



## Newsletter #27

### Results and news from Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Last Saturday the crowds would certainly not have been disappointed with the entertainment they witnessed at the Potts Classic in Hastings. The big names performed, and our local athletes certainly did well.

One of the disadvantages of officiating at meetings such as this is that one usually misses most of the action only get glimpses of most of the events.

In the pole vault, Eliza McCartney won the competition with a 4.85m clearance which was a meet record and then went on to attempt 5.00m which would have been a New Zealand record. I did get to watch her final attempt at the height and saw her soar well above the bar only to knock it off on her decent. This must give her utmost confidence for the coming meetings.

The big boppers in the men's shot put also didn't disappoint with both Tom Walsh and Jacko Gill getting the shot put out beyond the 20 metre mark. Walsh winning the competition with a best effort of 21.38m, with Gill's best of 20.29m. Our local boy Jack Lewer certainly thrives on competing with two of the world's best and I'm fairly certain I heard that he bettered the NZ AWD record for his disability on more than one occasion. His best effort being 10.98m.

Our long jumpers had a great meeting and I will let coach Anne Thomson summarise their performances:

"A big day for Lydia Bamford, Corinna Minko and Jordan Peters at the Potts Classic. Unfortunately the wind was 2+ but the jumps were consistent.

Lydia achieved a personal best of 5.59m and followed that up with a 5.56m...Her efforts placed her sixth.



*Lydia Bamford leaping to a new personal best in the long jump (Photo taken from the Potts Classic Facebook page)*

Corinna's series of jumps were 5.92-6.03 (with one stray jump) back over 6m. The national champion, Kelsey Berryman, and Ashleigh Bennett were jumping well so it was game on and all are looking forward to Porritt Classic in Hamilton in two weeks time for another tight contest. Berryman taking out the competition with Minko second.



*Corinna Minko took out second place in the women's long jump (Photo taken from the Potts Classic Facebook page)*

A two year wait for a personal best ended for Jordan with a series of 7.49m, a big foul, 7.50m and 7.56 showed what he has been waiting for and enough to win the competition.”



*Jordan Peters is still on hot form, taking out first place in three of the four Classics so far. (Photo taken from the Potts Classic Facebook page)*

The feature race of the meeting is always the Sylvia Potts Memorial 800m which saw Angie Petty take out the race for the ninth time. I was very impressed with the performance of Kara Macdermid who finished second with a very determined finishing sprint crossing the line in 2m 10.36s her first personal best on the track in five years.



*A smiley Kara Macdermid after her excellent personal best run in the Sylvia Potts Memorial 800m race (Photo taken from the Potts Classic Facebook page)*

The men's B 800 m saw Benjamin Wall again able to outspurt the field racing home for victory in 1m 57.10m. Noah Macdermid was ninth, just failing to go under the 2 minutes finishing in another personal best 2m 00.31s. He credits his recent spate of PB's to his PB

socks but I'm certain it's the hard work paying off. Andre Le Pine-Day finished eleventh in 2m03.11s. In the C division race Robert Norman was third clocking 2m05.73s. David Lovelock raced in the 5000m finishing eleventh in 15m43.42s.



*Benjamin Wall had enough gas in the tank for a sprint finish in the men's 800m B race (Photo taken from the Potts Classic Facebook page)*

In recent days Brayden Grant has been given a hard time by coach Mal Thomas that there are girls running as fast as him. The reference being that at the Capital Classic in Wellington the other week, top women's sprinter Zoe Hobbs set a NZ resident record in the 100m recording the same time as Brayden did in his heat of the men's race, so the pressure was on in Hastings. Brayden can rest easy as he recorded a time of 11.36s in his heat being ninth fastest and one spot off qualifying for the final, Hobbs won the women's final in 11.37s. Brayden also ran the 400m finishing second in 50.21s.



*Brayden Grant's strong finish in the 400m following a personal best in the 100m (Photo courtesy of Mark Harris and Andrea Lambert)*

The women's 400m saw Monique Whiteman run in the A grade race finishing seventh in 62.27s whilst Vanessa Story was victorious in the B grade race in 63.28s.



*Vanesa Story dominating in the women's 400m B race  
(Photo courtesy of Mark Harris and Andrea Lambert)*

It was good to see Tessa Webb back on the track after a long injury break and taking out the women's 2000m race in 6m44.29s, ahead of team mate Laura Smidt whose time was 6m51.70m.

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The Jumps to Music meet in Hawera is proving very popular with athletes and the feedback I have heard is that Sam Mackinder really enjoyed the experience and is keen to be invited to compete again next year. A great experience to be able to compete with the best. Sam cleared 1.62m for 6<sup>th</sup> place. I saw that injury prevented top high jumper Hamish Kerr from competing he still travelled to Hawera and acted as an official.

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For our younger competitors, one of the most popular ribbon days is coming up on 3 February in Paraparaumu. Well worth the trip down there for an enjoyable day. Our club patron John Strawbridge will be there so do make yourselves known to him.

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One small gripe to conclude with, I have been quite disappointed at the failure of a few of our athletes to wear our club uniform at the recent classic meetings. It is one of the best advertisement you can give the club and helps our supporters identify our athletes.