

ZONE 7/8 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE BCA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

ZONE 7 ACTIVITIES AS REPORTED BY GREG PETERS:

Zone 7 Club Track 54:50 had its best year ever. While registered number of athletes was not at a high, performances of the 14 members was! T 54:50 had their best summer games ever with several gold medals and several lesser medals and performances. The Zone 7 Summer Games team is made up of athletes from Vanderhoof BC west to Prince Rupert and Kitimat.

In older categories Lauren Stuart and Morgan Marshall qualified for the Legion National's in which Lauren captured silver in the hammer throw, and unfortunately for key athlete Morgan Marshall, she broke her leg in hurdle practice, days before the teams departure.

Stacey Irvine (19) was bronze in the Pole Vault at the Junior Nationals. And at the Sr. Nationals Vicki Tolton was 8th in the 400 meters.

*However the coach for the Smithers Club. Greg and Wilma have chosen Victoria as their retirement place, and what is a major loss to the north can only bode well for the Island. (TM).

Unfortunately, while there are some fine School athletes in Prince Rupert, Kitimat, and Terrace, there are no BCA Clubs.

ZONE 8:

There are two registered Track and field Clubs in Zone 8 and two Road Running Clubs. The Sub Zero Running Club and the Sub Zero Track and Field Club were both active throughout 2008. Grant Spellsberg is the Driver behind both organizations and besides

leading the Clubs, he keeps himself overly busy with his own training and Road Running along with many other Peace River associates,

Many fine athletes come from the Track Club. And they hold a neat little Meet every year called the Alaska News Meet. Its often a cold day for this event, and if you can do a Meet in the cold winds of the Peace River, you are up for anything. Their top performer in 2008 was Emily Polibroda, who is also a member of the SFU Cross Country Ladies Team. Emily qualified for the BC Junior Team this season and took in the Nationals.

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The Prince George Road Runners are led by Oliver Hui. Each year they have a very well organized Road Running Series throughout the North Central Region. 2008 was no exception. However like many organizations they are experiencing the need for more volunteers, and yet fewer are willing to take on the responsibility.

Consideration is being given to reducing the number of events and including more fun runs in the future with less organization.

THE LABOUR DAY CLASSIC which is the Provinces oldest Road Race is basically a free standing event, and is organized by a number of road runners.

This event dates back to 1974 when such athletes as Tom Howard, Wolfgang Schamberger, Jack Taunton and many others journeyed north to take part. The LDC was also the only run that TERRY FOX took part in and it is here in Prince George he decided he could do his Cross Canada Journey. The rest you might say is history, (It is interesting to note that RICK HANSEN took part that year and wheeled in the same event.

The always busy Prince George Track and Field Club with nearly 200 members had a very good season. Our athletes took part in a number of regional and Provincial Meets as well as some qualified for Nationals.

The banner performer this past year was Alyxandria Treasure. Alyx not only had a good season in Club, Provincial and National events but also High School.

She started the year with a Provincial High School Girls high jump record with a leap of 1.82 meters, which held as her top performance of the year. This broke an 19 year record, and placed her number 1 for female Youth in Canada. She went on to capture the Gold at the Legion Nations and National Juniors and established herself as a World Ranked youth athlete.

At only age 17 in 2009 and two more years of High School, things will only get better for Alyx.

Another top performer in Provincial and National Junior Meets was Kyle O'meara. Kyle won the shot put and was silver in the javelin at Provincials, and was 4th in the Javelin at Nationals.

Kyle was badly injured in a vehicle accident in December and both of his ankles were crushed as a result. It will be a long painful recovery for this excellent young man, but he is already experiencing improvements with therapy and strength training. We all wish him well.

TOM MASICH ZONE 7/8 DIRECTOR FOR BC ATHLETICS,

