

UP-FRONT

Editorial

By: Bryan Mayall

Welcome to the last summer edition of our Up Front for the 2014-15 season and what a great summer it has been. Our athletes have had a busy season and have continued to perform at a very high level, with the highlight being the successful running of our NZ Champs at Tauranga. Congratulations to Murray Clarkson, Fay Riley and their team of willing helpers and also the officials and competitors who travelled from afar a big thanks. Great that here in Hamilton we are back on our brand new track which was completed in time for the Porritt Classic.

For our Sky Sport TV viewers and cricket fans what a great summer we have had. The Black Caps have certainly come up trumps with some outstanding performances and at time of writing are in the quarter finals of the World Cup and a good chance to progress further. As for myself I am amazed at the athleticism and skills of the fielders with some outstanding catches. How about the one handed catches competition run by Tui in the outfield!

As you know I am an avid reader of high quality true stories that portray sheer grit, courage and survival. I believe that for all these qualities and more in a person I highly recommend reading **Laura Hillenbrand's recent book Unbroken** which some of you may have seen as a Movie. It is the life story of Louis Zamperini an American born Italian whose family moved to Torrance California when he was a 2 year old in 1919.

The book documents Louie's life as he was transformed from a child delinquent to a track star starting at the age of 12. With the help of his older brother Pete he finally was good enough to compete in the 5000m at the 1936 at the Berlin Olympics at aged 19 where he was the first American. Later when WW 11 broke out he enlisted in the US Army as a bombardier in the U S Airforce. In 1943 he was shot down in the Pacific and along with two crew members he survived in a life raft for 47 days before being captured by Japanese soldiers and taken prisoner where he survived extreme brutality ,torture and finally redemption. " A Must Read"

We say farewell to Marcia Petley who has stepped aside from her role as NZMA board member who was a member for 24 years. Marcia's replacement is Murray Clarkson our current President. On behalf of WBOP a big thanks to Marcia for her contribution to Masters Athletics and we wish Murray all the best in his role.

Finally congratulations to all our Masters who have made it through another demanding track and field season and managed to achieve some more goals. Also thanks to my contributors.

COMING EVENTS - 2015

12 April	McClaren Falls
17 May	Rotorua –
14 June	WBOP Team Challenge Waipuna Park
12 July	Hamilton
9 August	Whakatane
13 September	Hamilton

Further details on venue location. time etc, TBA.

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Presidents Report
Murray Clarkson

A New Year?? We are now in March and the Summer programme is all but finished. I hope everyone enjoyed the competitions and got in the odd PB or reached a goal for the season. After a relatively quiet year last year, the Nationals hit the scene with full force.

What a hectic time!! Although the T's & F's have not been completed the NZMA Champs were deemed a success and many accolades are still being given. Thank you to all who participated and more importantly those who assisted with the multitude of tasks involved. Special thanks to the L.O.C. , visiting Officials and the Tech, Catering & Results teams . Heather O'Hagan was amazing as usual, I don't know how she does it. Being able to create success from potential chaos does not just happen.

NZMA were trialing a new generic programme and need feed-back to make adjustments. Please let me know of any suggestions. (Email preferred)

It was very evident that we need more qualified Officials so please, if you want to continue to be part of our group and are not doing as much competing as you once were, attend a course and help with events. It is not complicated.

At the AGM, Marcia Petley stood down after 24 years of promoting Masters Athletics. I had put my name forward and was successful. We therefore continue to get feed back and can put our ideas forward, although Board members do not represent any specific region.

Our winter events programme has been set & I encourage you all to participate and enjoy the varied events at different locations. Those who took part last year were surprised at the places they had not known existed. Come along and enjoy the freedom of the open Countryside. Take care and get out of that comfort zone.

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WBOP Masters Christmas Meeting**14 December 2014 - Julia Lile**

After a period of what could be best described as average weather, the skies darkened even more and mother nature unleashed with wind and rain for our Christmas Meeting held at the Tauranga Domain on Sunday 14 December. A keen group of 16 athletes braved the unpleasant conditions and a somewhat trimmed program due safety concerns, particularly in the field events.

