Owairaka	363
4		Lynndale	338
5		ACA	198
6		The Y Marathon Club	153
7		TTT Runners	140
8		Oratia	110
9		University of Auckland	105
10		North Harbour Bays	46
11		Glen Eden	31
12 =		Auckland City Tri & Whippets	14
14		Takapuna	8
15 =		Wesley & Papakura	7
17 =		Technical & Waitakere City Athletics	3
19		Racewalking Auckland	2

The Senior Winter League, with a little tweaking, got off to a good start for some Clubs this year with the Half Marathon counting for first points. Night Ninjas managed to reign supreme overall this year.

Juniors are not left out of the opportunity to support their Clubs with the Junior Harrier Series urging many of them to turn out for their races no matter what the weather, or if they were still a little tired from Morning Sport.

Here we have a report from Robert Ward who co ordinates the Junior Harrier Series.

Junior Harrier Series

The Junior Series is for athletes aged 15 and under who take part in at least six events during the harrier season.

The series is designed to be fun, friendly, and accessible, so athletes of all abilities can

participate and enjoy competing.

Throughout the season, athletes represent their clubs in a range of team relay and cross-country events, including:

- Southland Relays
- Oratia Relays
- Lynndale Relays

- *ACA Pairs*
- *Massey Relays*
- *Auckland Teams Cross Country Championships*

After each event, clubs earn points based on their performances.

Two shields are awarded during the season:

- **Hansen Shield** – awarded to the club with the highest total points.
- **Turnco Shield** – awarded to the club with the highest average points per athlete.

At the end of the season, the clubs with the best overall results are presented with the shields.

2025 Results

Turnco Shield.

1. *North Harbour Bays*
2. *Glen Eden*
3. *Lynndale*

Hansen Shield.

1. *Lynndale*
2. *North Harbour Bays*
3. *Equal third: Owairaka and Glen Eden*

These awards recognise clubs that have shown outstanding participation, teamwork, and performance throughout the season.

Our programme of events changed a little this year. Sadly, we said “goodbye”, at least for a little while, to the Choose Your Own Distance and Night Races. This happens sometimes due to programming restraints, declining numbers attending or an organising Club finding they aren’t currently in a position to host their event. This can allow room for different events to be created or returned, giving some variety to our season.

The core of our events remained strong. The Southland Centennial/ACA Relays moved to a new venue at Dilworth Junior School as the grounds at Sacred Heart College were undergoing renovation. This event continues to attract good numbers and is a good format to introduce new members to the sport.

The rest of the season continued with another slight increase in numbers competing, meaning the events were well attended.

As with previous years, athletes acquired cumulative points from each of the Grand Prix events, culminating in an award presentation at the Junior and Senior prizegivings.

At the same time on each occasion that an athlete competed in either the Junior or Senior League events, they added league points for their Club.

The National Cross-Country Championships were held this year in Christchurch in Hagley Park. Being in the city centre is somewhat unusual, but enabled our team to be, for a change, accommodated within walking distance of the course. Once again, our teams were successful in achieving medals in most categories along with individual success.

The Club Teams component of the Championships was moved to the Saturday evening instead of the next day and were held under lights bringing a festive feel to the competition. The individual race 2 km lap course was truncated for the Team's event to a 1 km lap, adding to the festive feel.



The National Road Championships, whilst still having the format of an Open 10 km and age group Walks Championships along with a non-Championship 5 km, was once again held on a private, closed road course around the glass factory in Cambridge, hosted by the Waikato Bay of Plenty Centre (rather than within a Corporate event).

The 5km Championships and Masters Marathon were again held with the Rotorua Marathon event and the Senior Marathon Championships were held once again on the Course in Christchurch.

After the different format of racing on a Motor Sport Circuit in Taupo, the Road Relays returned to a well-liked, but slightly different, public road course around Fielding. Auckland athletes featured highly in these Championships. Good results were, once again, achieved for both individuals and Teams. Congratulations to you all!

The rest of our local season, as indicated earlier in this report, included events that we have held before.

The Te Horo event that was introduced to us last year, hosted by Owairaka Harrier Club, enjoyed much kinder weather this year. Athletes enjoyed the relay format, which brought a difference to Team racing and probably contributed to the increase in the number of teams competing, which was good to see.

