“COMBINED CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS AN EXCITING PROSPECT FOR ALL INVOLVED”

TASMANIAN AGE COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS
SYMMONS PLAINS RACEWAY, LAUNCESTON
27th JUNE AND 4th JULY 2017

As an exciting prospect this year, the Tasmanian Age Cross Country Championships for primary and secondary students is being held in conjunction with the Tasmanian All Schools Cross Country competition.

The event will see over 3000 school students from across the state descend on Symmons Plains Raceway, south of Launceston. The primary school event is on the 27th June, as secondary students again fill the venue on the 4th July. The event is being supported by Proper National Pies as the major sponsor, who will take their popular pop-up shop to both the primary and secondary events.

Event organisers Athletics Tasmania are again proud to be able to offer an opportunity to many aspiring runners across the state and present a safe, welcoming environment for them. There is a clear focus on participation, getting active, inclusivity but also importantly, friendship. A common theme is doing your best along-side students from other schools around Tasmania, who return each year to partake; but also catch up and make new friends as they make their way along the cross country course.

Symmons Plains is known as a challenging course, particularly depending on the constantly changing Tasmanian weather. Hobart College Student Ruby SMEE, emerging junior female distance runner and no stranger to the event has said, “It is quite a tough, but fun cross country run. It has a few hills, some tight areas which make it hard to pass others, but also some more open areas. I'll be doing two-times the two kilometer loop, which is a good opportunity to gauge where others are at”.

While her goal is to produce a competitive performance on the 4th July, Smee also has
her sights set on the Schools Sport Australia Cross Championships held at the Rokeby Police Academy on August 12th. She is however excited to run again at Symmons, stating, “depending on the weather, if it’s raining then it gets muddy – really muddy - which is always fun to run in”.

A special thanks must be given to the teachers, school staff and parents in the lead up to the event, who have prepared the athletes for the big day.

Events begin at 11:30am on the 27th June, with events running regularly through until 1:00pm, meanwhile events begin at 10:35am on the 4th July for the Secondary events. Timetable attached.

**What:** Tasmanian Age Cross Country Championships (incorporated into the Tasmanian Primary and Secondary All Schools Cross Country Championships, respectively)  
**When:** Primary – 27th June 2017, Secondary – 4th July 2017  
**Where:** Symmons Plains Raceway, Launceston  
**Entry:** Free

For comment or more information, please contact:  
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