The meeting kicked off with the 1500m. Craig Wilson (M50) led the field of six athletes home in a time of 5:34.10 (72.8%), Karen McCready (W45) was close behind in 2nd 5:36.50 (78.2%), 3rd Gerry Meyers (M55) 5:59.70 (71.80%) right behind in 4th Murray Clarkson (M65) 6:00.10 (77.20%) followed by Robert McPherson (M70) 6:53.36 (72.2%) and Karina Meyers (W45) 7:45.51 (56.50%)

Then it was the turn of the sprinters in the 100m only four of us in the one race. Cold, wet and wind do not make for fast times, however Bruce Solomon (M50) ran a respectable 12.69 (87.50%) followed by Julia Lile (W40) 14.51 (78.40%), Sheryl Gower 16.49 (87.60%) and Gerry Meyers (M55) 17.10 (67.50%).

Meanwhile in the field the only the shot put and the discus were the safe (and sane) events that could be completed in the ugly conditions. The hammer was attempted initially but called off as athletes were struggling to clear the cage.

Results for the women's shot put: Bev Savage (W65) 7.59m 3kg (67.60%) followed by Karen McCready (W45) 5.77m 4kg (34.40%). Men's shot put Rob McGregor (M75) 8.39m 4kg (54.60%).

Results in the discus: Women: Bev Savage (W65) 21.59m (54.20%) and Karen McCready 13.72m (21.80%). Men: Bruce Solomon (M50) 32.37m (44.50%), Rob McGregor 25.09m (54.90%), Ray Laurie 16.01m (39.70%). Brendon Magill (M50) 21.60m (29.70%) wearing the only sensible footwear – his gumboots! Only Brendan could be so practical.

Back on the track the 3000/5000m combination of walkers and runners got themselves soaked to the skin. 3000m Men: Craig Wilson (M50) 12:12.30 (69.30%), Gerry Meyers (M55) 12:53.59 (69.50%) then Robert McPherson (M70) 14:57.99 (69.70%). 3000m women: Karen McCready (W45) 12:14.60 (76.20%) and Karina Meyers (W45) 17:16.32 (54%). Barbara Allen (W65) completed the 3000m track walk in a time of 27:33.24. Then in the 5000m (run) Robyn Winter (W65) 31:24.66 (65.80%) and Barry Watson (M55) 21:20.78 (72.90%)

Finally the last two sprint events were held in worsening conditions. First up the 60m with Bruce Solomon (M50) 8.00 (90.90%), Julia Lile (W40) 9.15 (81.10%) then Sheryl Gower 10.21 (92.20%). Impressive percentages both Sheryl and Bruce in ugly conditions. Finally we got to the 200m and the rain really started to get worse. First home was Bruce 25.79 (87.50%), Julia 29.46 (79.60%) and Sheryl 36.09 (83.90%).

In the end we got through relatively unscathed, some of us were probably disappointed with performances (well, I was), and others had very good ones despite the conditions (Bruce & Sheryl both over 90% in the 60m). A change of clothes, some yummy afternoon tea and a hot cuppa afterwards – hopefully our run of bad weather is over for the season!

Waikato BOP Masters Athletic Champs 17-18 January 2015 Track Report Julia Lile

The weekend weather turned it on for the WBOP masters champs giving athletes from a good opportunity to register some good performances both on the track and in the field.

On the opening morning of competition the track events kicked off with the steeplechase before the heat kicked in. Robyn Winter (W65) was the only female competitor and finished in time of 13:05.52 (68%). In the longer event for the men Shane Baker (M45) 12:16.71 (73%) and Rob Kear (M50) 14:57.07 (64%). For the older group both M60 Gavin Smith 8:10.74 (81%) and Ian Martin 10:30.60 (63%).