Our thanks must also go to TTT Runners, Pakuranga Harrier Club and North Harbour Bays for their Hosting of 3 of our Grand Prix events. Also, Oratia, Lynndale and ACA who hosted some of the Junior Harrier Series events.

Hosting events such as these requires a lot of work setting up and taking down courses along with finding the required number of Volunteer Marshalls to support our Officials, so we as a Sport are grateful for their support.

Once again, we finished the season with our version of a Road Relay at Mt Smart Stadium on the track and surrounding pathways. Numbers in this event, especially in the Junior section, seem to grow year by year.

The Relays were followed that day by the Junior Prizegiving. Whilst the senior prizegiving was held again at the Pakuranga Clubrooms after a Pack Run organised by the Pakuranga Club around their surrounding parklands at Lloyd Elsmore Park. We have something a little different planned for next year so watch this space.



Before I pass on my traditional thanks to all involved in our section of the Sport, I would like to acknowledge Petro Geldenhuys for all the work she has been doing this year to improve our communications with our Athletics Community through updating and maintaining our Social Media platforms and her dedication in attending our events to take the many great photo shots that add real interest to our Media. This takes many long volunteer hours so we are grateful for her contribution.

Overall, I think we can say we had a good season with some excellent results once again and as a committee we look forward to bringing some new thoughts and energy to our next season.



And now thanks once again must go to our Clubs and Athletes without whom there would be no Cross Country season. Our Coaches for their tireless dedication, our Officials and Administration staff without whom our events would not reach the professional level that they do, and our Parents for all their support of their athletes and ourselves.

Finally, to my committee who are always trying to find ways of improving the experience of Cross Country running for our winter athletics community, thanks for the hours you put in attending meetings and for the support you offer in creating events for our Running Community to participate in.

Dianne Craddock

Cross Country & Road Convenor



AAI Coach Development Manager – 2025-2026

AAI Coach Development

This past season has been a very exciting one for our network of Coaches throughout the Auckland region. Both our Cross Country/Road and Track and Field members had the opportunity to compete in many well organised events both in Auckland and around the country. Our Junior section had a busy season with the North Island Colgate Games in Tauranga, then followed by the Auckland Junior championships. The Senior section again had a busy season which finished with the Athletics NZ Nationals championships at Trust stadium in Waitakere and later in March 2026 with the ANZ Combined event champs.

Athletics NZ Coach Membership

Athletics Auckland will always support the Coach membership process, which has been in effect for six years now. The Community coach is the heart-beat of our club members development through the club coach, parent/athlete-coach or Foundation programme coaches. This membership with Athletics NZ is free and now has a 3 year term.



For those coaches with more experience whose aim is higher, the Accredited membership is the next stage. The Coach membership scheme with Athletics NZ will entitle you to benefits during the registration period. These benefits are reviewed and updated over time.

The Athletics NZ Coaching Athletic Development programme (CAD) Level 1 continued into the 2025-26 season. The level 1 modules were delivered by approved Athletics Coach Educators (ACE Coach) in September-October 2025. The programme covers coaching the coach of junior athletes aged 10-15 years with entry level knowledge. Athletics NZ plan is to develop level 2 modules, building on basic knowledge to more specific knowledge for the 15-18 year age group. CAD level 2 modules are being developed over 2026 for release in the 2026-27 season.

Athletics NZ continues to support Auckland coaches in the Performance Coach space (PCQ). This will apply to some Accredited coaches who work with development athletes in the “Performance Potential” and the “Performance Development” squads.

As of 31 March 2026, Auckland had 43 Accredited Coaches, an increase of 9 from the previous season. Note that this figure includes some Athletics NZ staff and high-performance Coaches. We had 34 Community Coaches, a decrease of 6 from the previous year. Note that dual memberships are available, as a Community coach and a Community club volunteer.

The Athletics Auckland 2024-26 coaching plan has the same goals as the previous year:
Accredited Coaches: 50 Community Coaches: 50

We encourage our club network to ensure their personnel who are working with young people on a regular basis, are registered Coaches or Volunteers with Athletics NZ.

