

New Zealand Secondary Schools Track & Field and Road Race championships

Taranaki athletes performed with distinction at the New Zealand Secondary Schools Track & Field and Road Race championships held at the newly-laid all-weather track at The Trust Stadium in Waitakere on the weekend.

Hannah O'Connor (Sacred Heart) was outstanding in the junior girls 3000m, setting a sizzling pace over the first two laps to break away from the field. She stormed home in a new secondary schools record which had stood for thirty-two years. Her time was 9m32.89 which was fifteen seconds faster than the previous record. She then added two more gold medals to her tally when winning the 4km road race followed by the 1500m. O'Connor was named Junior Athlete of the Meet and she also gained selection in the NZSS Track & Field paper team.

Anton Besselling (NPBHS) won both his para-athlete events, looking sharp in the 400m following his win in the 3km road race.

Hawera High School's Ashleigh Bennett jumped herself into first place in the senior girls long jump with a distance of 5.64m. She backed up this performance with a bronze medal in the triple jump, leaping 11.38 metres.

New Plymouth Girl's High School junior girls road race team were very successful, winning the 6-person team event thanks to solid performances from Eve Barry, Maya Irving, Mackenzie Barry, Holly Sutherland, Charlie Godwin and Emily Sorensen. The two Barry sisters, along with Irving, also won silver in the 3-person team event.

Hannah Gilberd (Inglewood High School) walked a personal best of 10m51.14 in the open girls 2km walk for second place. Chris Devaney (NPBHS) also returned home with a silver medal when placing second in the senior boys 6km road race and was justly rewarded by being named in the NZSS Road Race paper team.

RESULTS

year 9 girls, 3km road race, Y Harrop 11m02 9;

junior girls, 100m heat 2, S Elemam 13.81 6, C Denton 14.34 8; heat 3, F Araba 13.14 1, J Martin 14.00 6; heat 5,

L Pukaikia 12.80 2, O Morgan 13.68 6; 100m ¼ final, Pukaikia 12.72 2, Araba 13.17 7; ; 100m semi-final,

Pukaikia 13.05 2, Martin 13.35 6; 100m final, Pukaikia 13.04 7; 200m, heat 1, Denton 29.71 7; 200m, heat 5,

A Nolly, 29.15 6; heat 6, Elemam 28.81 6; heat 7, Pukaikia 27.31 1; 200m ¼ final, Pukaikia 26.53 2; 200m semi-

final, Pukaikia 26.84 4; 200m final, Pukaikia 26.97 6; 400m, heat 1, S Farmer 62.74 5; 400m, heat 5, C Godwin

67.15 5; 400m semi-final, Farmer 62.47 5; 800m heats, D Phelan 2m25.58 1; 800m semi-final, Phelan 2m28.94 7;

1500m, heat 2, H O'Connor 4m55.70 2; 1500m final, 4m34.01 1; 3000m, O'Connor 9m32.89 1; 80m hurdles, heat

1, Nolly 13.87 5, E Hurley-Langdon 14.41 7; 80m hurdles, heat 4, J Farmer, 14.60 6; 300m hurdles, heat 2, Phelan

51.39 5, Hurley-Langdon 51.91 6; long jump, Farmer 4.63m 26, Martin 4.48m 31, Morgan 4.35m 35, Hurley-

Langdon 4.26m 38; triple jump, Farmer 10.24m 7, Morgan 9.61m 17; hammer, N Bennett 40.44m 4; 4x100m,

NPGHS 53.74 11; 4km road race, O'Connor 13m33 1, E Barry 15m39 8; M Irving 16m00 13,. M Barry 17m11 20, H Sutherland 17m57 28, Godwin 18m11 32, E Sorensen 19m08 34; 3-person team event, NPGHS 2; 6-person team event, NPGHS 1;

senior girls, 100m heat 4, R Livingstone 13.93 6, S Bird 14.28 7; 200m, heat 2, Bird 30.44 7; 400m heat 2, Livingstone 65.51 5; 2km open walk, H Gilberd 10m51.14 2, L Kehely 11m10.72 4, H Sutherland 12m51.94 7; long jump, A Bennett 5.64m 1; triple jump, Bennett 11.38m 3; A Ryan, hammer, 31.02m 14;4x100m, NPGHS 56.00 14; 4x400m, 4m31.70 10;

year 9, 3km road race, M Rowe 9m47 7;

junior boys, 100m, heat 3, J Stockwell 11.85 3; ¼ final, Stockwell 11.98 5; 400m, heat 4, J Collop 56.12 3; 400m semi-final, Collop 55.46 5; 800m, heat 1, Collop 2m12.15 5; 1500m, heat 2, M Erkes 4m27.55 7, N Clancy 4m35.11 10; 1500m final, Erkes 4m23.75 9; 2km steeplechase, B Sharp 7m23.04 14; 3km road race, Clancy 9.58 17;

senior boys, 110m hurdles, heat 1, C Cook 16.54 7; 100m, heat 3, C Wilson 11.86 5; 200m, heat 36, Wilson 23.78 5; 200m semi-final, Wilson 24.18 6; 800m, heat 2, E O'Leary 2m17.75 7; 1500m, heat 1, J Elliott 4m13.51 5; 1500m, heat 5, A White 4m06.33 5; 1500m final, White 4m07.57 8; 3000m, heat 1, C Devaney 9m05.23 2; 3000m, heat 2, Elliott 9m20.73 9; 3000m, heat 3, White 8m55.20 4; 3000m final, White 8m45.41 10, Devaney 8m46.49 11; high jump, A Fage 1.80m 4; 6km road race, Devaney 18m50 2;

senior boys, PA A/O, 400m, A Besseling 1; 3km road race, Besseling 11m12 1;