



## June 2024 Newsletter from Athletics Waikato Bay of Plenty

It's hard to believe it is June. The good news is that it is not long until the Paris Olympics – featuring three of our region's finest athletes – Camille French, Sam Tanner and Tori Peeters, followed by the Paralympics featuring Danielle Aitchison, world record holder.

What has been happening in the first six months of the year – for our Tamariki the Colgate Games, the Children's Champs with numbers back to pre-Covid levels again (and one of the wettest days of 2024 sadly), as well as all the general club activities for children.

We have had a focus on rangatahi – a full Secondary Schools athletics programme in the region followed by the North Island Track & Field Champs. Some lucky athletes were in the Youth Squad (more details to follow) and we had sixty athletes attend the new Porritt Classic Youth meet. In addition, there was the 14-16 Interprovincial Programme.

Secondary School Cross Country events - Zone Cross Country Championship events were held in Tauranga, Hamilton and Ngatea during May. WBOPSS Cross Country Championships were held at Kihikihi Domain on the 5th June with good support from schools and 331 entrants. John Tylden plus Murray Green organised the course supported on the day by Te Awamutu College.

For our Seniors there was the AWBOP Champs, followed by NZ Track and Field Champs on top of Open Meets – and now they are into Cross Country Season. It was good to see lots of local athletes competing at the Porritt Classic and there were some exceptional performance at the NZ Track and Field Champs.

Masters has also been busy and it has been great to see many of our athletes competing overseas at the Oceania Champs.

There have been many athletes selected for teams in NZ and overseas. Please see the end of the newsletter for a full breakdown. And in advance, if your result or event has been missed then please let us know.

### Athletics Waikato Youth Squad

A group of Waikato coaches ran a Waikato Youth Squad that brought together a group of approximately 30 athletes aged from 16 to 20 years from the Waikato area who show a

real desire to continue in the sport and want to develop their skills and continue participation. The Squad met monthly for 3 hours. The programme included educational opportunities for athletes and coaches, practical coaching in event groups, and an opportunity to share ideas and socialise over lunch.

The majority of WYS athletes produced personal best [PB] performances during the 2023-2024 season with over half doing so in more than 1 event. Those who did not PB during the season cited injury as the reason. Squad athletes were selected in the following representative teams: - AWBOP team to the NZ Championships - NZ Team to Oceania Championships - Waikato BOP Secondary Schools team to the North Island Schools Championships - NZ Secondary Schools Team to the Australian Championships The measure of the success of the AWYS program is the retention of athletes in the sport, especially school leavers.

All the athletes and coaches enjoyed belonging to the AWYS and the overall program of workshops as it provided them with many opportunities to learn from professionals involved in the sport and other athletes [e.g. Camille French] and visit and use special facilities at the Grassroots Trust Velodrome, Porritt Stadium and Cambridge Pool. The most beneficial sessions highlighted included - nutrition, physical activities, competition skills, recovery, swimming activities, drug testing procedures and visiting athletes.

We are grateful to Tu Manawa for the funding for this squad and to the coaches who led the programme, in particular Debbie Strange. We are hoping to repeat this again and expand this concept to the Bay of Plenty.



## Porritt Classic

The Porritt Classic was a very busy and successful day back in February. The weather was good and it was the first significant event on the newly laid track, which led to some fast times especially for the distance runners. It was brilliant to have Paula Southgate attend, and officially open the new track. We appreciate the sponsorship to hold this event from Hamilton City Council

There were good numbers of entrants across the day, and of note were the strong para fields and we were also delighted with the response by officials to attend. This is a very popular event for athletes and officials – it really is the People’s Classic. There was a lot of work to get this day happening and we have Criss Strange to thank – he put the event together and this is an awful lot of work from contacting sponsors to planning the timetable to coordinating officials. This event returned a profit to the centre, not an easy thing to achieve.



## Child and Vulnerable Adults Policy

Athletics NZ have launched a Safe Sport program to help clubs and organisations create ways to protect athletes in our sport. In particular focusing on Children and young people.

*"Safe sport is about creating positive sporting experiences and having a set of actions to keep everyone safe from harm. It encompasses children, young people and adults with a focus on prevention of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, and neglect."*

- Athletics NZ Safe Sport website <https://athletics.org.nz/safe-sport/>

As part of this Safe Sport process your club/organisation will be asked to create some policies/procedures around child protection. The first step in this process should be for some of your members to get together as a club and talk about the issues and come up with a strategy on how this Safe Sport Culture could occur at your club/organisation. This will ensure that the values and cultural aspects unique to your club/organisation are represented in the process.

