



Hobart Districts

Little Athletics Centre Inc.

"Home of the Redbacks"

NORTHERN ALL-STATE:

On Sunday 20/11/05 a small group of Little Athletes and parents made the long trip from Hobart to Penguin for the Northern All- State. Turned out to be an enjoyable day of competition in magnificent weather. All of our children performed well with the most notable result being that of Thomas Gravina who set a new Hobart District's record in the Under 10 Boys 400 metre event. Well done Thomas and thank you to the hard-working Mum's and Dad's on the day who enabled us to successfully complete almost all of our Centre responsibilities.

Chris Fox
President:HDLAC

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) UPDATE:

After just a few short weeks of competition our ESL numbers have now grown to 50+ which is a tremendous outcome. Feedback from the program co-ordinators indicates that this is primarily due to the fact that all of our ESL children and their families are enjoying our Centre so much that they continue to encourage recruits from amongst other ESL families. This has seen the project expand to encompass seven schools – Lenah Valley, Campbell Street, Springfield Gardens, Goulburn Street, Hilliard Christian, Cosgrove High and Ogilvie High – and will see an African Teachers Aide (Sarafino) at John Turnbull Oval for our next three meetings to assist the parents of these children and help them get out on the field to join in the “family fun and fitness”. All Age Group Managers and the Hobart District's Little Athletes who have taken up “buddy roles” are to be congratulated for their efforts and let us all continue to work together to maximise the benefits of what has already proven to be a very positive development for our Centre. As a final point here please note that we are still seeking parents who can assist our ESL families with travelling to and from twilight (Wednesday evening) meets. Arrangements are already in place for Saturdays but twilights are a problem. If you have even a bit of space in your car when you are driving to and from meets please consider giving your name and contact details to Dale at the Announcers Table. All offers here will be considered and many of these families live relatively close to John Turnbull Oval.

McDONALD'S CARDS:

As per our last newsletter, if you are a family who has the occasional meal at McDonalds did you realise that every time you spend a total of \$50 at one of these stores (in increments of \$10 or more) Hobart Districts is eligible for a \$5 donation. To participate in this scheme please collect a McDonalds card and further details from Dale at the Announcers table. Please also note that McDonalds is a major sponsor of Little Athletics.

MAJOR RAFFLE:

Last week we invited families to donate prizes towards our major raffle and the Hill family (Nicholas - Under 13's) again came forward. We still need a number of other prizes to go with their donation and the magnificent autographed cricket bat kindly arranged by Jane Apted and the Tasmanian Cricket Association. If you are willing to provide something towards this important fundraiser please see Dale at the Announcers Table. Last season we were fortunate enough to be given a total of 10 prizes which subsequently raised a total of almost \$2000 for our Centre and we would like to think that we can at least match this in 2005/2006.

CALL TO ALL AGE GROUP MANAGERS:

All families who have been with our Centre for more than one season will realise how many officials are required to continue to offer the walk as an event to our Little Athletes. In order to ensure that this does not become a major problem we have elected to increase the number of parents who are qualified to judge this event. To allow this to happen **ALL** Age Group Managers must ensure that there is at least one trained walks judge within the parents in their age group. For some groups this is already the case but for others it will require the Age Group Manager to talk to all relevant families to recruit a volunteer. These names must then be given to Dale at the Announcers Table who will forward the complete list to one of our trained walks officials to ensure that all of the required coaching and tuition is provided. It would be appreciated if all recruitment could be completed before the end of the meeting scheduled for Saturday 3rd December. Thank you in anticipation of your support with this request.

KIOSK UPDATE:

In case you haven't already noticed our old wooden equipment shed has now been removed and work on the new kiosk and equipment shed should commence in the near future. For those parents who volunteered their services last season, please expect contact from Shane Bowden (the Project Manager), for others who may wish to volunteer now (especially those who have a trade) please see Dale at the Announcers Table. Remember here that any work that we can get done on a voluntary basis is of direct benefit to your children. As one final reminder, we also ask all parents to keep a close watch on their children during the construction period as we will have a building site immediately adjacent to our competition area. This especially

applies to younger Little Athletes. Thank you for your co-operation with this important safety warning.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We still urgently need some volunteers to assist with data entry on competition days. All offers will be considered and training is provided. Again, please see Dale at the Announcers table or talk to Tony on our computers in the brick pavilion.