The turn of the sprinters came at 10am in the 100m. Quite a few men in the 45-55 age bracket. Three heats were run with only two female competitors amongst it all. Bruce Solomon (M50) had the fastest time & highest percentage of 12.28 (90.6%). Next in was Stephen Te Whaiti (M50) 12.49 (88.5%), Stephen Burden (M55) 12.61 (89.9%) Brendan Bass (M45) 12.91 (83%), Dave Rondon (M50) 13.48 (83%), Shane Baker (M45) 13.49 (78%) Julia Lile (W40) 13.75 (82.7%) Rob Kear (M50) 14.77 (75%) Ross Brown (M65) 14.77 (81%), Sheryl Gower (W65) 16.36 (88%) and Eric De Lautour (M90) 27.24 (70%)

Short hurdles with three competitors over their respective heights for age, Stephen Te Whaiti (M50) 17.05 (78.8%) Dave Rondon (M50) 19.38 (71%) and Shane Baker (M45) 23.10 (61%).

Next up was the 1500m with 10 keen athletes. For the women first home was Sally Gibbs (W50) 5:01.33 (93%), Karen McCready (W45) 5:28.27 (79%), Robyn Winter (W65) 8:58.26 (63%) and Linda Reynolds (W45) 9:41.22 (47% - with a knee injury). The first male over the line was William Doney (M30) 4:51.75 (70%), Gavin Smith (M60) 5:23.45 (81%), Graeme Adams (M65) 5:24.91 (84%), David James (M50) 5:47.14 (70%), Murray Clarkson (M65) 6:02.23 (76%) Ian Martin (M60) 7:06.99 (62%).



Stephen Te Whaiti

Sunday Morning and first event up was the 3000/5000m. Two athletes in the run competed in the 3000m Graeme Adams (M65) 11:50.95 ((80%) and Karen McCready (W45) 11:36.67 (79%). The 3000m walk was Linda Reynolds (W45) 26:58.67.

In the 5000m Sally Gibbs (W50) made it look easy and crossed the line first 18:01.27 (93.9%), then next woman was Robyn Winter (W65) 32:01.72 (64%). The men were Gavin Smith (M60) 19:58.49 (79%) and Barry Watson (M55) 23:02.95 (67%).

In the half an hour after the 3000m/5000m race completion Robyn Winter collapsed and had to be taken to hospital. At the time of writing she was in a stable but serious condition, our thoughts are with Robyn and her family and we hope to see her recover very soon.



Rob McGregor

The final track event was the men's pentathlon 1500m. First home was Craig Wilson (M50) 5:41.92, Bruce Solomon (M50) 5:55.58 and Stephen Te Whaiti (M50) 5:58.20.

Photos Courtesy Fay Smith

By midday the sprinters were back for the 60m. The same group of keen competitors as the 100m. Bruce Solomon (M50) once again set the standard first over the line with an outstanding percentage 7.72 (94.8%). Stephen Te Whaiti (M50) over 90% as well 7.81 (93%), Brendan Bass (M45) 7.97 (88%), Stephen Burden (M55) over 90% 8.02 (93.3%), Dave Rondon (M50) 8.53 (86%), Julia Lile (W40) 8.79 (84%), Ross Brown (M65) 9.27 (86%), Rob Kear (M50) 9.35 (78%), Sheryl Gower (W65) with +95% 9.85 (95.5%) and Mark Gray (M50) 10.70 (69%). Some amazing percentages recorded by four athletes over 90% and one very impressive +95% by Sheryl Gower.

Shortly afterwards the final track event of the day got under way with the 400m. Karen McCready (W45) was the only female competitor with the rest of us wimping out (speaking for myself here!). She led the two M65 men home in a time of 1:12.09 (77%). The second race was won by William Doney (M30) 56.78 (76%), Bruce Solomon (M50) 58.80 (85%), Stephen Te Whaiti (M50) 1:01.33 (81%), Mark Henderson (M50) 1:07.56 (74%) and Rob Kear (M50) 1:10.72 (71%).

