Youth club championships – 2023/24 season

Here we go again folks; it's time to outline the way this year's club championships will work. As always there are a couple of changes this year so please read carefully.

The aim
The aim of the club champs is to identify and then recognise (with lovely trophies and adoring applause at the annual dinner) the best athletes in each age-group. To do this, we track your results across a range of events during the summer and then use a complicated spreadsheet to work out who in each age-group is consistently the best performer.

If you would like to participate in the club champs please can you email your results to events@triathlontauranga.org.nz so we don't miss anyone.

The races
In selecting the races, the committee tries to provide a balance between short & long course races so that specialists at a particular distance are not disadvantaged. The committee also tries to ensure that most major races in the wider Bay of Plenty area are covered & also National Championship races. The races this year are as follows:

Date	Race	Triathlon Distance			
		Super-sprint	Sprint	Standard	Long
13th Aug	Auckland Duathlon - Akld - NSS Champs	✓	✓		
19th Nov	Tinman, Mt Maunganui	✓	✓	✓	
27th Dec	Surfbreaker, Mt Maunganui	✓	✓		
28th Jan	Blue Lake Multisport Festival, Rotorua	✓	✓		
11th Feb	Kinloch Tri -Kinloch	✓	✓	✓	
18th Feb	Generation Homes Women's only Triathlon	✓			
20th Feb	BOP Secondary Schools champs - Ohope	✓	✓		
25th Feb	Napier Triathlon - Nat Sprint Champs	✓	✓		
25th Feb	Ironkidz, Taupo	✓			
21st Mar	Nat Schools - Tauranga - NSS Champs	✓	✓		
12th Mar	Marra Mauao Triathlon, Mt Maunganui	✓	✓		
6th Apr	Xterra, Rotorua		✓	✓	
		11	10	3	

At the Tinman and some other races, points will be awarded for both the sprint and the standard races. At all other races, only entrants to the Triathlon race-type identified above will receive points.

The ranking system
While there are many races that are part of the series it is only your **best four results** that will count towards the club champs. Therefore if you race six times but had a shocker at Surfbreaker due to all that Christmas eating and drinking, then you will be able to discard your Surfbreaker result and one other weaker finish (and don't worry if your maths isn't flash as our spreadsheet will do this for you).

Up-to-date rankings will be published in the newsletter and will be posted on Clubs webpage & posted on Facebook.

The maths

The scoring system ranks each athlete by comparing their finishing time with that of the first club member of their sex across the finishing line. The closer they are to the first club member's time the more points they will get, up to a maximum of 100. The calculation is:

$$\frac{\text{Time of first club member of your sex}}{\text{Your finishing time}} \times 100 = \text{Your points}$$

We might need a practical example here to make sure anyone who wants to understand this can actually do so. Let's say Fred is the first male club member across the line at Tinman, finishing in two hours (or 120 minutes). Fred wins himself the maximum 100 points. George tumbles in twenty minutes later (140 minutes) and therefore picks up:

$$\frac{120}{140} \times 100 = 85.7 \text{ points}$$

Bert follows another hour later (total race time of 200 minutes) and therefore earns himself:

$$\frac{120}{200} \times 100 = 60 \text{ points}$$

The female scoring system is exactly the same but is obviously based on the first female club member across the line.

The other rules

- Only individual race results count.
- You must finish the race to be able to collect any points.
- You must finish a minimum of three races to be able to win the coveted age-group trophy. Therefore if, in the Female 80-89 age-group, great aunt Matilda leads the championships having taken four hours to complete Surfbreaker and two and a half days to do the Half, she still won't win the trophy as she didn't do three races (but if she puts in a late entry for the Women's Tri race and finishes it, she gets the trophy).
- The age-groups used for the club champs are 0-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69 and 70-79. If we find an octogenarian (great aunt Matilda?) then we will set up another age-group and find another trophy.
- The age-group you will be ranked in is the age at which you race in most often. Therefore if, part way through the season you move from being a 30-39 athlete to being a 40-49 athlete then we will look at which age-group you raced most often in and include you there for club champs purposes. (Note that we deal in "real" ages not the inflated-by-12-months TriNZ ages.)
- Anything wildly out of the ordinary will be dealt with by the Committee on a case by case basis (like 2004's Tinman that wasn't for instance).

Further information

If you want to know anything else about how this all works please feel free to e-mail events@triathlontauranga.org.nz and we'll try to help.