

**15 K. ROAD EVENT AT ALBERT PARK 27 JUNE, 2004**  
**Junior Men's Team Wins Gold Medal**  
**Senior Women Finish Second**  
**John Meagher Claims State Title**

Held in cool, slightly windy and rain free conditions, this year's 15 kilometre road championship did not attract the depth of field that it has in previous years, possibly due to the proximity of the Olympics and the Gold Coast Marathon and Half Marathon races.

The junior age groups' 5 K road championship was held first and attracted a good turn out of under age Box Hill competitors. In the junior Men's Under 14 race, Aaron Holmes competed, running well to record the time of 19 m. 15 for 6<sup>th</sup> position.

In the Under 18 section, Matthew O'Connor recorded 18 m. 15 for 12<sup>th</sup> position, less than two minutes behind the winner, and looks to have a good future in the sport.

In the Under 20 junior Men's race we had a solid group of competitors. Andrew White was the first Box Hill competitor over the line in 6<sup>th</sup> place, in 16 m 02, followed by Ben McNab, 13<sup>th</sup>, 16 m. 21, just edging out Michael Bourne, recording 16 m 22 for 14<sup>th</sup> place. Iain Reitman completed our Under 20 team, placing 15<sup>th</sup> in 16 m. 53. Graham Craigie was a little further back but also ran well to place 17<sup>th</sup> in 17 m. 17. Daniel Clark also ran by invitation running the smart time of 16 m. 17 for the 5000 m. Our team won the Gold medal for the second consecutive event.

In the Under 14 junior Women's section, Grace Thek was just pipped within 50 metres of the finish for the bronze medal, placing fourth in the time of 19 m. 21, an impressive effort.

The Open Men's and Women's 15 K. road race saw eight male and four female athletes representing Box Hill.

The race commenced slightly late. A large bunch of runners ran clear of the field after the first kilometre. Leading in the early stages was Julian Marsh (OX), who later paid for his early exertions. With Peter Hulbert (GH), Martin Fedmowski (Ment) and David Ruschena (GH) close at hand at the end of the first lap. Box Hill's leading male contenders were Marcus Tierney, 10<sup>th</sup>, John Meagher, 12<sup>th</sup>, and Adrian Vincent 22<sup>nd</sup>, with Graeme Olden, 30<sup>th</sup>, David Jimenez, 32<sup>nd</sup> and Paul Boxshall, 41<sup>st</sup>, making up the Section 1 team in the first lap. A running calculation showed Box Hill to be in second place in the team's race at this stage. Unfortunately for Box Hill, Paul Boxshall had been struggling with his health during the week, and this showed as the second lap progressed. Paul was unable to complete the second lap and retired.

Marsh still led at the end of the second lap but was not looking as fluent, with Ruschena having made up ground, looking ready to pounce. Hulbert was in 3<sup>rd</sup> position ahead of Fedmowski. Marcus Tierney had picked up 3 places and was holding 7<sup>th</sup>, with John Meagher 12<sup>th</sup>, Adrian Vincent 22<sup>nd</sup> and Graeme Olden 29<sup>th</sup>. David Jimenez was 35<sup>th</sup> and Chris O'Connor, having been advised he was now the sixth member of the Section 1 team running in the 90s. Adam Pepper was mid-field.

The completion of the third lap saw Ruschena open up a long break from Peter Eason (Ball Harriers), with Fedmowski slightly ahead of Peter Hulbert. Marsh had put in a disappointing lap and was 70 metres clear of Marcus Tierney, in 6<sup>th</sup> position. John Meagher still held 12<sup>th</sup> position,

Adrian Vincent had dropped a place to 23<sup>rd</sup>, one place in advance of Graeme Olden. David Jimenez was running 34<sup>th</sup>, with Chris O'Connor 104<sup>th</sup>. Adam Pepper was running steadily further back.

Davis Ruschena (GH) maintained his lead and won the race from Martin Fedmowski (Men), and Peter Hulbert (GH) was third. Our runners held their positions in the final lap apart from Adrian Vincent improving one place, David Jimenez slipping four places, and Chris O'Connor picking up three places in the concluding lap. Our calculations showed Box Hill in third place in the teams' race, but this was disputed by AV who claimed that one of our point scorers was not registered.

Of special note was John Meagher's great performance, which won him the state title in the 40+ age bracket, a fine performance.

Keeping the men's times in perspective, one only has to think back two years to 2002 when Susie Power's effort in completing the course in 48 minutes 37 seconds impressed many onlookers. This effort would have placed her 9<sup>th</sup> on the day this year.

Lisa Jane Weightman won the Women's race in 52 m. 40 from Julia Edwards, with Lisa Dick finishing third. Jessica de Bruin finished in 15<sup>th</sup> place in the female section in 60 m 07, running strongly all the way. Joc Keage placed 24<sup>th</sup> recording 62 m. 23 for the full distance. Fiona Turner was the next Box Hill woman across the finish, after have a tussle with Megan Sloane throughout the race, placing 30<sup>th</sup> in 65 m 07. Megan Sloane was next, coming 33<sup>rd</sup> in 65 m 13 (Megan was second in the 45+ age division and the first 50 plus runner across the line). The women's team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in an encouraging performance, one of our best in recent years.

## Results and Times of Senior Men's Race

Name	Club	Time	Final Place
David Ruschena	GH	46:12	1
Martin Fedmowski	Men	46:24	2
Peter Hulbert	GH	46:36	3
Peter Eason	Ball Harr	46:45	4
Julian Marsh	OX	47:11	5
<b>Marcus Tierney</b>	<b>BH</b>	<b>47:49</b>	6
<b>John Meagher</b>	<b>BH</b>	<b>48:59</b>	12
<b>Adrian Vincent</b>	<b>BH</b>	<b>50:33</b>	22
<b>Graeme Olden</b>	<b>BH</b>	<b>50:47</b>	24
<b>David Jimenez</b>	<b>BH</b>	<b>51:38</b>	38
<b>Chris O'Connor</b>	<b>BH</b>	<b>56:34</b>	101
<b>Adam Pepper</b>	<b>BH</b>	<b>63:25</b>	196
<b>Paul Boxshall</b>	<b>BH</b>	<b>DNF</b>	

Teams

Glen Huntly 1

APS 2

Box Hill 3

Under 20

Name	Club	Time	Final Place
Andrew White	BH	16:02	6
Daniel Clark	BH	16:17	10
Ben McNab	BH	16:21	13
Michael Bourne	BH	16:22	14
Iain Reitman	BH	16:53	15
Graham Craigie	BH	17:17	17

Teams

Box Hill 1

Under 18

Name	Club	Time	Final Place
Matthew O'Connor	BH	18:15	12

Under 14

Name	Club	Time	Final Place
Aaron Holmes	BH	19:15	6

Women

Name	Club	Time	Final Place
<b>Lisa Jane Weightman</b>	<b>Knox</b>	<b>52:40</b>	1
<b>Jess de Bruin</b>	<b>BH</b>	<b>60:07</b>	15
<b>Joc Keage</b>	<b>BH</b>	<b>62:23</b>	24
<b>Fiona Turner</b>	<b>BH</b>	<b>65:07</b>	30

<b>Megan Sloane</b>	<b>BH</b>	<b>65:13</b>	33
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Teams

Box Hill 2

Under 14

<b>Name</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Final Place</b>
Grace Thek	BH	19:21	4