**ACA 2020-2021 TRACK & FIELD SEASON**

Hi to all ACA athletes, coaches, family, friends and supporters.

Our first **ACA Track & Field Clubnight** will be at held at Herb Towers Track, Mt Smart Stadium at 6.00pm on **Wednesday, October 14th**. Clubnights will continue through to Wednesday December 16th and resume on Wednesday January 13th, 2021.

**Athletics Auckland** will be holding its firstof three **Pre-Season Meets at Mt Smart this Saturday - October 10th**. There are special rules for these pre-season competitions - e.g. 3 attempts only in field events, and no check-in desk, so read the details on the Athletics Auckland website where they are posted along with the draft programme.

**The** **McKinnon Shield** competition begins on **Saturday October 31st.** This is the Athletics Auckland interclub competition programme spread over 10 Meets, so **please enter McKinnon Shield events throughout the season an**d **help ACA accrue points towards the Trophy.**

All entries must be done on-line by the Thursday prior, and there will be no late entries.

**For middle distance athletes The Don Macfarquhar Series** should be of special interest. This is a four-race series run over the summer season comprising 400m, 800m, 1500m and 3000m races**. Scoring is done on your best three performances from the four races**. This Trophy, which was formerly run as an ACA Clubnight competition has now been incorporated into the Athletics Auckland summer programme. Just enter the individual events in the usual way using the Athletics Auckland entry-link (**the 3000m on Nov 14, 400m on Nov 21st, 1500m on Feb 6th 2021 and the 800m on Feb 7th**) and you will automatically be entered into the series at no extra charge. The 800m, 1500m and 3000m are also Auckland Championship events, so check the closing dates for entry into those races on the Athletics Auckland website.

**This season's Clubnights may operate a little differently,** as we may have to apply rules dependant on the Covid-19 Level. **At Level 1** we must still have contact tracing and hygiene protocols in place, and everyone needs to be aware of social distancing. **Athletes, coaches and spectators can use the QR code at the stadium gate or fill in the contact-tracing sheet at the start/finish line**. If you are feeling ill please do not attend a Clubnight.

**Once a month during the 2020-21 season**, we will also be hosting some younger athletes to train and compete alongside our ACA athletes at Clubnights. These athletes are from the Junior Clubs which, along with ACA, make up the Central Hub (Ellerslie, Eastern, Pt Chevalier, Roskill South and Hillsborough). The ultimate aim of this Athletics NZ-sponsored Hub programme is to form a seamless pathway from Junior to Senior athletic clubs, thereby helping retain athletes in our sport. We hope that you will make these young athletes feel welcome and give them your encouragement and support.

Attached is an **ACA Clubnight/Athletics Auckland/National Competition Calendar** with some Junior dates still to be confirmed. The calendar will also be posted on the ACA website**.** Be aware that some of the junior calendar dates are still to be confirmed. Also that **the** Saturday competition programmes can change after entries close on Thursday, so always check the website **on the day of competition** for the correct event times.

**Sue Potter Convenor - ACA Track & Field**