



Special Olympics
New Zealand

Schools Programme Newsletter



Lower South Island

Term 4 2010

Wow what a term!

Dunedin, Wanaka, Invercargill, thirteen days, five events, 562 athletes and volunteers, athletics, equestrian, bocce, tenpin bowling and aquatics! Thank you for supporting our transition and club programmes with such enthusiasm.

This term saw record numbers attend the Secondary Schools athletics ribbon day at the Caledonian – three athletes are travelling to Hastings this month to compete in the New Zealand Secondary Schools Athletics Championships, best wishes go to Liam Smith, Simon Green and Matt Aitken.

For the first time in a number of years Special Olympics NZ ran two equestrian ribbon days, combining club and school athletes. Twelve rode in Wanaka and 42 in Dunedin – thank you to everyone who was involved in making these events so successful and enjoyable for our riders. Early next year a meeting will bring together interested parties to investigate how we move forward with this sports code.

A combined event took place in Dunedin with clubs coming together to run a tenpin bowling, bocce and athletics competition, athletes came from Invercargill, Gore, Balclutha, Oamaru and Dunedin to compete. The day ended with a BBQ and lots of tales of bravery, courage – and winning!

Southland athletes turned out in record numbers to the Secondary Schools Aquatics Ribbon Day last week - 92 students swam all with differing

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abilities. Welcome to the new schools to this programme.

A big thank you to your local Secondary Schools Sports Directors – Des, Geoff, Fiona and Bob for supporting Special Olympics NZ to run our schools programme – thank you!

2011 is looking to be a busy year, check out the calendar further on in this newsletter.

On behalf of Special Olympics NZ, enjoy a safe and happy festive season.

Jan Aitken



"Oh the places you'll go!
There is fun to be done!
There are points to be scored.
There are games to be won.
And the magical things you can do with that ball will make you the winning-est winner of all."
Dr. Seuss

Athletics Ribbon Day 10th Nov 2010

This year saw record registrations from 14 Otago and Southland schools - plus a glorious sunny day greeted us! The event was well supported with volunteers coming from all walks of life, including students from Otago Boys High School, Logan Park High School, Taieri College and Otago Polytechnic. Thanks go to Athletics Otago, Sport Otago and their supporters for running this event and for providing so many volunteers. A big shout out to Jade Nicholson for being the first person in the Lower South Island to read our newly translated Athlete Oath in Maori plus to all our ribbon presenters - your time given to our athletes makes their day.

Below are some highlights of the day from athletes involved:

"It was really fun. I liked the throwing and sprint"
Todd Whyte, Sara Cohen

"I did 3 jumps. It was hot" Meghan McNeill, Sara Cohen

"Sports is fun. I won the standing long jump" Ella Evans, Sara Cohen

"Dad came to watch me. I ran the 100 metres. I got lots of ribbons" Kristan Montgomery, Sara Cohen

Sports is "good" Mikayla participated in running, throwing and jumping events. A great experience – "funny" Mikayla Pfalert, Sara Cohen

"This is a photo of me about to get my ribbon for winning the 100m sprints. I ran very fast and enjoyed competing very much" Josh Cooke, Logan Park High School

Secondary Schools Athletics events for 2011

Athletes will be invited to attend the follow athletics championships during 2011:

11-12 March 2011 - Otago Secondary School Athletics Champs, Dunedin

18-19 March 2011 - Otago/Southland Secondary School Athletics Champs, Dunedin

2-3 April 2011- South Island Secondary School Athletics Champs, Christchurch



Top image: Josh Cooke, Logan Park High School, Middle image: Meghan McNeill, Mikayla Pfalert, Courtney Wytenburg, Ella Evans and Kristan Montgomery Sara Cohen School. Bottom image, Commonwealth shot put silver medalist Jess Hamill presents a ribbon to James Robertson from James Hargest High School



Central Otago Equestrian Ribbon Day Day 16 Nov 2010

Riders from Mt Aspiring College, Wakatipu High School, Special Olympics Central Otago Club, Alexandra and Wanaka RDA came together at Timber Creek Equestrian Centre to enjoy a day of riding, sun and friendship. This was the first competition many of the riders had competed in and thanks goes to judges Pat McCarthy and Anne Cooper for the encouragement you gave these riders. A meeting will be held in January to discuss how to deliver this programme on a regular basis to your riders.

"I liked it, I did well and I'm ok with that. The best bit was riding the horses. I liked my clothes. I didn't like going up on the podium for the prize giving because I was tired and wanted to go home. It was a long day. The horse Punch did me proud and he didn't buck me off" Anna Freeman, Mt Aspiring College

Otago Equestrian Ribbon Day 17 Nov 2010

Large interest from Special Olympics Club, local RDA and school riders meant us embarking on an ambitious task of completing the Working Trail and Barrel Race all in a day – in reality we achieved this within a morning! Huge thanks go out to all the volunteers, judges, organizers and especially to those who so generously donated horses for us to use during the event.

Special Olympics NZ Equestrian advisor Kay Harrison was delighted with the way the event ran, she was impressed with the support from schools and clubs alike and passes on her congratulations for a great start on the journey towards the next national games. To all the volunteers she says "your input was invaluable."

