

# Cross Country and Road 2026

Newsletter 2: 1<sup>st</sup> April



## 1. Welcome to the 2026 Cross Country and Road season

The season runs from April to September, catering for athletes aged 5 years and up, of all abilities. Many younger athletes enjoy playing a team sport in the morning and running cross country in the afternoon - all part of the winter fun.

The season is split into two parts: cross country events from April to August, followed by road running events from August to September. **Club events** are held on Saturday afternoons at Pakuranga Athletic Club, 36/38 Cascades Rd. Participants register from 2pm, with the run beginning at 2.30pm after a warm-up. After the run, there is a spot prize draw for the juniors, and food and drinks are available for purchase in the clubrooms. The Joker Draw will also be back this season.

Please note that events are not held every Saturday, as the committee strongly supports **external events** held at other locations. These offer great opportunities to run on different terrain and compete with other clubs.

Distances range from 1km for 5 to 6-year-olds, up to 10km for senior athletes. Runners compete within their age groups and accumulate points throughout the season for the club.

A weekly newsletter keeps members updated with news and registration information for upcoming events. For more information, please refer to the club [handbook](#).

## 2. Open Day this Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April

### Cross Country and Road 2026



Are you between the age of 5 and 99?  
Looking for a fun sport to do this winter?  
Why not give Cross Country and Road Running a go?  
Whether you're new to the sport or a returning member, we welcome all!

**Saturday 4th April**  
**Open Day**  
2pm

SATURDAY  
AFTERNOONS

APRIL - SEPTEMBER

- Two free trial sessions
- Regular club-based events
- Outside events - Winter League Series, Grand Prix Series & Relays
- Spot prizes and Joker draw
- Kids' clubhouse fun corner
- Tuck shop with hot food and snacks
- Clubhouse bar
- Awesome social scene - for all ages!





Come for a run and to find out more about what we offer at our free Open Day this Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April. No need to pre-register, just sign in at the clubrooms (36/38 Cascades Rd) from 2pm ready to run at around 2.30pm. Bring your running shoes and have a go. All abilities and ages welcome.

Juniors will be given a colourful bib according to their age and this will determine the distance and route they will take. Older athletes will lead the youngest groups or individuals as necessary. Parents are also more than welcome to run with their child.

### 3. Registration now open

Registration is now open for Juniors who have the option to register for winter cross country and road only, or for the full 12 months which includes the summer track and field. Seniors can register at any time of the year, and membership will be for 12 months. Register through our website [here](#).

Please note that there are **two free trials** before registration is required.

### 4. Upcoming Events

#### SATURDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL - CLUB OPEN DAY CROSS COUNTRY

See section 2 of this newsletter for more information.

#### SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL - CLUB CROSS COUNTRY EVENT

Sign in at the clubrooms from 2pm, race starts at **2.30pm**. You do not need to be a registered club member. This will be a time trial which will help us select teams and estimated times for the Southland Centennial Relays.

#### SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL - AUCKLAND & CLUB HALF MARATHON CHAMPS

The Waterfront Half Marathon doubles up as our Club Half Marathon Champs (for registered club members who wear club singlet). Half marathon entry is open to runners and walkers aged 14 and over on race day.

Standard entry deadline is 5<sup>th</sup> April -> click [here](#) There is also a 10km, 5km Fun Run/Walk, and a 2km Kids Dash.

**A note from Auckland Athletics:** If you are entering, please email [office@athleticsauckland.co.nz](mailto:office@athleticsauckland.co.nz) so they are aware of your participation when working through Athletics Auckland results at the conclusion of the event. Auckland Registered athletes can enter using code AA26.

#### SATURDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL - SOUTHLAND CENTENNIAL RELAYS

**NEW VENUE:** Rugby League Field, Puriri Dr, Cornwall Park

The first relay of the season and always a fun event for all ages of runners and walkers. We encourage parents to register their interest as well. You do not need to be a registered club member.

For the Juniors (U8 – U16), teams are made of 4 runners of different ages and abilities, and each runner runs a 2km lap. Senior teams vary depending on age grade. The committee will make up the junior and senior relay teams and will submit and pay for all entries. **Please email Amy on [pakxcr@gmail.com](mailto:pakxcr@gmail.com) if you would like to be included in a team.**

#### SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY - NZ MASTERS MARATHON CHAMPS & ROTORUA MARATHON

The Red Stag Rotorua Marathon is an iconic major New Zealand event, which was first held in 1965. The headline event is the Red Stag Full Marathon, where participants complete the unique 42.2km 'lap of the lake' course around Lake Rotorua. The event caters for runners and walkers of all levels, with the Full Marathon (42.2km), NZCT Half Marathon (21km) as well as the 10km and Wai Ariki Hot Springs & Spa 5km events.