Athletics Auckland Coach Education and Development

Athletics Auckland wish all our Coaches continue to undertake any Coach education opportunities that have been promoted. Note that to undertake CAD Level 1 courses by approved ACE Coaches, you need to be registered as a Coach, Official or Volunteer with Athletics NZ. The following courses were undertaken by Athletics NZ in the 2025-26 season.

14 September 2025: CAD Level 1- Sprints/Hurdles and Long/Triple Jumps at Trust stadium

28 September 2025: CAD Level 1- Sprints/Hurdles and Long/Triple Jumps at Lloyd Elsmore

12 October 2025: CAD Level 1- Sprints/Hurdles and Discus/Javelin at Mt Smart

12 October 2025: Foundation course at Trust stadium

19 October 2025: Foundation course at Onewa domain

26 October 2025: Foundation course at Lloyd Elsmore Park

John Walker Find Your Field of Dreams

This programme delivered to a small number of schools over 2025-26. In term 3 we delivered at Drury school, to all years from 1 to 8. In term 4, our “Athletic” specific sessions were focused on Rosehill Intermediate in Papakura. More “Athletic” based sessions were held at Pukekohe Christian school for the second year in the programme in term 1 of 2026.

Aspire Development Academy

We ran a 2-day spring academy on 16-17 April 2025 for 10-15 year olds. This year we ran track sessions on day 1 and cross country on day 2 at Bruce Pulman Park.

This season, our 1-day winter clinic was held on 10 July 2025. This was held at Mt Smart stadium with a track and jump focus.

On the 1-2 October 2025, we ran our main 2-day Aspire academy at Mt Smart stadium. We covered the sprint, jump and throw events with the assistance of 3 Athletics NZ member coaches. Feedback from participating athletes was very supportive of event.



To complete 2025, we ran “mini” Aspire clinic’s on the 17-18 December for the preparation of athlete’s to the Colgate Games in Tauranga January 2026.

Starting the new year for 2026, we ran our summer Aspire event on the 21-22 January for 10-14 year old athletes.

Auckland Regional Athletics Coaching Programme

We connected with some clubs at our annual club engagement seminar on the 7 September 2025. Following on from this event, I visited some of our affiliated clubs over the summer season, with a coaching focus during the visits. Some of the visits were coaching related, some purely to support the club during their club night activities.

Athletics Auckland Combined Event Championships

We again hosted the Athletics NZ Combined event championships at Mt Smart on the 21-22 March 2026. This event doubled up as our Auckland championships. Well done to our regions athletes who performed well over the 2 days of competition. We are keen to support those Coaches who wish to be competent at all the event groups of sprints, jumps and throws to enable them to develop combined event athletes.



Neil Bartlett

Athletics Auckland Coach Development Manager

2025-2026 Officials Training Report

Auckland is well placed with having three Official's educators, John Phillips, Murray Free and Paul Craddock, available to take seminars across all aspects of our sport – track, jumps, throws, cross country and road, trail, race walking and mountain running.

During 2025/26 several seminars were held in the lead into the summer season and during the season.