"I rode on Snow. We trotted round the course. Brenda trotted with us; I wore a helmet and held onto the reins" Sam McGimpsey, Kaikorai Valley College

"I loved trotting in the barrel racing and competing in the obstacle course. I rode on Bella, she is a brown horse" Jade Tipa-McQueen, Kaikorai Valley College



SPECIAL OLYMPIC EQUESTRIAN RIBBON DAY

Anna Anderson

Anna

SPECIAL OLYMPIC EQUESTRIAN RIBBON DAY



Top image: Michi Kosaka, Anna Freeman, Renon Sasaki, Ryan Tankard and Grace Gillies being presented ribbons by Mount Aspiring Principal Wayne Bosley. Next image: Larissa Van der Hoeff on Honey. Bottom images: Anna Anderson and Levi Buckingham's impression of their day riding from Kaikorai Valley College.



Southland Aquatics Ribbon Day 22nd Nov 2010

We filled the pool at this event with 92 swimmers from 15 schools including some as far afield as Central Otago. Swim Southland ran the event with students from SIT and local Special Olympics Southland club providing volunteers. Peter Dunne MC'd the day with Yvette Hodges snapping away on the camera, thank you Sport Southland for supporting us with this event.

This year saw more developmental swimmers joining us from various schools - with assistance from Maree and her swim school instructors these youngsters can only improve as we celebrate their progress. Congratulations!

"Jan, thank you for your wonderful work with soccer, swimming and tenpin" Elle Black, Ruru School

"Liam was very proud to be chosen to say the Olympic Oath and enjoyed meeting up with some of his friends from previous meets" Robyn Stanning, Tuatapere Community College

Hi Jan

Thank you for organising such a wonderful Ribbon Day yesterday. The students from Waihopai had the best time ever!! We were impressed by how smoothly the events we were involved in ran. Our students were so proud of their achievements on the podium. It was also lovely to see how proud our Coaches were to see our students do so well.

We loved how all the students in the pool had broad smiles and it was great to see everyone from competing schools being so supportive of fellow racers.

Job well done!

*Regards
Jacqui*



Top to bottom images: Reilly Paterson and Judy, South Otago High School. Philippa Henderson, South Otago High School, Deborah Humphreys, Corinne Ferguson and Jessica Amataiti all from Ruru. Sheryl Saunders with Tyler Wells, Central Southland College. Learners pool developmental swimmers and volunteers



Student Awards 2010 – congratulations!

- ❖ Jade Nicholson – Logan Park High School
- ❖ Carlos Biggeman – Bayfield High School
- ❖ Matt Aitken – Otago Boys High School
- ❖ Tegan Johnston, Libby Sheppard, Sheamus Neilson and Vincent Johnston-Forsyth – East Otago High School
- ❖ Daniel Autridge – Opihi College
- ❖ Kenny Chor – Roxburgh Area High School
- ❖ Philippa Henderson, Rorie White – South Otago High School
- ❖ Anna Anderson - Kaikorai Valley School
- ❖ Matthew Canning, Thomas Dalwood - Taieri High School
- ❖ Liam Smith - Tuatapere Community College

Letter from Crystal an ALP's 2010 Class Grandaut

(What is ALP's – Special Olympics Athlete Leadership Programmes allow athletes to explore opportunities in roles previously considered non-traditional. Participation might come in the form of an athlete serving on the Board of Directors or local organising committee or it might find an athlete as a spokesperson, team captain, coach or official.)

I would like to convey my gratitude, for your support, and involvement, in travelling up with me to the Global Messenger, Leadership Programme, in Wellington.

A great big thank you, to all those involved, who have helped with the running of the Leadership Programme, it has been a great success! I have learnt a lot from being in this programme, and will certainly continue to work hard, spreading the message. Again I would like to show my gratitude and thanks, in helping me to achieving the start of my main goal I set at the beginning of this programme, of competing in an Equestrian event. Your time and effort, into getting this event organised, made the whole day a great success all round. I look forward to keeping, the hard work up in the future. Once again, great big thanks all round.

Yours sincerely - Crystal Frethey



*Top image: Crystal Frethey, South Otago Club;
Middle image: Athletes competing at the track in Dunedin. Bottom image: Splash Palace, Invercargill*

Athlete Oath

“Let me win. But if I cannot win,
let me brave in the attempt”

Kia toa ahau.

Ki te kore ahau e
toa, kia maia ahau
ahakoia ka hinga.



Events Calender

Date	Event	Venue
Term 1		
2 March 2011	Aquatics Ribbon Day	Moana Pool, Dunedin
23 March 2011	*Equestrian Ribbon Day School and Club	Invercargill
1 April 2011	Bocce Ribbon Day & Maori Games in conjunction with WAVE programme	Timaru Bocce Courts, Timaru
6 April 2011	*TBC Ribbon Day	Central Otago
Term 2		
18-20 May 2011	*Southern Area Schools Tournament	Tuatapere Community College
15 June 2011	Football Ribbon Day	Edgar Centre, Dunedin
22 June 2011	Football Ribbon Day	Gore Sports Multiplex, Gore
25 June - 4 July 2011	Special Olympics World Summer Games	Athens, Greece
*18 June 2011	Indoor Bowls Ribbon Day	Timaru Indoor Bowls Centre
13 July 2010	Basketball, Ribbon Day in conjunction with Halberg Trust	Edgar Centre, Dunedin
28 June 2011	Indoor Bowls Ribbon Day	Cromwell Community Hall, Cromwell

*Some dates, sport code and venues to be confirmed

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