

ATHLETICS

2014 was another enormous year for the Sydney Uni Athletics Club (SUAC) with unparalleled success across club, state, national and international competitions.

The club had arguably its greatest year ever at an international level, with 12 athletes selected to represent Australia at the Commonwealth Games. SUAC athletes who made it to Glasgow were Angela Ballard, Emily Brichacek, Ian Dewhurst, Ella Nelson, Nick Hough, Michelle Jenneke, Jarrod Geddes, Joshua Ralph, Annie Rubie and James Nipperess. Jin Su Jung and Lara Tamsett were also selected in the team but were unable to compete due to injury. The standout performances from the games came from Angie Ballard who won the gold medal in the T54 1500m, Nick Hough who finished 4th in the 110 hurdles and Michelle Jenneke who was 5th in the 100 hurdles.

At the world relay championships SUAC was also well represented by Nelson, Rubie, Geddes, Jung and Ralph. At the world junior championships SUAC athletes competing were Georgia Wassall who finished 3rd in the 800m, Tavleen Singh (4x100) and Kate Spencer (5000).

At National level SUAC was especially strong. At the Australian Championships SUAC won 15 medals including 6 gold, 2 silver and 7 bronze medals. Overall SUAC athletes won National titles in 8 events across the year. They were Joshua Ralph (800), Nick Hough (110H), Ella Nelson (200), Emily Brickacek (5000), James Nipperess (steeple), Nicole Fagan (10/20km walks) and Ian Dewhurst (400H).

At NSW level SUAC won every senior title on offer, winning the

Winter Premiership for both men and women. SUAC also won the Summer Premiership, were the champion senior club at the NSW relay Championships, won the NSW Club Championships, won the Open Pennant in the Treloar Shield and won the medal tally at the NSW Championships with an impressive 24 medals: 10 gold, 9 silver and 5 bronze.

At the Australian University Games SUAC dominated the competition winning the men's competition by a healthy margin of 63 points over UTS. The women's team may well be considered the finest we have ever sent with the girls scoring a massive 261 points with the 2nd place University of Melbourne scoring just 83 points. Incredibly the SUAC women's team had 10 athletes who had represented Australia at junior or senior level in the line-up.

SUAC hosted a number of social events throughout the year with the highlights coming from the End of Season Harbour Cruise and the SUAC 136th Anniversary Dinner. At the dinner SUAC celebrated with more than 150 guests at the stylish Establishment Ballroom in Sydney's CBD. Nick Hough and Angela Ballard were named SUAC's athletes of the year, with Anne Harrison and Peter Costello named SUAC Masters athletes of the year.

At the Sydney University Blues Dinner SUAC athletes who received Blues were Jenny Blundell, Christian Lozada, Emily Duve and Natalie Archer. Larissa Stanley was awarded a thoroughly deserved Gold Award after 21 years continual service to the club.

Thanks to the SUAC committee for all hard their work over the last twelve months, many thanks to SUSF for their ongoing support of the athletics club and congratulations to all our competing athletes who swept all before them in an amazing 2014.

Dean Gleeson
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