At Athletics Waikato Bay of Plenty we recognise that not all clubs have the resources available on hand to come up with a policy/procedure. So, we have created a template to assist you to get the process started. These documents should be viewed as a starting point, not necessarily the final product of your club/organisations discussions on this issue. These documents attached also include possible actions in relation to Vulnerable Adults.

Please follow these links for the documents:

Child and Vulnerable Adults Protection [Policy](#)

Appendix A – Child Vulnerable Adult Safety [Incident Report Form](#)

Appendix B – [Indicators of Abuse](#)

Appendix C – Athletics NZ [Club Audit Tool](#)

Via this link you will also find our Health and Safety documents which you might like to use within your club, and to understand how we manage any incidents within the centre.

<https://athleticswaikatobayofplenty.org.nz/about-us/health-and-safety/>





The centre encourages clubs to use these resources and customise them for your own needs. If you need help then please contact Barrie at [barriej@athleticswbop.org.nz](mailto:barriej@athleticswbop.org.nz) and he can point you in the right direction.

## Why affiliate with Athletics Waikato Bay of Plenty?

We do get clubs asking where their levies go. AWBOP employ staff to support the sport in the area from running events to managing the database to helping clubs with coaching or running club nights. We coordinate multiple volunteers as Officials and Team Managers – the Board are volunteers. We hire venues for events and run the Secondary Schools Athletics and Cross-Country events in the region. There are many benefits from being an affiliated athletics club. Here are some of the reasons:

- Opportunity to compete at regional and national events such as the Children's Champs, Colgate Games, WBOP Track and Field Champs, WBOP Cross Country Champs, WBOP Road Champs and many National events from Road Relays to National 5km Champs.
- Opportunity to get involved in youth squads and groups.
- Policies available to make running a club safer – we have a Policy and Template on Children and Vulnerable Adults as well as Health and Safety Policies available. There is a structure around your club and support available if needed to deal with incidents or challenges.
- Resources to make running club nights easier such as templates and event guides.
- Insurances under Athletics New Zealand.
- Opportunities to train as officials and coaches.
- Being part of the sport and contributing to the infrastructure of the sport so that athletics continues to be a popular and thriving sport.

## Childrens Committee AGM

This has been delayed as there were several remits to consider.

In response to feedback from clubs that more time is required to fully consider the presented remits, the decision has been made to postpone the AGM by 2 weeks. The new date will be Sunday 23rd June, at 7pm.



We have considered making this an in person meeting due to the need (again) for broad discussion of the issues being raised, however the flow of conversation achieved in person comes at the cost of wide representation across our region. We will therefore continue with the online format for ease of attendance - please attend with the intention of engaging in the discussion so decisions are truly representative of all our clubs.

Please use this time to discuss the remits and the implications with your committees / key people.

## Masters Programme

Do you know about Masters Athletics - did you know that if you run for an affiliated club then you are automatically a NZ Masters member – Masters run a full programme of events. There is also the opportunity to travel internationally and compete, and potentially represent New Zealand internationally. A number of the Masters from our region were able to represent NZ at the recent Oceania Champs – and got on the podium.

<https://nzmastersathletics.org.nz/nzma-registration/>

## Athletics NZ Role Advertised

Athletics NZ have advertised for a National Development Plan Manager that will be based in the Bay of Plenty. It will be beneficial to have someone based locally to support our region, one of the largest in the area of all the centres and certainly with the widest spread of clubs.

## Trophy Winners

The following link will lead you to a list of trophy winners for the Track and Field Season – well done to all athletes.

<https://athleticswaikatobayofplenty.org.nz/athletics-waikato-bay-of-plenty-track-field-trophies-2023-2024/>

## Results

There are a lot of results – here are the links to the pages to access them.

