AUSTRALIAN RACEWALKING CHAMPIONSHPS MEN: 1957 - 1960

This follows on from 3 previous articles which detail the early Australasian and Australian Racewalking Championships (along with other particularly significant races), up to and including 1956.

- Australasian Championships Men 1892-1920.pdf
- Australasian Championships Men 1921-1939.pdf
- Australian Championships Men 1946-1956.pdf

Many of the walkers discussed have profiles in the VRWC archives at http://www.vrwc.org.au/tim-archive/index.shtml. Rather than use extensive footnoting in this document, you are invited to that link whenever you wish to read further on any individuals.

Australian Track & Field Championships 1956-57
Olympic Park, Melbourne, Victoria, 9 & 11 March 1957

The year after an Olympic Games is sometimes a quiet one from an athletics perspective, but this was certainly not the case for Australian racewalkers. **Don Keane** and **Ted Allsopp** who continued their friendly rivalry in the Australian T&F 2 Mile Walk Championship, with Keane the victor, reversing the trend what had seen Allsopp win the last two T&F walk titles. 18 year old walking prodigy **Noel Freeman** signalled what was to come with his third place finish, ahead of the more experienced **Bob Gardiner** and **Ray Smith**.

2 MILES WALK - Men - Saturday 9 March 1957		
1 Don Keane	VIC	13:56.6
2 Ted Allsopp	VIC	14:11.2
3 Noel Freeman	VIC	14:27.2
4 Bob Gardiner	VIC	14:40.2
5 Ray Smith	VIC	14:49.4
6 Colin Walker	NSW	15:02.6
7 William Kirby	NSW	
8 R Nixon	NSW	

1957 Australian 10,000m Walk Championship
Olympic Park, Melbourne, Saturday 29th June 1957

The Australian 10,000m Walk Championship continued to be a small affair compared to its larger cousin, the Glover Shield. The 1957 edition was held at Olympic Park in Melbourne on Saturday 29th June. However, with the venue booked by the V.A.S.A. on Saturday afternoons, the walk had to be staged in the morning. Four States were represented, with NSW and Victoria fielding full teams of six competitors, SA was represented by Eddie Folland and Queensland by Syd Bray. Tom Daintry was now resident in Victoria and was part of the Victorian team.

1956 Olympian **Ted Allsopp** added yet another Australian title to his ever growing list with his winning time of 46:12. Behind him came 18 year old **Noel Freeman**, the walker of the future (46:51.8), with 1956 Olympian **Ron Crawford** third (47:19.8). The teams championship saw Victoria win over NSW.

Australian 10,000m Walk Championship, Melbourne		
1. Ted Allsopp	VIC	46:12
2. Noel Freeman	VIC	46:51.8
3. Ron Crawford	NSW	47:19.8
4. Donald Thompson	NSW	47:34
5. Harold Summers	VIC	47:48
6. Kenneth Keogh	NSW	48:06
7. Peter Bethell	VIC	48:08
8. Edward Folland	SA	48:10
9. Colin Walker	NSW	48:55
10. Harry Larchin	VIC	49:20
11. Raymond Nixon	NSW	49:51
12. Tom Daintry	VIC	51:01
13. Sydney Bray	QLD	51:04
14. James Rileigh	NSW	53:21

Senior Teams	VIC	15	NSW	21

1957 Alexander Cup 50km
Royal Showgrounds, Ascot Vale, Melbourne, Sunday 28th September 1957

The 1957 Alexander Cup was held in conjunction with the Victorian 50km Roadwalk Championship at the Royal Showgrounds in Ascot Vale on 28th September of that year. Sadly, interest from interstate was just about non existent, with the field of 13 featuring 10 Victorians and 3 SA walkers but no NSW representatives.

Ted Allsopp proved in a class of his own, winning as he liked and bettering his own Australian record with 4:23:38. The gap to second was huge, with **Cliff Barling** 38 minutes in arrears! Victoria was the only State to finish a team. Although SA had 3 walkers, only **Col Bailey** finished. As an aside, Colin Bailey would go on to have an illustrious walking career on the local SA front, setting a new Australian 50 Mile walk record of 8:37:40 in 1962. Now retired and living in Tasmania, he is a world expert on the Thylacine or Tasmanian Tiger and has has written a number of books on the subject.

The VAWC Annual Report of that year wrote of its disappointment at the lack of support for this event. The Alexander Cup 50km would stagger on for 3 further stagings before the inevitable.

Interest in the Alexander Cup competition was effected by the absence of a team from NSW, for the first time since the inception of the concept. However, a team from SA took part but their efforts were nullified by the withdrawal of two of their team members from the race, leaving Victoria as the only State to finish a complete team. We sincerely trust that more interest will be taken by all States in future competitions.

