



Hobart Districts

Little Athletics Centre Inc.

"Home of the Redbacks"

END OF SEASON NEWSLETTER 2007-2008

FAREWELL FROM THE PRESIDENT:

We have reached the end of another long and successful season and I would like to use this newsletter to thank all officials, parents and Little Athletes for all your efforts over the last five and a half months. Without your input both on and off the track and behind the scenes our Centre would not be able to continue to operate as well as it does and, based on my observations of your commitment over the past season, will continue to do so well into the future. During a number of years as President I have avoided singling out one individual or family for special thanks and will maintain this stance in this newsletter. Having said this however, please note that all your hard work and support is appreciated and is rewarded by the enjoyment, the friendships, the working together and the personal improvement evident at all of our Little Athletics meetings this season. Collectively in 2007/2008 this allowed us to provide our 244 registered Little Athletes (including 7 Tiny Tots) with 20+ scheduled Hobart Districts meetings as well as a number of regional and state competitions. It has also allowed us to continue to grow and develop via the construction of new facilities and ongoing equipment replacement and purchases, not the least of which were utilizing our new kiosk and equipment shed and new hurdles and starting blocks for the first time. There was also an increased emphasis at track and field sites on individual coaching and the optimal operation of events, all of which augurs well for the future. By now most of you would be aware that I will play only a minimal part in this future (if at all) as this is my last season as President and potentially with Hobart Districts. This article is hence tinged with the sadness I will feel at leaving what has been a very enjoyable part of my life behind. It has been a long and rewarding journey with many highlights and innumerable friendships. Today's busy schedule will prevent me from saying a personal goodbye and thank you to all of you and I would hence like to take this opportunity to wish you all the best for the off-season and into the future. I also thank you in anticipation of your support for the new committee and (hopefully) your intention to return to John Turnbull Oval on the first Saturday in October 2008 for Little Athletics season 2008/2009. As mentioned above, Hobart Districts is in a very strong position with a Committee and a large group of parent volunteers that has the obvious commitment, the vision, the dedication and, most importantly, the willingness to work together for the optimal benefit of our Centre. Things certainly look very positive for all our families and other 3 to 14 year olds across greater Hobart who at some point elect to participate in this great sport. Thank you once again.

Chris Fox
President, HDLAC

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CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS:

A reminder that all official positions for season 2008-2009 have been declared vacant and we are currently seeking nominations from any parents that may be interested in undertaking one of these roles. Opportunities on offer range from Chief Starter, Chief Timekeeper and Age Group Managers to Announcer and Ticket Writing. In total there are over 40 positions which must be filled so please consider nominating today. Please remember here that in many cases this only involves formalising something you have either already been doing or helping with this season and full on-the job training will be provided. Please also note that there are jobs both on and off the field and that there is bound to be something that interests you and matches your availability and skill-set. This includes the option of joining the Hobart Districts Committee of Management which meets monthly throughout the year and makes the decisions which shape the future direction of your Centre. To nominate for any official role or for the Committee (where new faces are always welcome) please see Paul Woodham or any Centre official or put your name against a vacancy on the large notice board behind our Announcers table. At this point in time there are still quite a number of vacancies which collectively if not filled will impact upon the efficiency and quality of our operations in 2008-2009. Why not look through this list and consider putting your name down.

GOLF DAY:

Our annual golf day is being held tomorrow at the Newtown Bay Golf Course. This is an 18 hole 4 ball best ball ambrose event and all teams need to be there at 8 a.m. for official registration with tee off at 8.30 a.m. sharp. If possible please pay for your team today via Krystyna Sutton who works in our kiosk. There are also a limited number of spots remaining so if you want to enter a team please also see Krystyna and book your place in what is always a season highlight.