Athletics WBOP events <https://athleticswaikatobayofplenty.org.nz/competition/results/>

NI Secondary Schools <https://matstiming.anet.live/meets/33004>

All Athletics NZ events <https://athletics.org.nz/event-archive/>

## WBOP athletes selected for World and other Championships.

### **2024 Olympic Games, Paris**

Camille French (Marathon), Tori Peeters (Javelin) Sam Tanner (1500m)



### **World U20 T&F Championships – Lima, Peru 27-31 August**

Boh Ritchie (800m), Maddie Waddell (400m, 400mH)

### **2024 Oceania Athletics Championships in Suva Fiji (1-8 June). 121 athletes have been selected - 15 athletes from WBOP**

Senior – Maddie Waddell (400mH), Brooke Somerfield (100m, 200m), Maria Sartin (400mH), Boh Ritchie

(800m, 1500m), Tori Peeters (Javelin), Callum Murray (800m)

U18 – Holly Fausett (400m, 800m), Hayley Koppens (Javelin), Zarah Rattray (100mH, 400mH, Triple

Jump), Mania Christiansen (Shot Put, Discus), David Mora (Shot Put, Discus), Hamish Murray (800m,

1500m), George Wyllie (1500m, 3000m)

Para – Jaxon Wooley (T38 100m, 200m, Long Jump), Lisa Adams (withdrawn due to retiring)

World Para Championships 15-25 May Kobe, Japan

Danielle Aitchison (100m, 200m), Lisa Adams (withdrawn due to retiring)

### **Other Results**

NZ T&F Champs 14-17th March (results attached for WBOP Team)

IAU 2024 24 Hour Asia and Oceania Champs in Canberra 6/7 March

Carol Robertson 5th, Dawn Tuffery 10<sup>th</sup>, , Sue Hunter 18th - all from Hamilton City Hawks

World Cross Country, Belgrade, Serbia 30 March

SW – Katherine Camp (70th): U20M Matt Hill (48th), Elliott Pugh (49th), George Wyllie (71st), Az Cabusao

(81st): U20W Boh Ritchie (62nd), Poppy Martin (76th)

### **Rotorua Marathon**

New Zealand Marathon Championship Men: 1st Michael Voss 2:23:48, 2nd Cullen Thorby 2:23:52



New Zealand Road Mile Championship, Rotorua Lakefront – 3 May 2024

SW -Katherine Camp 5th PB 5:00.68

U20M - George Wyllie 1st national U20 record 4:20.71 PB, Callum Murray 2nd 4:24.11, Az Cabusao 3rd.

4:27.75

U20W - Poppy Martin 1st 5:07.59, Eleanor Pugh 2nd 5:08.61, Ella Smart 3rd





New Zealand Inaugural 5km Road Championship Runway5, Rotorua Airport – 4 May 2024

SW Katherine Camp 17:05 PB 4th

U18 Eleanor Pugh 17:36 PB 2nd

U20 Charo Heijnen 1st 17:41 PB, Poppy Martin 2nd 17:50 PB, Ella Smart 3rd 17.:53

U16M Ronin Dickens 1st 17:36, Sheldon Hogan 2nd 17:38, Cooper Hogan 3rd 17:42

U18M George Wyllie 1st 14:51, Hamish Murray 2nd 15:18, Corban Holmes 3rd 16:15

U20M Callum Murray 1st 14:53 , Elliot Pugh 3rd 15:08

(main highlights as lots of placegetters in all grades)

Oceania Championships, Suva Fiji, 1-8 June 2024

SW Discus Tatiana Kaumoana 57.59 PB (2)

U18 1500m George Wyllie 4:00.63 (3), Hamish Murray 4:02.54 (6)

SW 1500m Boh Ritchie 4:25.69 (3)

U18 400m H 762 Zarah Rattray U18 1:02.69 (1)

SW 400m H 762 Madeleine Waddell 1:00.15 PB (4), Maria Sartin 1:00.37 PB (5)

U18 3000m George Wyllie 9:11.68 (1)

U18 1.5kg Discus David Mora 46.48m PB (3)

SW 100m Brooke Somerfield 11.86 +0.1 (4)

U18 400m Madeleine Waddell 54.05 (1), Holly Fausett 57.75 (4)

U18 5kg Shot Put David Mora 14.97m PB (6)

SW 200m Brooke Somerfield 24.08 (6)

U18 JT 500g Hayley Koppens 42.06m PB (4),

U18 Triple Jump Zarah Rattray 11.33m +2.7 (4)

U18 100m H .762 Zarah Rattray 16.36 (7)

U18 800m Holly Fausett 2:14.77 (3)

U18 800m Hamish Murray 1:54.27 (5)

SW 800m Boh Ritchie 2:08.62 (4)

SM800m Callum Murray 1:53.87 PB (5)

Women U18 4x100m relay, New Zealand (Zarah Rattray, Emilia Goldsmith, Sacha Kilmister, Kendra Scally) 48.18 (2)

