



Far North / Eyre Peninsula Zone

2011 Convener's Report

- Obviously this group convenes the largest area in the state but it continues to maintain an outstanding record of student participation thanks to the dedication of the member schools involved.
- There has been a reduction in the number of students in the schools in our region yet the number of teams in our carnivals has remained the same overall in the last few years.
- WASSAC is still an issue due to a decrease in school numbers, team numbers, staff interest and uneven competition although Ceduna Area School did an outstanding job in organising the 2011 event. An exciting initiative is to have this carnival conducted in Roxby Downs for the first time in 2012.
- Only some schools took the option of combining teams and several smaller schools in outlying regions are still not catered for to any great extent.
- We still have a number of teams withdrawing from nominated competitions or wishing to join a carnival at the 'last minute' which has seen a great deal of time and effort squandered.
- One-day regional competitions (comprising team numbers from 3 to 14) numbered 86 involving varied sports and ages not to mention those interschool activities between individual schools, participation in SSSSA Knockout competitions and finals in Adelaide.
- Although we have a policy of decentralisation to share the costs and travel many of the carnivals are still centralised around the larger centres due to the availability of facilities and reducing travel time. Those schools that travelled such long distances must be congratulated and admired.
- Conversely thank you and well done to the schools in the larger centres for accommodating the carnivals with facilities and conducting the carnivals. The effort and cooperation is appreciated and not gone unnoticed.
- Congratulations to all our carnival winners who travelled to Adelaide and other centres to not only represent our region so admirably but also for being so successful in their competitions.
- Anyone who has organised or been part of an Athletics carnival can appreciate what goes into the running of the logistically massive task of organising regional Athletics carnivals. So in 2011, thank you to Craig Irvine (Ceduna Area School) for organising WASSAC and Graeme Byrnes (Cleve Area School) for organising EEPASSA; along with their many helpers.
- This congratulations and thank you also go to all the organisers of the individual school Athletics and Swimming Carnivals.

• The Mission Statement of our group is *"to promote physical activity for all secondary students in the region"* with many schools having taken up the challenge to great effect with the annual awards for the number of students participating in our physical activity programs (based on the Howard Mutton Award formula for participation) being:-

Most Participation by a Secondary School
Most Participation by a Junior Secondary School
Most Participation by a Senior Secondary School
Most Participation by a Small Area School
Most Participation by a Large Area School
Most Participation by an Independent School

Port Lincoln High School
Whyalla High School
Port Lincoln High School
Lock Area School
Cleve Area School / Streaky Bay Area School
St. Josephs School

- Finance, numbers and distance are still real issues to deal with but we are blessed to have such professional, supportive and multi skilled personnel as Sports Coordinators in the secondary components of the schools in our region. Thank you and congratulations to each and every one of them as well as to all their coaches, managers and transporters.

- Support from St. John's Ambulance, local councils, local sporting clubs and associations, and organisations such as the Office for Recreation and Sport, SA Rugby League, Port Adelaide Magpie Football Club, North Adelaide Football Club, Port Power and Touch Football SA are essential and invaluable.

- Even though recipients of many deserved accolades we thank SSSSA for their inestimable support, notably Paula Nielsen, Kevin Gruhl and Marg Smith.

- Over the years we have had many wonderful colleagues move to other areas of our state so lastly, but certainly not least, I would like to take this opportunity to heartily congratulate and thank Anthony Doyle (Cummins Area School) for his inspiring efforts in assisting his students and for his support and involvement in the Far North / Eyre Peninsula Zone carnivals.

- There are some on-going issues to be looked at in 2011 which will be dealt with at our meetings and included as a short list are:-

- Late withdrawal from competitions
- Officiating is a concern re numbers, competence, student officials
- Use of SSSSA Information Booklets / Web Site
- Alignment of competitions and curriculum needs further work
- Hot Weather influence on program
- Assisting outlying small schools
- Further rationalising Athletics

Peter Tokarski
(FNEP Zone Convener)