Click [here](#) for further information and to enter.

**Pakuranga Athletic Club Cross Country & Road  
2026 Calendar**  
subject to change

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Saturday 4 April	Club XC Event – Open Day	PAC
Saturday 11 April	Club XC Event	PAC
Sunday 12 April	Auckland and Club Half Marathon Champs	Auckland Waterfront
<b>Sunday 12 April</b>	<b>NZ Half Marathon Champs</b>	<b>Christchurch</b>
Saturday 18 April	Southland Centennial Relays (Snr League Race 1 / Jnr League Race 1)	Rugby League Field, Puriri Dr, Cornwall Park
<b>Saturday 18 April</b>	<b>NZ Mountain Running Champs</b>	<b>Wellington</b>
Saturday 2 May	Club XC Event	PAC
<b>Saturday 2 May</b>	<b>NZ Masters Marathon Champs &amp; Rotorua Marathon</b>	<b>Rotorua</b>
Saturday 9 May	Grand Prix 1 (Snr League Race 2)	Pukekohe
Saturday 16 May	Club XC Event - Memorial Day	PAC
Saturday 16 May	Oratia Junior Relays (Jnr League Race 2)	Oratia
Saturday 23 May	Grand Prix 2 (Snr League Race 3)	PAC
Tuesday 26 May	College Sport Auckland Cross Country Champs	Barry Curtis
Saturday 30 May	Lynndale Junior Relays (Jnr League Race 3)	Lynndale
Saturday 6 June	Club XC Event	Eastern Beach
Saturday 13 June	Auckland Cross Country Teams Champs (Jnr League Race 4 / Snr League Race 4)	Barry Curtis or Ambury Park
<b>20 – 21 June</b>	<b>NZ Secondary Schools Cross Country Champs and Relays Champs</b>	<b>Wellington</b>
Saturday 20 June	Club Event	PAC
Saturday 27 June	Grand Prix 3 (Snr League Race 5)	Long Bay
<b>Saturday 4 July</b>	<b>North Island Cross Country Champs</b>	<b>Taupo</b>
Saturday 18 July	Grand Prix 4 incl. Auckland Cross Country Champs (Snr League Race 6)	Barry Curtis
Saturday 25 July	Club XC Champs	PAC
Saturday 1 August	Club Road Event	PAC
<b>1 – 2 August</b>	<b>NZ Cross Country Champs AND NZ Cross Country Teams Champs</b>	<b>Christchurch</b>
Tuesday 4 August	College Sport Auckland Road Race Champs	Bruce Pulman
Saturday 8 August	ACA Pairs Race (Jnr League Race 5)	Cornwall Park
Sunday 16 August	Grand Prix 5: Auckland Road Race Champs (Snr League Race 7)	Bruce Pulman
Saturday 22 August	Club Road Event	PAC
Saturday 22 August	Moire Park Trail Relays	Moire Park
Saturday 29 August	Club Road Event	PAC
<b>Saturday 29 August</b>	<b>NZ 10km Road Champs</b>	<b>New Plymouth</b>
3 – 4 September	NZ Secondary Schools Road Relay Festival	TBC
Saturday 5 September	Te Hāora – The Hour Race (U18+) (Snr League Race 8)	Ōwairaka
<b>Saturday 12 September</b>	<b>NZ 1 Mile Champs</b>	<b>Dunedin</b>
Sat 12 <u>OR</u> Sun 13 September	Auckland Road Relay Champs (Snr League Race 9) followed by Jnr Prizegiving	Mt Smart
Sat 19 <u>OR</u> Sun 20 September	Auckland 5km Road Champs followed by Snr Prizegiving	Mt Smart
Saturday 26 September	Club Road Champs	PAC
<b>Saturday 3 October</b>	<b>NZ Road Relay Champs</b>	<b>Whanganui</b>
Sunday 1 November	Auckland Marathon (incl. Club Marathon Champs)	Auckland CBD
<b>Sunday 1 November</b>	<b>NZ 100km Champs</b>	<b>Christchurch</b>
Saturday 7 November	NZ 50km Champs (part of Legend of the Peaks)	Rotorua
Saturday 29 November	NZ Marathon Champs	Whanganui
Saturday 5 December	NZ Long Trail Champs and NZ 5km Champs	Nelson

KEY

School & Public Holidays

Events held at Pakuranga Athletic Club (PAC)

Secondary School Events

Athletics Auckland Events

Relays

Nationals

**Please be vigilant.** Police have recently warned the clubs and groups that use Lloyd Elsmore Park of car keys being taken from bags and cars stolen.