1957 Alexander Cup 50km, Royal Showgrounds, Melbourne

1.	Ted Allsopp	VIC	4:23:38	AR
2.	Cliff Barling	VIC	5:01:23	
3.	Tom Daintry	VIC	5:04:07	
4.	Jim Short	VIC	5:07:25	
5.	Len Chadwick	VIC	5:13:35	
6.	Peter Bethell	VIC	5:23:51	
7.	John Busst	VIC	5:27:12	
8.	Colin Bailey	SA	5:33:03	
9.	Ronald Davies	VIC	5:51:52	
-	Lindsay MacGregor	SA	DNF	
-	Edward Folland	SA	DNF	
-	Rex Chugg	VIC	DNF	
-	Basil Thomson	VIC	DNF	
Teams	1. VIC	6 pts	(1,2.3)	

Australian Track & Field Championships 1957-58
Exhibition Grounds, Brisbane, Queensland 13, 15, 17 March 1958

It was the usual **Don Keane** vs **Ted Allsopp** battle at the 1958 T&F Championships in Brisbane, with Keane the victor by 6 secs. 1956 Olympian **Ron Crawford** was third in an event where times were heat effected and generally slow.

2 MILES WALK - Men - Saturday 15 March 1958

1	Don Keane	VIC	14:36.4
2	Ted Allsopp	VIC	14:42.6
3	Ron Crawford	NSW	15:02.2
4	Harry Summers	VIC	15:06.2
5	David Melzer	QLD	15:09.2
-	Colin Walker	NSW	DQ
-	Sid Bray	QLD	DNF

1958 Glover Shield 10,000m Walk
St Lucia University Oval, Brisbane, Satureday 10th May 1958

The 1958 Glover Shield 10,000m Track Championship was contested on the grass track at the St. Lucia University Oval in Brisbane on 10th May 1958, with teams from NSW, QLD and Victoria participating. Although Victoria sent a record number of walkers – 2 Senior teams and 2 Junior teams – the opposition from NSW was too strong and that State won both Teams races. It was pleasing to see the progress made by Queensland, with their Senior team finishing 3rd and their Junior team finishing 2nd. The event, which was the largest Glover Shield seen thus far, was conducted by the fledgling Queensland Amateur Walkers' Club.

Although Victoria had sent lots of competitors, the cream of their walkers was sadly missing, and the overall title went to NSW walker **Ken Keogh**, with a time of 48:23.

Glover Shield Senior 10,000m Walk, Brisbane, 10 May

1.	Keogh, Kenneth	NSW	48:23
2.	William Kirby	NSW	48:51
3.	David Melzer	QLD	48:52
4.	Harry Summers	VIC	49:23
5.	Eugene Cichanowski	NSW	49:33
6.	Edward Edwards	NSW	49:43
7.	Raymond Nixon	NSW	49:48
8.	Alan Hancock	VIC	49:50
9.	Harry Larchin	VIC	49:58
10.	Colin Walker	NSW	50:53
11.	Bernard Claughton	VIC	51:19
12.	Edward Thomas	QLD	51:31
13.	Sydney Bray	QLD	51:38
14.	Leslie Ryman	NSW Ind.	51:52
15.	Norman Brown	VIC	52:33
16.	Alan Lynch	QLD	53:16
17.	Laurence Hehir	VIC	53:17
18.	Noel Norris	VIC	53:17
19.	Ralph Field	VIC	54:44
20.	Kenneth Campbell	QLD	55:07
21.	James Rileigh	NSW	55:30
22.	James Short	VIC	55:39
23.	Anthony Warren	VIC	56:22
24.	Geoffrey Cawood	NSW	56:32
25.	Ronald Davies	VIC	56:33
26.	Irwin Saunders	VIC	57:21
27.	Jack Laracy	QLD	57:28
28.	James Morrison	VIC	57:32
29.	Alex Tarr	VIC	57:46
30.	Albert Atkins	VIC	60:19
31.	John Howard	NSW Ind.	63:13

Robinson Shield Junior 10,000m Walk

1.	Eugene Cichanowski	NSW	49:33
2.	Raymond Nixon	NSW	49:48
3.	Alan Hancock	VIC	49:50
4.	Edward Thomas	QLD	51:31
5.	Sydney Bray	QLD	51:38
6.	Norman Brown	VIC	52:33
7.	Alan Lynch	QLD	53:16
8.	Laurence Hehir	VIC	53:17
9.	James Rileigh	NSW	55:30
10.	James Morrison	VIC	57:32
11.	Alex Tarr	VIC	57:46
12.	Albert Atkins	VIC	60:19

Senior Teams	NSW	14	VIC	28	QLD	36	VIC2	58
Junior Teams	NSW	12	QLD	16	VIC	17	VIC2	33

1958 Australian 50km Championship
Centennial Park, Sydney, 6th September 1958

Ted Allsopp continued to dominate the local Australian landscape in 1958, winning the Victorian 50,000m Track Championship in Melbourne on 23rd August in a new Australian record of 4:22:41.8. An explanation follows.

