



## Record Records at Southland Secondary Schools.

The 2016 Southland Secondary School champs produced more meet records than surely any year in recent times.

And throws were the pick of the crop at the champs, the girls open hammer pick of the throws and Emma Ryan (JHC) pick of the throwers.

Emma won the hammer in a new record but the next three also exceeded the old record of 33.87; Emma threw 42.30, Dyani Shepherd Oates 41.48, Samantha Welsh 37.82 and Emma Wilson 33.77.

Emma Ryan added the senior girl's shot put record to her list of accomplishments, in fact she didn't break it, she smashed it, throwing 13.12 to wipe out the old mark of 11.73 set in 1990. She also won the discus in 35.06, placed third in the javelin behind Yvonne van Baarle and Andrea McDowell and placed second in the 100m behind Emma Hopcroft.

If there was an "athlete of the meet" award Emma would surely be the leading contender.

Southland has a proud record in the javelin and Jessica Senior (SGHS) added to it by increasing the U15 record by exactly two metres, throwing 35.81 to wipe out a record that has stood since 1992. Jessica also won the discus and placed second in the long jump.



*Emma Ryan – pick of the throwers*

One of the longest standing records was the U14 boys shot put, 12.54 set in 1989. Uilealea Lavea (SBHS) made it an ex-record with a superb 13.26 to win the event by over 2 ½ metres. The way Uilealea is tracking and improving Tom Walsh and Jacko Gill may have to be looking over their shoulders in a few years.

The U14 girl's shot record also went, thanks to Anna Skerrett who put the steel ball out to 11.27, adding 37cm to the old mark, Teagan Ashley (Aparima) in second was also ahead of the old record. Teagan however had a record of her own, adding 2cm to the previous best in the discus.

Anna Skerrett showed prowess over all disciplines – throws, jumps and track – by extending the triple jump record from 9.78 to 10.36 and taking out the 100m title. The U15 girl's triple jump record also went with Emma McColl recording 10.61m, the best triple jump performance of all grades. Emma also won the U15 long jump.

Dyani Shepherd Oates (Fiord) showed consistency in her throws, adding the discus title and second (behind Ariana Te Whata of SGHS) in the hot to her hammer second.

Middle distances provided the rest of the record performances. Jaxon Taylor (SBHS) ran 4:25.0 for the 1500m to beat Jack Beaumont's U15 record set in 2012. He also won the 3000m. Aleks Cheifetz (Wakatipu HS) bettered the U14 1500m mark by ten seconds, running 4:46.32 in a close fought race with Josh Potter (St Peters Gore) who was also under the old record.

Jack McNaughton (SBHS) lowered the U16 3000m record, winning in 9:20.41 and was a fraction off his age group 1500m record. Hayden Michaels (Gore HS) set a new U14 800m mark with 2:18.46. Libby McKinnel (St Peters) ran 2:26.53 to set a new U14 800m mark while Ella McCall (Gore HS) showed the strength of distance running in the Gore area with a new U15 800m record of 2:24.87. Ella also won the 400m and 1500m and Libby won her 1500m and came second in the 200m.



*Emma Hopcroft, best LJ of meet*



*Sophie Woodham, leading Wakatipu resurgence*

Jack Lovett Hurst improved his own best marks in the AWD javelin and discus, throwing 3.82 and 4.52 respectively.

Tim Baker's 51.81 senior boys 400m win was a good performance and just a fraction off the record. Emma Hopcroft (SGHS) won the senior girl's long jump with 5.41, by far the best of all girl's jumps and 41cm ahead of anyone else. Shaun Woodd impressed in the U15 80m hurdles, running 12.24, just .04 off Patrick Taberner's 2013 record.

An athlete to watch is Wakatipu's Sophie Woodham who put in impressive performances across a range of events – winning the U14 long and high jumps, 80m hurdles and had enough energy to finish a close third in the 100m.

There has been a resurgence of athletics at Wakatipu High School with Sophie just one of many from the school to stand out at Surrey Park.

The top performers from the Southland meet head to Dunedin this weekend for the Otago-southland championships with the best from the combined regions qualifying for the South Island champs next month.

*However, it is disappointing that Otago has stipulated only three attempts rather than six in the field events – it is a championship after all.*

Full Results from the Sth Secondary School Champs can be seen here ...

<http://www.sportsground.co.nz/files/site/301/4/Pdf/160313233013NTCGAZJY.pdf>

## Central Southland – Again!

As well as individual results, the championships also have the Konica Minolta Cup that signifies the top athletics school up for grabs. Central Southland College took the trophy for the seventh year in a row. Schools score points for placings and gain bonus points for records.

The winning margin was big with CSC scoring 4396, but same as last year the battle for the cups for second and third was a lot closer, JHC again just ahead of the combined SGHS and SBHS team 3373 to 3246. Good result from Fiordland which finished fourth on 2291

**My Picks from Southland Secondary School Champs. These are purely personal opinions but are what stood out to me.**

Athlete of the meet – Emma Ryan, closely followed by Anna Skerrett and Sophie Woodham

Best distance race – Jaxon Taylor's record 1500 chased by Finn Rogers

Best sprint performance – Tim Baker 400m

Best jump performance – Emma Hopcroft long jump

Best competition – Talyah Sweeney and Charlotte Hopcroft sprints.

Young (U14 grade) athletes to keep an eye on because they will be among the stars next year – Sophie Woodham, Uilealea Lavea, Aleks Cheifetz and Josh Potter.

- Lance

## Thank You.

A huge thank you to all those who gave up their day on Thursday and Friday to help run the Southland Secondary Schools Athletics Day in an official capacity at all of the events. Your efforts are what make these meets possible.

Everything ran smoothly with barely any time being lost at the events. As you all know, it doesn't take much for the whole day to get up to an hour behind schedule. So to finish on time is quite an achievement especially with the number of entries being up this year.

Special recognition needs to be given to Henry and Lilian who, without their time, knowledge and experience, these days would not happen at all.

Andrew Taberner, on behalf of Southland T & F

## Club Updates

### Winton Club Prizegiving

The Winton Club prizegiving is **4pm Tuesday 29th March** at the CSC grounds. The fun starts with the annual TUG O' WAR CHALLENGE for young & old. The prizegiving follows straight after.

### Invercargill Club Prizegiving.

Junior Club Members Prize Giving is to be the 30 March Wednesday night (5.30pm Start) – however this is depending on receiving all the Colgate, Southland Champs and 5 star certificates.

### Invercargill club training

The club will be open the next three Wednesday nights (6-7pm) for anyone to come and get some practise in before the Primary School Champs Meet (*April 2 Saturday*), you can bring your school mates and relay teams too.

**A computer refit has lost some addresses and required this newsletter mailing list to be re-compiled, with some addresses missing. If you have not received this by email as normal and but through your club or the website, please email [lance.debbie@xtra](mailto:lance.debbie@xtra) to be put back on the list**