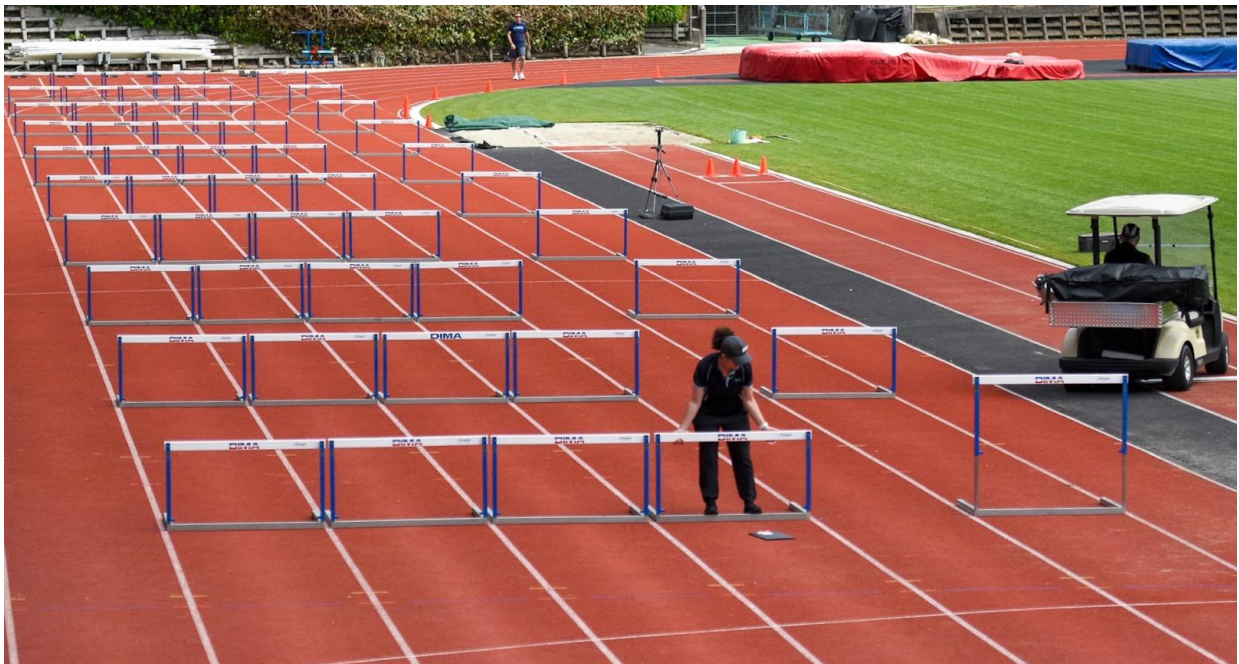
There are changes coming to the Officials' Training programme later this year, as Athletics NZ looks to align its programme to incorporate the World Athletics online learning modules and the changes to the upper-level qualifications recently announced by World Athletics.

This initially will apply to the Track & Field modules. For Out of Stadia and Race Walking, the current Athletics NZ program will continue.

Until the new program is finalised, we will continue to offer seminars covering the various aspects of Athletics.

If you would like to hold a seminar series at your Club, or in conjunction with a neighbouring Club, please contact Raewyn in the AAI office office@athleticsauckland.co.nz

Paul Craddock
Officials Educator



Our Clubs

Auckland City Athletic Club
Auckland City Triathlon Club
Auckland University Track Club
Beachlands Maraetai Athletics Club
Calliope A and H Club Inc
Eastern Athletic and Harrier Club
Ellerslie Amateur A and H Club Inc
Glen Eden A and H Club Inc
Hillsborough Junior Athletic Club
Hobsonville Point Athletics Club
Lynndale Amateur A and H Club
Manurewa Amateur Athletic and Harrier Club
Night Ninjas Athletics Club
North Harbour Bays Athletics Inc
Oratia Running Club
Owairaka Amateur Athletic Club
Pakuranga Athletic Club
Papakura Athletic and Harrier Club

Papatoetoe Amateur Athletic and Harrier Club
Point Chevalier Amateur Athletics
Pukekohe Amateur A and H Club
Racewalking Auckland Inc
Riverhead Amateur AC
Roskill South AAC
Takapuna Amateur A and H Club Inc
The Y Marathon Club
TTT Runners
Waiuku Districts Amateur Athletic Club
Waitakere City Athletic Club Inc
Warkworth Athletics Club
Wesley Harrier and Athletic Club Inc
Western Elite Throws Academy-Athletics Club Inc
Whippets Running Project

Our Funders and Partners

The Board of AAI would like to acknowledge and thank the following grant funding providers for their generous support of our sport through the 2025/2026 year.



Thanks to Action Snaps for the photos.

Our People

Murray McKinnon QSM JP - Patron

Rodger Brickland QSM - President

Bryce Hall – Chairperson

Jim Hogg - Treasurer

Dan Brady - Director

Judy Revell - Director

Chris Day – Director

Rajal Middleton - Director

Dianne Craddock - Cross Country and Road Convenor

Paul Craddock – Acting Track and Field Convenor

Raewyn Rodger - Office Manager

Neil Bartlett – Coaching Development

Fiona Free - Competition Coordinator

Petro Geldenhuys – Community Engagement Manager

Cliff Freeman – Grant Funding Manager