The meet continued with the long hurdles Angela Graham 300m (W50) 1:05.79 (72%) and Brendan Magill 400m 1:21.98 (71%).

The 800m then followed with four competitors William Doney (M30) 2:11.20 (77%), Craig Wilson (M50) 2:30.37 (78%) and Karen McCready (W45) 2:38.90 (76%).

The last of the sprints was the 200m. Which included the men's pentathlon athletes. Bruce Solomon (M50) left us all in the dust with 25.28 (89.9%), Stephen Te Whaiti (M50) 26.50 (85%), Julia Lile (W40) 28.34 (82.7%), Craig Wilson (M50) 28.89 (78%), Sheryl Gower (W65) 33.91 (89.9%) and Angela Graham (W50) 34.23 (76.8%).

WBOP Masters Champs - Field Events

Bruce Clarke

The highest percentage of the day was:

Pauline Purser (W90-94)	Shot	3.76m	84.50%
Rob McGregor (M75-79)	High Jump	1.20m	82.20% WR
Kevin Bradley (M70-74)	Weight Throw	16.36m	81.90% WR



All athletes would have been happy with their performances and will be looking forward to performing well again at the Nationals. Master Blaster from Te Kuiti, Johan Van Zyl (55) looks to be well on track for medals with his throwing. New comer William Doney (30-34) looks a very good athlete also.

Special thanks to our tireless officials who did, as usual, a terrific effort and some also managed to get a run or throw themselves which is all good.

Ian Clarke

What's your Opinion

Bruce Clarke

YET AGAIN, we hear of an official being struck by a throwing implement in the field sector. These implements are missiles and any hit or near miss is always one too many. WHY IS IT HAPPENING ??? and what should we be doing about it?

We have throwing rules and procedures in place but human nature being as it is, things go awry at times and someone needlessly becomes in danger. I have been throwing in Masters competitions for over 35 years and have experienced many situations and mishaps along the way even once hit in the ankle with a wayward discus. I have a strict throwing procedure:

- (a) Wait for the recorder to call my name before entering the circle.
- (b) On entering the circle and positioning myself to throw I always look back to the outer field to see that the officials are indeed watching and ready to field the throw.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT ON AN AVERAGE OF ONE IN TEN THROWS have to be aborted for some safety reason. Some of the most common reasons are:

- A person crossing the sector to another event.
- An official on the phone or texting.
- Two officials standing together – talking.
- Recorder calling up a thrower before throwing circle and sector is clear.
- Retriever walking back within the sector.
- An official watching a track event.
- Persons standing up against the throwing cage or not standing behind the cage front.
- OFFICIAL HELPERS OUT IN THE FIELD NOT FULLY AWARE OF THE DANGERS or inexperience of throwing. TOO YOUNG – TOO OLD—SLOW REACTION TIME and physically SLOW.

So there you go! There is the problem. What's the answer? In our sport we have a group of very experienced and dedicated officials but their ranks are getting very thin and there is a dearth of people wishing to come forward to assist. There appears to be at the moment, a blasé attitude towards throwing amongst athletes and the very worst of all is at warm up throws, uncontrolled chaos.

NZ Masters Games Wanganui 30 January 2015

Bruce Clarke

The Masters Games are held every second year at Wanganui alternating with Dunedin. Covers a wide range of sports and activities in a weeks programme. Attracting attendance and participation in the thousands, mainly New Zealanders but many Aussies too.

Athletics was surprisingly first up on the programme this year. Quite a few Aussies were in the mix of entries and a strong athlete list from Waikato-Bay of Plenty including Bruce Solomon (50), Peter Crawford (70), Johan Van Zyl (55), Ray Laurie (80), Pauline Purser (90), Marion Clarke (70), Bruce Clarke (75), Jane Crawford (65), Graeme Adams (65), Maureen Savage (70), Don Butler (70), Darryn Koppens (40), Harry Pragnell (75), Penny Purcell (50), Dianne Mannington (60).

