

commitment and contribution he has put into the club over the years.

Competition has been quiet this year, with a few of our members entering club and state tournaments. One highlight was a first place at State Short Course in Open Barebow Recurve. Like 2007, the club will have a strong turnout at the end of year City of Sydney Tournament, with one new member making his competition debut.

In semester two the club ran its first archery beginners course as part of SUSF short courses program. These courses proved to be popular, with both sessions booked out. It has provided extra exposure to the club and has resulted in some new members joining the club after completing the course.

2009 will hopefully see more competition entries, with a number of the new members at a level to start competing. Also we look forward to having new faces helping out with the club's management, carrying on from the work and dedication of the previous members.

**Ben Chin** - President

### **Athletics**

The 2007/8 track season started well for Sydney University Athletics Club (SUAC), with many teams contesting the NSW State Relays Championships. The men's 4x800m team defended their title in style and the women took out the 1600m sprint medley (800m, 400m, 200m, 200m) in convincing fashion. SUAC alumni also turned out in force, with the men's 120+ masters teams winning the 4x400m and placing 2nd in the 4x100m and 4x200m relays.

SUAC was well represented in the National Series meets, with several athletes having outstanding domestic seasons. In particular, Lachlan Renshaw who was undefeated in the 800m, recording an Olympic A qualifier and taking out the National Title. Two other SUAC athletes took out National Championships: Nikki Molan in the women's 1500m and Justin Merlino in the men's 110m hurdles. Lara Tamsett and Jess Heazlewood won U23 Nationals in the 5,000m and 20km walk (respectively).

Success in the summer track season continued into the winter, with several

athletes recording strong performances both at international meets and in the domestic cross country/road events.

James Nipperess, Russell Dessaix-Chin, Emma Rilen and Lara Tamsett had impressive cross country seasons, with the four taking out most of the state titles on offer.

Several SUAC athletes were recognised at the Annual Athletics NSW Dinner, with Lara Tamsett, Lachlan Renshaw, Nikki Molan, Justin Merlino and Jess Heazlewood all nominated for awards. Lachlan took out the Middle Distance Award and Jess received the Doris Clark Award for Female Distance Walker.

Lachlan Renshaw was further recognised with selection in the Beijing Olympic team. He became the first SUAC Olympian since Peter Hadfield competed in the 1984 Los Angeles Games. Wheelchair athlete Angela Ballard was selected in her second Paralympics team, where her good form was rewarded with a silver medal in the relay.

A number of untimely injuries saw a smaller team than usual compete at AUG's. Despite diminished numbers, the team still managed to finish in 4th place overall.

SUAC celebrated 130 years with an

Anniversary Dinner in the MacLaurin Hall. The contributions of many past and present athletes were recognised and Club Patron Eric Wilson was presented with an award for his outstanding long-term commitment to SUAC.

**Brianna Heazlewood** - Secretary

### **Badminton**

Sydney University Badminton Club (SUBC) started the year with 50 members. More people wanted to join during the year and the club finished with over 70 members, a substantially higher number than last year. One of the greatest challenges in successfully running a club is the amount of registered members, thus our aim for the future will be to promote SUBC and let it continually expand.

Two teams in two different divisions entered the Interclub competition this year. The results were satisfactory and we are proud to have dedicated members representing SUBC every year. Around mid-August, we held a doubles tournament with many players from all over Sydney entering. The success of this led us to believe that by holding two tournaments next year, it will be an excellent way for fundraising



**Athletics**