Senior women 4x100m relay, New Zealand (Amelie Fairclough, Brooke Somerfield, Georgia Hulls, Marielle Venida) 46.07 (1)

Senior mixed 4x400m relay, New Zealand (Angus Lyver, Amelie Fairclough, Lex Revell-Lewis, Madeleine Waddell) 3:26.12 (1) New Zealand national record, New Zealand B (James Hansen, Maria Sartin, Jonathan Maples, Camryn Smart) 3:34.49 (3)

U18 mixed 4 x 400m relay, New Zealand (Noa King, Boh Ritchie, Hunter Scott, Holly Fausett) 3:37.03 (1)

Para

100m Jaxon Woolley T38 14.45 -1.1

Long Jump Jaxon Woolley T38 5.00m +1.0 (NZ open, U20, U19 record)

## Masters

Hammer Kevin Bradley 80-84 32.64m  
 Hammer Brenda Davis 50-54 38.97m,, Michelle Bitcheno 50-54 30.20m, Michelle Anthony 60-64 26.26m, Bev Savage 75-79 29.96m, Annette Parlane 75-79 25.84m  
 100m Tui Ashe 70-74 19.75 -0.7  
 100m Bruce Alexander 40-44 12.44, Stephen Burden 65-69 13.77 -0.2  
 6km cross country Trevor Ashe 65-69 45:51  
 Triple Jump Iain Rattray 50-54 10.78m +1.5, Stephen Burden 65-69 10.00m +3.6, Bruce Alexander 40-44 8.98m +1.4  
 Shot Put Bruce Alexander 40-44 9.63m  
 800m Iain Rattray 50-54 2:13.50, Mark Cornaga 55-59 2:13.87  
 Long Jump Bruce Alexander 40-44 5.08m +2.3  
 Shot Put Brenda Davis 50-54 SP 9.59m, Michelle Bitcheno 50-54 6.84m, Michelle Anthony 60-64 6.87m, Bev Savage 75-79 8.00m, Annette Parlane 75-79 Tui Ashe 70-74 6.46m  
 400m Iain Rattray 50-54 57.34, Mark Cornaga 55-59 58.20  
 200m Tui Ashe 70-74 41.26  
 200m Bruce Alexander 40-44 24.44 -4.0, Iain Rattray 50-54 24.91 -1.8  
 Throws Pentathlon Brenda Davis 50-54 2812, Michelle Bitcheno 50-54 1922, Michelle Anthony 60-64 2169, Annette Parlane 75-79 2913, Bev Savage 75-79 2844  
 Weight Throw Kevin Bradley 80-84 13.93m  
 Weight Throw Brenda Davis 50-54 WT 13.14m,Bev Savage 75-79 WT 10.74m, Michelle Anthony 60-64 9.08m, Annette Parlane 75-79 9.64m, Michelle Bitcheno 50-54 9.53m  
 1500m Mark Cornaga 55-59 4:54.74  
 Men 4 x 100m relay - New Zealand (Mark Cornaga, Iain Rattray, Robert Homan, Michael Chamberlin) 58.21  
 4 x 400m relay - New Zealand (Mark Cornaga, Iain Rattray, Robert Homan, Michael Chamberlin) 4:41.89  
 Pentathlon Iain Rattray 50-54 2820 (4.75m, 28.28m, 25.66, 26.11m, 5:11.21)

## Awards

Caelan Harris won the MVP of the Halberg Games 2024 - Sir Murray Halberg Cup.





2023 Arthur Eustace Award for Coaching was awarded to Kerry Hill at the NZ T&F Champs in Wellington

## **Retirement**

World and Paralympic shot put F37 champion Lisa Adams

## **Records**

Danielle Aitchison	-	100m T36 World Record 13.41 (0.8) – 15 March 2024
		200m T36 World Record 27.47 (-0.1) – 23 May 2024, Kobe Japan
Boh Ritchie		800m NZ U17 Record 2:06.51 – 20 January 2024, Hastings
George Wyllie		Road Mile NZ U20 record 4:20.71 - 3 May 2024, Rotorua
Jaxon Woolley		Long Jump T38 5.00m +1.0 - NZ open, U20, U19 record
		7 June 2024 Oceania Athletics Champs, Suva Fiji
		100m T38 12.18 (1.5) NZ Open, U20, U19 record - 20 January 2024, Hastings

Madeleine Waddell was part of the NZ Senior 4x400m Mixed Relay team that set a NZ record 3:26.12 at the Oceania Athletics Champs, 7 June 2024 Suva Fiji