I have been attending this event for many years but this year was by far the most disappointingly run. Prior to the first event Discus commencing, a public announcement was called that for the whole competition no medals would be

awarded unless there was at least three entries in a grade otherwise it was ribbons only. (they were non-descript at that).

There was no mention of this on the entry form or other conditions of entry so you can imagine the consternation amongst the athletes especially the Aussies. Even guaranteed medal winners were upset that their counterparts would only be getting a ribbon through no fault of their own.

The first day the medal ceremonies were a farce and many ribbon winners refused to attend. The second day semblance of order was restored. After so many complaints to management and beyond it was announced they had been ordered to supply medals to all and replace medals to previous ribbon winners.

The weather turned really nasty on the second day and the throwing circles got very slippery. No drainage holes in the Hammer circle so filled with water rapidly and proved too dangerous to throw. I managed to get one throw in but it was 10 metres down, others couldn't throw at all.

So it was quite an eventful competition. It happens from time to time and as for the medals, well it's only a medal but it was the principle of the whole thing really. A lot of damage has been done though and it will be very interesting for next time, if it is held at all.

WBOP Trophy Day Sunday 22 February 2015**Judy Chandler**

We always look forward to this special event. Great fun, great competition and wonderful atmosphere. At least 25 competitors, this was special, as also happening on the same day, the second day of Waikato BOP Athletics Track and Field Champs in Tauranga and Auckland Masters Athletics Championships. Thank you to Chris Waring, Tui Ashe, Laini Inivale, Fuzzy Maiava, John Lester and Alan Galbraith and Tuariki Delamere all down from Auckland.

We were rather short of officials and for the throwing events many throws competitors, as often happens, helped out with officiating as well. Then we had extra time keepers arriving for every track race start enabling us to have three stop watches on all race finishers. Thank you all

First up, Hurdles with just one competitor Tui Ashe (60) 17.5 – 79.70%

Also the 3000m just one competitor, our racewalker Sheryl Miratana (60) 22:39.5 Well done Tui and Sheryl.



Bruce Solomon and Stephen Burden

Great competition in the sprints – and very good performances overall. 100m races with four competitors over 90% age percentage results - Sheryl Gower (65) 94.40%; Chris Waring (70) 92.10%; Bruce Solomon (50) 90.40% and Stephen Burden (55) 90.70% . John Lester 85.90% (70) and Marcia Petley (85) 83.10%.

In the 200m – eight competitors over all. Womens' race Sheryl Gower

(65) first home in 33.1 for 91.50%; Chris Waring (70) 334.9 -90.00%. The men's 200m won by Bruce Solomon (50) 26.0, highest percentage going to John Lester (70) with 88.10%

The 400m Womens race, close finish with Sheryl Gower (65) 1.24.9 80.90% and Chris Waring (70) 1.25.2 - 86.40%. Five starters in the men's race won by Bruce Solomon (50) 26.0 87.40% with Stephen Burden (55) a close second in 26.7 - 86.90%

The 800m womens' race Tui Ashe (60) 3:23.2, Joan Mayall (70) 4:08.0. Craig Wilson (50) first home in the men's 800m in 2.31.2. Third place getter Graeme Adams (65) was 2:41.6 – 81.20% his time on age factored performance was a 2:04.52 result!

1500m for men with four starters. Won by Craig Wilson (50) 5:22.2. Second home Alan Galbraith (70) from Auckland 5:52.8 - 82.00% . Great having Alan back racing – gold medallist 1500m at Brisbane in 2001

Two Triple Jumpers - Stephen Burden (50) 10.45m and Hector Mein (80) 4.39m.



