

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA
TRACK & FIELD EXCHANGE/CHAMPIONSHIPS

A BRIEF HISTORY

The School Sport Australia Track & Field Exchange had its beginnings in 1971 as a two state Exchange between Queensland and New South Wales. Each state would take it in turns to host a team from the other state to compete in their State Primary Schools Athletics Championships. The visiting team competed by invitation but enjoyed the hospitality of the host families and schools.

In 1975 the inaugural Australia Primary Schools Athletics Championships was hosted by NSWPSA at Lysaght's Recreation Reserve. Three states competed in this Championship – New South Wales, Queensland, and South Australia.

ACT and NT joined the competition in 1977 with Victoria coming on board in 1978. Unfortunately, SA & NT were not able to field teams at all Championships/Exchanges during the late 1980's and early 1990's (except for Pacific School Games). However, after the 1996 Pacific School Games, six states/territories have regularly attended the Exchange and 2001 a team from Tasmania competed for the first time.

Pacific School Games came into being in 1982, which saw every state & territory field a team. In Pacific School Games years, the regular Primary Championship/Exchange was incorporated as part of the Pacific School Games.

Events contested regularly have been 100m, 200m, 800m, Relay, Long Jump, High Jump and Shot Put. Discus was introduced in 1995, the 1500m in 1998 and the Medley Relay and Multi Event in 2001. The 1500m was only contested in 1998 as it was felt that the event was not suited to the Exchange format. It was re-introduced as part of the Pacific School Games in 2017.

In 1995, the Australian Schools Sports Council (ASSC) appointed a National Track & Field Secretary to oversee the Rules & Guidelines for the sport & represent the sport at ASSC Conferences and with the National body.

In 2003, events for Athletes with a Disability (AWD) were introduced into the program. These were initially for 10-12yrs in one age group in 100m, 200m, 800m, Long Jump and Shot Put. It was very quickly seen that these events would expand, and events were separated into 10, 11 and 12 years age groups for both boys and girls. Relays, both 4x100m and Medley, were also added and Discus was added in 2008. In 2012, records were established for Athletes with a Disability in all classification groups with the first record certificates being presented at the 2012 Championships.

In 2002, the event underwent a change of title from 'Primary' to '12 years and under' to acknowledge that 12 years competing at the Exchange could come from either a primary or a secondary school. In 2009, the event became a Championship.

Many children who represented their States/Territories at these Championship/Exchanges have gone onto represent Australia in Track & Field or branch out and play other sports at an elite level (e.g., AFL, NRL, Netball) demonstrating the solid grounding athletics gives children to participate in any sport.

ROLL OF HONOUR:

Diane Holden (NSW, 1975)
Angus Wadell (QLD, Aths & Swimming 1975, 1976)
Kerry Johnson (QLD, 1976)
Jodi Nykvist (QLD, 1978)
Sandra Bondello (QLD – Basketball, 1980)
Sandra Dawson (QLD, 1980, 1981)
Damien Marsh (QLD, 1981)
Sophie Scamps (NSW, 1981)
Melinda Gainsford (NSW, 1982)
Nova Peris (NT, Aths & Hockey, 1992, 1984)
Catherine Freeman (QLD, 1983, 84)
Anthony Koutafides (VIC – AFL, 1983)
Mark Holcombe (VIC, 1983, 1984, 1985)
Chad Stephenson (NSW, 1983, 1984)
Rod Zuderwyk (QLD, 1983),
Joseph Ischia (VIC, 1984, 1985)
Denise Passmore (VIC, 1984)
Susie Walsham (NSW, 1984, 1985)
Kelly McKellar (QLD – Softball, 1984, 1985)
Daryl White (NT – AFL, 1984)
Tania Modra (SA – Paralympic Cycling, 1985, 1986)
Bindee Goon Chew (QLD, 1985, 1986, 1987)
Jagan Hames (SA, 1985, 1986, 1987)
Paul Byrne (VIC, 1986, 1987, 1988)
Matt Beckenham (NSW, 1986, 1987)
Jane Jamieson (NSW, 1986)
Peter Vardy (SA – AFL, 1986)
Ryan Fitzgerald (SA – AFL, 1986, 1987)
Paul Di Bella (QLD, 1987, 1988, 1989)
Susie Howie (VIC – Netball, 1987)
Nathan Steinberner (SA – AFL, 1987, 1989)
Sandy Bowen (VIC – Volleyball, 1988)
Lisa Bruty (VIC, 1988)
Michael Power (VIC, 1988)
Grant Cremer (NSW, 1988)
Paul Green (NSW, 1988)
Anthony Rocca (VIC – AFL, 1988)
Benita Willis (QLD, 1989)
Brett Burton (SA – AFL, 1989, 1990)
Sharon Cripps (QLD, 1989)
Justin Anlezark (QLD, 1990)
Brooke Krueger (SA, 1990, 1992)
Rosemary Hayward (NSW, 1991)
Mindy Slomka (NSW, 1991)
Patrick Jesser (NT, 1992)
Brett Moyle (VIC – AFL, 1992)
Ian Prendergast (VIC – AFL, 1992)
Tamsyn Lewis (VIC, 1991)
Liesel Ischia (VIC – Diving, 1992)
Tim Clarke (VIC – AFL, 1992)
Royce Vardy (VIC – AFL, 1992)

