

Saturday December 16th.

Round 9

Ringwood

The holiday season had started for many, however it was still disappointing to see the number of people missing from the last week of competition before the break. The lack of competitors in two grades in particular has probably ended the finals hopes of both teams. Notwithstanding those present provided plenty of highlights and some excellent performances. Collingwood were able to field eleven 4x4 teams, a terrific effort, only made possible by the co-operation of nearly all those present. We make every effort to field teams in the relays because of the point's value. To this end, our the Divvy 1 women's team consisted of an under 18 **Eloise Derby**, an under16 **Eleanor Boylen** and two under 14 girls **Adele Boylen** and **Shannan Cobern**. Well done girls for filling in and gaining some points.

Our under 16 girl's team won the division and recorded the best time by a Collingwood female team for the season. **Hilary McAdam, Nikki White, Rachel King** and **Jessica Neale** did a great job to win comfortably in 4:43.0. The under 18 team of **Rachel Barnes, Karly Coburn, Hannah Garganis** and **Zoe McWhinney**, although not quite as successful with their placing, recorded the second fastest time for Collingwood this season.

We had another two first timers this week with **Ben Milne** and **Ian Twist** both making their debuts in the *black and white* under 16s. A big welcome to you both! Hopefully your presence can help the team in their quest for the title.

It has been coming for a while and **Mason Barnes** finally broke through to get that illusive PB in the 800m. In what turned out to be a pretty hot heat, Mason kept his form well to record 1:57 low – a great reward for some very consistent training performances.

There were a number of bests in the lady's ranks in the same events. Under 16 **Hilary McAdam** knocked another couple seconds off her best to get well under the 2:30 mark. **Nikki White** took a couple of tenths off her best while mum **Kim** reduced her time by twelve seconds. **Rachel Barnes** joined her brother in running a best in the 'two lapper', while **Brenda Boylen** and **Theresa Barnes** both did the event to get the points for the team in the 40+ grade. This effort got Theresa another Club Record in the 50-54 age group which she added to her shot put record broken earlier in the day.

The **Garganis** family had a terrific day! **Clare** recorded bests in the 200 and shot put, **Hannah** in the 200, **Luke** in the 800 and **Adam** in the 200, 800, shot and hammer. They all ran in relays as well. Adam also won his division of the 3k run at the end of a long day.

Some of the boys in the under 14 grade had their last chance to break records as they will turn 14 before competition resumes on January 21st. Unfortunately they were not successful today but two of them, **Ben White** and **Miles Leyden** put in a pretty good performance in an assault on the terrific mark in the 3k. Both ran in the low 10:20s which was not good enough this time. At least Miles has a few weeks up his sleeve. Ben having

broken the 1500m and 5k records in the last fortnight will join his brother **Lachie** and Kinglake compatriot **Sam Slater** in having to now set their sights on under 16 records in the new year.

Peter Neale was another to show out yesterday. Still showing the effects of his broken leg suffered earlier in the season, Peter added two metres to his best with the 6k hammer. Over 30 metres for the first time, it certainly gave Pete a good start to the day. His effort in the 4x4 while not quite as fluid, was just as impressive to help us get some points in Divvy 2.

While ‘hammering’ the subject, it was great to see **Alexie Brown** crack the 45m barrier in the lady’s event. Alexie finally got it all together to lob the implement way out there to record her best since coming across from the West last season.

Tom Iacono expanded his repertoire with a start in the 200m. It is fair to say that Tom and the walk judges haven’t seen eye to eye as yet on his walking style and it was great to see Tom gain some points for the Club over the metric furlong. Tom is one of our real ‘triers’ and it is also great to hear the support from other Club members when Tom is out on the track.

There were a lot of very tired people at the end of the day. Those in the 40+ teams, men and women, did a sterling job making sure that all the events were filled despite depleted numbers. Although the men were narrowly defeated, we managed to hang onto second place on the day. The competition between Diamond Valley, Box Hill and Collingwood in this grade is quite intense and although we sit atop the ladder at the moment, there is no room for complacency. We could easily slip to third and miss the chance to defend our title won last season.

Results:

Women:

Div 1 4th.
Div 2 -
40+ 1st. & 3rd.
U/18 2nd.
U/16 3rd.
U/14 4th.

Men:

Div 1 4th.
Div 2 8th.
40+ 2nd. & 5th.
U/18 5th.
U/16 1st. & 5th.
U/14 1st. & 3rd.

Ladders:

Women:

Div 1 5th.
Div 2 11th.
40+ 1st. & 2nd.
U/18 2nd.
U/16 3rd. & 8th.
U/14 4th.

Men:

Div 1 3rd.
Div 2 7th.
40+ 1st. & 6th.
U/18 6th.
U/16 1st. & 7th.
U/14 1st. & 4th.

Officials: Thanks again to the faithful workers from Collingwood who assisted with the conduct of the program. **Brian Moore, Ian Fisher, Tony Williams, Kevin Wigmore, Judy Mason, Wendy Finerty** and **Lyn Humphris** were there today doing what they do so well.

Thanks also to **Tony Dell** from **Richmond** who filled a spot for us for a while to avoid the possibility of a penalty. Much appreciated Tony!

Hopefully as many athletes as possible will be available for the competition upon its resumption on Jan 21st. at Box Hill. We will need every possible point to ensure maximum representation in the finals.

Remember, you need to compete at three separate meetings and do any event for the finals at least once during the season.

January 28th is the last chance to do ‘finals’ events.

PLEASE NOTE THE COMPETITIONS AFTER THE BREAK START AT THE NORMAL TIMES NOT THE 3:00pm LISTED IN THE HANDBOOK

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