Fuzzy Maiava, Tuariki Delamere, Craig Wilson and Laini Inivale

High Jumpers were Tui Ashe (60) 1.15 -83.90%, Mark Henderson (50) 1.33-68.60% and Hector Mein 0.90 (80) 70.90%

The Mens' Javelin. Won by Peter Crawford (70) a new member this season. Recently at one of our 'Have a Go Days' he mentioned that he had never thrown a javelin before. He has now won our Waikato Bay of Plenty Men's Field Event Trophy with a throw of 29.37m

Our three Auckland field event competitors, Laini Inivale, Fuzzy Maiava and Tuariki Delamere had a fun day and set personal bests and maybe even records for Trophy Day Field Events.

Field events – Thank you to Bruce Clarke, he has here some field event highlights for you –

The Best Throws At The Trophy Day Were:

Men	Women	
Javelin	Bruce Solomon (50) 37.97m	Julia Lile (40) 16.75m
Hammer	Fuzzy Maiava (50) 29.63m	Marcia Petley (85) 16.46m
Weight Throw	Fuzzy Maiava (50) 15.01m	Marcia Petley (85) 7.14m
Shot	Laini Inivale (45) 12.56m	Sheryl Gower (65) 6.40m
Discus	Tuariki Delamere (60) 36.40m	Julia Lile (40) 18.30m

Afternoon tea was followed by presentation of Trophies.

Trophies Awarded



Stephen Burden with De Bell Trophy

De Bell Trophy – Overall Points Male – Stephen Burden - 330.3
 Cuthbertson Memorial Trophy – Overall Points Female – Sheryl Gower- 322.4
 Allen Woodhead Trophy – Triple Jump Men – Stephen Burden - 74.3%
 Kathleen Woodhead Trophy – 400m Women – Chris Waring – 86.4%
 Gower Trophy – 800m Men – Graeme Adams – 81.2%
 Gower Trophy - 800m Women – Tui Ashe – 77.7%
 Mary Hamilton Trophy – Overall Points Visitor for Women – Chris Waring – 295.6
 Ted Hamilton Trophy – Overall Points Visitor for Men – John Lester – 278.7
 Waikato Men's Field Trophy – Javelin – Peter Crawford - 53.5%
 Waikato Women's Field Trophy – Shot put – Jill Sherburn – 61.7%

Snippets

A big get well to Pauline Purser who has made a good recovery after surgery from her medical condition and is now at home.

Also to Robyn Winter who is also recovering from her health ailment and continues with her rehabilitation.

Good to see Stew Foster back on deck after his medical condition and we wish him a full recovery and back to getting back onto the track again.

Bryan Mayall and Ray Laurie have both celebrated their octogenarian status and both now compete in the elite M80 age group.

41st NZMA Athletics Champs 27 Feb – 1 March 2015 Tauranga - Track Report Julia Lile

It was the turn of Waikato BOP Masters Athletics to host the 41st NZMA Track & Field Champs held at the Tauranga Domain during the weekend of 27Feb – 1 Mar 2015. The weather was stunning allowing athletes to achieve some top performances amongst their peers from across the country. As expected WBOP had the largest team out of all the centres with 49 out of the 201 in total.



Sue Hoskin and Mark Gray in 3k walk

Friday night on the track opened with the 3000m track walk. Theresa Large 20:11.04 (70.5%) took out the W55, Sheryl Miritana 2nd 21:44.48 (70.1%) in the W65 and Mark Gray 1st 17:39.91 (70.6%) in the M50.

The 400m followed on with a good number of WBOP athletes competing. W45 Karen McCready 1st 1:11.12 (78.6%) W70 Joan Mayall 2nd 1:47.34 (71.9%), M30 William Doney 1st 55.14 (78.3%) M50 Bruce Solomon 1st 57.86 (86.7%) M55 Peter Ayson 2nd 1:06.60 (78.9%) M65 Murray Clarkson 5th 1:15.74 (74.3%) and M70 Alan Silvester 1st 1:14.69 (84.6%).