Deborah Lovely (QLD, Aths & Weightlifting 1993, 1995)
Georgie Clark (VIC, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996)
Crystal Attenborough (NT, 2000)
Morgan McAllister (QLD, IPC Aths, 2004)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOST STATE</u>	<u>PARTICIPATING STATES</u>	<u>VENUE</u>
5-6 November 1971	Interstate Athletics Exchange	NSWPSSA	NSW, QLD	Sydney Sports Ground
16-17 November 1972	Interstate Athletics Exchange	QSPSSA	NSW, QLD	Lang Park, QLD
7-8 November 1973	Interstate Athletics Exchange	NSWPSSA	NSW, QLD	Sydney Sports Ground
17-18 October 1974	Interstate Athletics Exchange	QSPSSA	NSW, QLD	Lang Park QLD
4 December 1975	Inaugural Australian State Primary Schools Athletics Championships	NSWPSSA	NSW, QLD, SA	Lysaght's Recreation Centre, NSW
2 December 1976	Australian State Primary Schools Athletics Championships	QSPSSA	NSW, QLD, SA	Mt Gravatt Sports Complex, Brisbane
2 December 1977	Australian State Primary Schools Athletics Championships	NSWPSSA	ACT?, NSW, NT, QLD, SA?	Narrabeen Sports and Recreation Centre, Sydney
30 November 1978	Australian State Primary Schools Athletics Championships	ACTPSSA	ACT, NSW, NT?, QLD, SA?, VIC	Australian Institute of Sport, Canberra, ACT
29 November 1979	Australian Primary Schools Athletics Championships	QSPSSA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, VIC	QE II Centre, Nathan, QLD
27 November 1980	Australian Primary Schools Athletics Championships	VPSSA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, VIC	Olympic Park, Melbourne, VIC
3 December 1981	Australian Primary Schools Athletics Championships	NSWPSSA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, VIC	ES Marks Memorial Athletics Field, Sydney, NSW
26-30 August 1982	Pacific School Games Incorporating the Australian Primary Schools Athletics Championships	QSPSSA & QSSSSA	ALL	QE II Stadium, Nathan, QLD
7-8 December 1983	Australian Primary Schools Athletics Championships	NSWPSSA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, VIC	Sydney Athletic Field, NSW
November 1984	Pacific School Games Incorporating the Australian Primary Schools Athletics Championships	VPSSA, VHSSA & VTSSA	ALL	Olympic Park, Melbourne, VIC

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOST STATE</u>	<u>PARTICIPATING STATES</u>	<u>VENUE</u>
30 November 1985	Australian Primary Schools Athletics Championships	ACTPSSA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, VIC	Bruce Stadium (AIS), Canberra, ACT
30 November 1986	Australian Primary Schools Athletics Championships	SAPSASA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, VIC	Adelaide Olympic Sports Field, SA
29 November-4 December 1987	The Colgate-Palmolive Australian Primary Schools Track & Field Championships	QSPSSA	ACT, NSW, QLD, SA, VIC	QE II Stadium, Nathan, QLD
December 1988	Pacific School Games Incorporating the Australian Primary Schools Athletics Championships	NSWPSSA & NSWCHSSA	ALL	ES Marks Memorial Athletics Field, Sydney, NSW
3-8 December 1989	Australian Primary Schools Athletics Championships	VPSSA	ACT, NSW, QLD, SA, VIC	Olympic Park, Melbourne, VIC
2-7 December 1990	Australian Primary Schools Athletics Championships	SAPSASA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, VIC	Adelaide Olympic Sports Field, SA
5-9 December 1991	Australian Primary Schools Track & Field Exchange – The Colgate Cup	ACTPSSA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, VIC	AIS Athletics Field, Canberra, ACT
April 1992	Pacific School Games Incorporating the Australian Primary Schools Track & Field Exchange	NTSSC	ALL	Marrara Athletics Stadium, Darwin, NT
6-10 December 1993	The Colgate-Palmolive National Track and Field Exchange	QPST&FA	ACT, NSW, QLD, VIC	QE II Jubilee Sports Centre, Nathan, QLD
5-9 December 1994	Australian Schools Sports Council (ASSC) Primary Track & Field Exchange	NSWPSSA	ACT, NSW, QLD, VIC	Sydney International Athletics Centre, Homebush, NSW
3-8 December 1995	ASSC Primary Track and Field Exchange	VPSSA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, VIC	Olympic Park, Melbourne, VIC
December 1996	Pacific School Games Incorporating the ASSC Primary Track and Field Exchange	WA	ALL	Perry Lakes Stadium, Perth, WA
7-11 December 1997	School Sport Australia (SSA) Primary Track & Field Exchange	ACTPSSA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, VIC	AIS Athletic Field, Canberra, ACT