BUNNINGS BARBECUE:

Another annual event which raises much appreciated funds for our centre is our Bunning's barbecue which this year is scheduled for Sunday 30th March at the Bunning's Brooker Highway store. This one is also organized by Krystyna Sutton who is always busy behind the scenes organizing such events. Many hands make light work here so please put your name(s) against a timeslot on the Centre notice-board (which is behind the announcer) and come and help out for an hour or so. Cooking begins at 9 a.m and finishes at 4 p.m and ideally we will identify enough different helpers to prevent anyone having to be there all day.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

A third off-season event is our Annual General meeting which this year is being held on Thursday May 8th at the Lenah Valley RSL, commencing at 7pm. One of the key agenda items at this meeting is the election of a new committee and new Centre officials who, as stated on the previous page, collectively have responsibility for operating our Centre throughout the following year. The Annual General meeting is also a forum (as are General Meetings) at which those present have the opportunity to consider and vote on proposed changes to the Hobart Districts Little Athletics Centre Constitution. This year there may be two such recommendations – a plan to combine the Executive Officer roles of Secretary and Public Officer and add a second Vice President role (Section 10.2, b,c and f) and a motion to add to the Constitution a new section which introduces the role of Patron. Please make the effort to attend and be involved in this discussion and remember new faces are essential if our Centre is to remain fresh and innovative.

STATE INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS:

Last weekend a squad of 42 Little Athletes plus a number of relay teams made the journey to the St Leonard's Athletic Centre in Launceston for the Tasmanian Little Athletics Association State Individual Championships. During two hot days of friendly competition our Centre performed very well with notable performances including relay wins and new state records in the Girls Under 12, 4 x 400 metre and Boys Under 14, 4 x 100 metre events and strong individual efforts from a number in attendance including James and Thomas Gravina, Elizabeth Johnstone, Daniel Herbert, Jacob Bos-Lang and Jack Welch. The competition concluded on Sunday with an announcement that Sophie Thompson-Webb had been selected in the Tasmanian Under 13 team to participate in the Australian Track Championships in Melbourne in April this year. Congratulations and good luck to Sophie who joins fellow Hobart Districts Little Athletes Jonty Roberts and Rebecca Direen who were selected in the Tasmanian Under 14 athletics team earlier in the season. A special thank you also to all the parents who helped out during the course of this event.

SPECIAL PROJECTS UPDATE:

Good progress continues to be made towards improving the jump pit amenities and extending the competition or ground area at John Turnbull Oval. A Community Grants Application has been completed for the first of these projects which, if successful, will allow for the completion of a second jump pit area for junior athletes and the extension of the run-way leading to the existing jump pit. The second project – which is being led by the North Hobart Junior Football Club – will result in the ground being extended by approximately 25 metres on the Creek Road side of the oval. Planning for this project is also well advanced and we look forward to further off-season developments.



REGISTRATION SUMMARY 2007-2008:

As mentioned in the introduction to this newsletter, Hobart Districts achieved a total of 244 registered Little Athletes for season 2007/2008. This figure – which was a slight improvement on 2006/2007- can be broken down as follows:

		New Reg	Re-Reg	Total
U 5	Boys	3		3
	Girls	3	1	4
U 6	Boys	14	2	16
	Girls	11	1	12
U 7	Boys	7	9	16
	Girls	6	6	12
U 8	Boys	10	10	20
	Girls	5	12	17
U 9	Boys	3	11	14
	Girls	8	5	13
U 10	Boys	1	14	15
	Girls	5	8	13
U 11	Boys	5	13	18
	Girls	3	9	12
U 12	Boys	2	8	10
	Girls	3	5	8
U 13	Boys	2	14	16
	Girls		5	5
U 14	Boys	1	5	6
	Girls	1	4	5
U 15	Boys		5	5
	Girls		4	4
Total		93	151	244

Thank you to everyone who helped achieve these great numbers this season . Please keep safe and we hope that we see you back at Hobart Districts at 8.30a.m.on Saturday 4th October 2008 for the commencement of Little Athletics season 2008 – 2009.