To round out the evening we had the 5000m. Five WBOP competitors took part W45 1st Karen McCready 19:49.82 (80.2%), W50 1st Sally Gibbs 17:24.5 (97.3%) an excellent performance. M50 David James 4th 21:04.70 (69.6%), M55 Barry Watson 3rd 20:29.62 (75.9%) and M65 Graeme Adams 2nd 21:28.83 (76.4%).

Saturday morning was an outstanding day with not a cloud in the sky and minimal wind to begin with. The Steeplechase was the first track event of the day. M50 Brendan Magill 1st 13:07.20 (72.5%) and 2nd Rob Kear 14:13.45 (67.4%). Graeme Adams in the slightly shorter event came 1st in the M65 with 8:57.09 (81.1%).

Short hurdles were next up. Two WBOP competitors with Alan Silvester M70 1st 19.25 (69.6%). M50 Stephen Te Whaiti 1st 17.74 (77.1%).

Then the first of the sprint events the 60m. Always popular with 9 races to accommodate all the age ranges. W40 Julia Lile 2nd 8.62 (86.1%) both 1st and 2nd place bettered the NZ record. W50 Angela Graham 1st 9.68 (85.2%), W65 Sheryl Gower 1st 9.78 (96.2%) outstanding over 95% yet again Sheryl. W70 Jill Sherburn 3rd 12.44 (81.8%) and Marcia Petley back on track in the W85 1st 14.00 (86.6%). In the men the hotly contested M50 Stephen Te Whaiti 1st 7.77 (93.6%) and 2nd Bruce Solomon 7.86 (93.1%) – nice work lads. M55 Stephen Burden 2nd 8.03 (93.2%). Some very good percentages overall.

After lunch it was into the 100m. Once again good fields overall. W40 Julia Lile 2nd 13.41 (84.8%) it has taken 2 years to get back to a 13.4. W50 Angela Graham 1st 15.52 (81.4%), W65 Sheryl Gower 1st 15.86 (91%), W70 Jill Sherburn 3rd 21.35 (73.3%) great result for Jill after being off the track for all of last season, and in the W85 Marcia Petley 1st 23.66 (85%) a very good time Marcia. The men fared well M50 Stephen Te Whaiti 1st 12.14 (91%) just edging out Bruce Solomon 2nd 12.25 (90.8%). M55 2nd Stephen Burden 12.62 (89.9%). M70 Alan Silvester 2nd 16.09 (80%).



Megan Chave, Julia Lile, Petra Stoeveken and Vanessa Story in 200m

Sunday was another cracker of a day and the first event was the 10km road walk. Just one WBOP competitor Mark Gray M50 1st in 1.06:16 – nice work Mark. Back to the track and it was the 10,000m. W45 Karen McCready 1st 42:04.73 (77.1%), W50 Sally Gibbs 1st 35:58.67 (96.4%) great work Sally, M55 Barry Watson 2nd 43:24.17 (74.8%) and Graeme Adams M65 1st 45:33.72 (75.1%).

Late morning and it was the last of the high speed events the 200m. W40 Julia Lile 2nd 28.47 (82.4%) not a good time with a crook Achilles. W65 Sheryl Gower 1st 33.17 (91.3%) excellent time Sheryl, W85 Marcia Petley 1st 54.58 (80%).



The men's races were thrilling to watch, M50 1st Bruce Solomon 25.64 (88.7%) and Rob Kear 4th 29.92 (76%). M55 Stephen Burdon 1st 26.72 (86.9%) finally edging out Gary Rawson from Wellington – well done Stephen. M70 Alan Silvester 2nd 34.47 (78.4%).