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOST STATE</u>	<u>PARTICIPATING STATES</u>	<u>VENUE</u>
29 November-4 December 1998	SSA Primary Track & Field Exchange	SAPSASA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, VIC	Santos Stadium, Adelaide
24-29 November 1999	SSA Primary Track & Field Exchange	QPSS	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, VIC	Townsville Sports Reserve, Townsville, QLD
May 2000	Pacific School Games Incorporating the SSA Primary Track & Field Exchange	NSWPSSA & NSWCHSSA	ALL	Sydney International Athletics Centre, Homebush, NSW
25-30 November 2001	SSA Primary Track & Field Exchange	VPSSA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Olympic Park, Melbourne, VIC
1-5 December 2002	SSA 12 Years & Under Track & Field Exchange	SSACT	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	AIS Athletic Centre, Canberra, ACT
11-15 September 2003	SSA 12 Years & Under Track & Field Exchange	SSNT	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Arafura Stadium, Darwin
29 November-2 December 2004	SSA 12 Years & Under Track & Field Exchange	SAPSASA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Santos Stadium, Adelaide, SA
25 November-4 December 2005	Pacific School Games Incorporating the SSA 12 Years & Under Track & Field Exchange	VPSSA & VSSSA	ALL	Olympic Park, Melbourne, VIC
23-27 November 2006	SSA 12 Years & Under Track & Field Exchange	QPSS	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Barlow Park, Cairns, QLD
29 November-3 December 2007	SSA 12 Years & Under Track & Field Exchange	Athletics Tasmania	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	St Leonards Athletic Centre, Launceston, TAS
29 November-8 December 2008	Pacific School Games Incorporating the SSA 12 Years & Under Track & Field Exchange	SSACT	ALL	AIS Athletics Facility, Canberra, ACT
29 November-2 December 2009	SSA 12 Years & Under Track & Field Championships	NSWPSSA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre, Homebush, NSW
28 December-2 December 2010	SSA 12 Years & Under Track & Field Championships	SSV	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	La Trobe University Bendigo Athletics Centre, Bendigo, VIC
15-19 September 2011	SSA 12 Years & Under Track & Field Championships	SSNT	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Arafura Athletics Stadium, Darwin, NT
23-27 November 2012	SSA 12 Years & Under Track & Field Championships	SAPSASA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Santos Stadium, Adelaide, SA

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>HOST STATE</u>	<u>PARTICIPATING STATES</u>	<u>VENUE</u>
22 -26 November 2013	SSA 12 Years and Under Track & Field Championships	QSS	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Queensland Sports and Athletics Stadium, Brisbane, QLD
28 November – 1 December 2014	SSA 12 Years and Under Track & Field Championships	Athletics Tasmania	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Dial Regional Athletics Centre, Penguin. TAS
4 – 8 December 2015	SSA 12 Years and Under Track & Field Championships	SSACT	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Woden Park Athletics Field, Canberra, ACT
25-29 November 2016	SSA 12 Years and Under Track & Field Championships	NSWPSSA	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre, Homebush, NSW
2-6 December 2017	Pacific School Games Incorporating the SSA 12 Years & Under Track & Field Championships	Pacific School Games/School Sport Australia	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC, New Zealand, Pakistan	SA Athletics Stadium, Mile End, SA
23-27 November 2018	SSA 10-12 years Track and Field Championships	SSV	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park, VIC
18-23 September 2019	SSA 10-12 years Track and Field Championships	SSNT	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Arafura Athletics Stadium, Darwin, NT
2020	Not held due to Covid-19			
2021	Not held due to Covid-19			
17 – 21 November 2022	SSA 10-12 years Track and Field Championships	QSS	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Queensland Sports and Athletics Stadium, Brisbane, QLD
23 – 27 November 2023	SSA 10-12 years Track and Field Championships	Athletics Tasmania	ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC	Northern Athletics Centre, Launceston, TAS

INFORMATION SOURCES:

- ❖ Geoff Hornibrook and Queensland Primary School Sports Association Annual Reports
- ❖ Past Championship/Exchange Programs and Reports
- ❖ Past and Present Team Managers and Coaches

COMPILED BY:

Kirsteen Farrance
National Track & Field Secretary
School Sport Australia
1995 – 2019

Fiona Brown
National Track & Field Advisor
School Sport Australia
2020 -