Next up was the 800m. Again some good racing to watch. W45 Karen McCready 1st 2:45.81 (74%), W50 Sally Gibbs 1st 2:21.98 (90.6%), W70 Joan Mayall 1st 4:08.40 (77.2%) excellent run Joan, and Fay Riley 3rd 6:21.89 (49%) good to see you back on the track Fay. Men: M30 William Doney 1st 2:08.99 (78.4%), M50 Grant McKay 4th 2:31.65 (76.7%) and Rob Kear 5th 2:42.68 (72.7%). M65 Murray Clarkson 1st 2:45.04 (81.2%) a very well

Claire Giles, Jill Sherburn, Lynne Mackay, Margaret Fraser and Joan Mayall in 800m

Finally the long hurdles. 300m W50 Angela Graham 1st 1:01.78, M70 Alan Silvester 1st 1:01.72. Then the longer 400m M50 Brendan Magill 1st 1:22.74.

Also the pentathlon was held on Sunday. Women: W70 Jill Sherburn 1st 1746 points, M50 Stephen Te Wahiti 2nd 3019 points, 3rd Bruce Solomon 2828 points, M80 Hector Mein 1st 1236 points.

Overall, excellent results from our WBOP team and we hosted a very successful event with many positive comments from fellow competitors across the country. The great standard of medals and adding the presentation podium went down well. We have set a high standard for the next year's champs – well done WBOP!!

Throwing at the NZ Masters Champs

Bruce Clarke

Waikato – Bay of Plenty was represented by Eight women and 13 men .The Throws Pentathlon includes five throwing implements.

Women

Bev Savage (68) 3428 pts, Brenda Davis 2877 pts

Men

Johan Van Zyl (55) 3525 pts, David Couper (38) 2362 pts, Bruce Clarke (77) 2344 pts, Ian Clarke (44) 2001pts

Bev Savage(Women) and Johan Van Zyl (men) were respectively the highest total points scores of any age group in N. Z. Peter Crawford (70) and Rob McGregor (75) threw extremely well with some individual implements and set new N. Z. records in their age group.

NZMA Athlete of the year Awards

Congratulations to the following WBOP Athletes who won awards for the 2014-15 season. These annual awards were presented at the dinner on Saturday night.



Sally Gibbs receiving her trophy from Andrew Stark

Men Stew Foster - Hurdles
Brendan Magill 10 year service

Women Sally Gibbs - Middle and Long Distance
Bev Savage – Throws and Combined Events



Bev Savage receiving her trophy from Andrew Stark

Membership Report

Our membership stands at 87 for this season.

We welcome new members Craig McLean, Maurice Stevens and William Doney (Jnr).

Big welcome back to Angela Graham, Mark Gray and Grant McKay.

WBOP v Auckland Challenge Trophy March 8

Bruce Clarke

Held this year at the AUT Millennium Stadium, North Shore Auckland. Waikato-Bay of Plenty remain unbeaten for this trophy, winning all be it by the same as last year, a solo one point.



The Waikato-Bay of Plenty team of Ian Clarke (40-49), Steven Burden (50-59), Sheryl Gower (60-69), Bruce Clarke (70-79) and Hector Mein (80-89).

It was a superb but surprising win by the Waikato-Bay of Plenty team because Auckland had some really classy athletes but the visiting team had a really good day especially Bruce Clarke who threw a seasons best in three throws events. Although WBOP came away with the spoils it was Masters Athletics camaraderie and sportsmanship between the two provinces that was the true winner on the day. Roll on next year where the event will be held in the Waikato-Bay of Plenty and it could be just Auckland's day. They surely must turn the tables next time.

Bruce Clarke with Challenge Trophy

Photos WBOP Champs



Dave Couper Hammer



Gavin Smith 2k S/Chase

Photos courtesy Fay Smith

Photos Trophy Day



Jill Sherburn with Waikato Women's Field Trophy



Peter Crawford with Waikato Men's Field Trophy



Graeme Adams receiving the Gower Trophy for 800m



Sheryl Gower with Cuthbertson Memorial Trophy



Chris Waring and Sheryl Gower



Sheryl Gower, Alison Newell and Anne Goulter



Marcia Petley and Margaret Fraser 200m



Stephen Low, Jeff Barnfield, Stephen Burden and Gary Rawson 200m



Rob Kear 400m



Karen McCready 1500m



Bruce Solomon 400m