The 1958 Victorian 50m road championship had been changed to a 50,000m track championship for the purposes of creating new track records. The set date was Saturday 23rd August and the venue was the Melbourne University track in inner Melbourne. Of the 9 starters, 3 were first time novices, but that did not stop 8 of the 9 from completing the event. **Ted Allsopp** established or broke records for 30,000m, 20 Miles, 30 Miles and 50,000m and was an easy winner. 19 year old **Noel Freeman** walked a wonderful debut 4:25:09.5 in taking second. Further down, new comers **Jim Gleeson** and **Irwin Saunders** both finished in just over 5 hours.

1958 Victorian 50km Championship, Melbourne University Track, 23rd August

1.	Ted Allsopp	VIC	4:22:41.8	Australian Record
2.	Noel Freeman	VIC	4:25:09.5	
3.	Cliff Barling	VIC	4:55:41.6	
4.	Harry Summers	VIC	5:01:05.7	
5.	Jim Gleeson	VIC	5:01:40.0	
6.	Irwin Saunders	VIC	5:04:46.7	

The 1958 Australian 50km Championship, which was held two weeks later in Sydney, saw another wonderful duel between **Ted Allsopp** and **Noel Freeman**, Ted winning out with 4:24:46.2, just over 1 minute outside his Australian road record and a little over 6 minutes ahead of Noel. Victoria easily won the Teams Race ahead of NSW, 6 pts to 14 pts.

The start of the 1958 Australian 50km in Sydney. Noel Freeman is second from left. Ted Allsopp is seventh from left. Interestingly, race numbers are not worn. The judges presumably knew the walkers well enough to know who they were targeting.

1958 Australian 50km Championship, Sydney, 6th September			
1.	Ted Allsopp	VIC	4:24:46.2
2.	Noel Freeman	VIC	4:31:15.2
3.	William Kirby	NSW	4:48:49.6
4.	Cliff Barling	VIC	4:58:32
5.	Leslie Ryman	NSW	5:00:43
6.	Harry Summers	VIC	5:03:47
7.	Jim Short	VIC	5:07:34
8.	Jim Gleeson	VIC	5:08:19
9.	Sydney Bray	QLD	5:28:11
10.	Leslie Woods	NSW	5:30:15
11.	John Ferguson	NSW	5:31:17

-	Ralph Field	VIC	DNF		
-	Kenneth Keogh	NSW	DNF		
-	Irwin Saunders	VIC	DNF		
-	Sydney Rudman	NSW	DNF		
-	Edward Edwards	NSW	DQ		
-	Gavan Breen	TAS	DQ		
Teams	1.	VIC	7 Pts	(1,2,4)	
	2.	NSW	14 Pts	(3,5,6)	

Three weeks later, on Saturday 27th September, Ted Allsopp won the Victorian 50km Championship with another excellent time of 4:26:14. 1958 had certainly been Allsopp's year.

Australian Track & Field Championships 1958-59
North Hobart Oval, Hobart, Tasmania, 28 February and 2 March 1959

After a record 7 wins in 9 years in the Australian T&F 2 Mile Track Walk Championship, Don Keane was an absentee from the 1958 titles. Work commitments made it increasingly difficult for him to train and and race, and he would eventually retire in 1960. But **Ted Allsopp** was not able to rest on his laurels, with 20 year old **Noel Freeman** stepping up to the mark and winning the first of what would be 6 track titles in the years from 1959 to 1968.

2 MILES WALK - Men - Saturday 28 February 1959			
1	Noel Freeman	VIC	14.13.9
2	Ted Allsopp	VIC	14.28.6
3	Frank Leonard	SA	14.38.2
4	Colin Walker	NSW	14.49.8
5	Harry Summers	VIC	15.04.0
6	Gavan Breen	TAS	15.09.4
7	Sid Bray	QLD	

Ted Allsopp and Noel Freeman fight out the 1959 Australian T&F Championship walk ahead of Harry Summers

1959 Alexander Cup 50km
New Farm Park to Lawton and Return, Brisbane, Saturday 9th May 1959

The 1959 Alexander Cup which was held in Brisbane, on a course from New Farm Park to Lawton and Return. Sadly, for the first time since this event was contested, VAWC did not have a representative team, so the race became a two way contest between teams frrom Queensland and NSW. For the record, NSW won the Teams event for the first time, being the only team to finish.

Overall, **Ron Crawford** won narrowly from **Jim Gleeson**, less than 1 minute separating them. With only 6 finishers, it was a tough race indeed, due to the demanding course and the hot humid conditions. After the heroics of recent 50km races, it was very much an anticlimax.

1959 Alexander Cup 50km, Brisbane, Saturday 5th Sept

1.	Ron Crawford	NSW	5:12:09
2.	James Gleeson	VIC	5:12:57
3.	William Kirby	NSW	5:25:10
4.	James Short	VIC	5:35:04
5.	Logan Irwin	NSW	5:44:14
6.	Kenneth Campbell	QLD	5:56:18
-	Sydney Rudman	QLD	DNF
-	John Ferguson	NSW	DNF
-	Enzio Franceschi	NSW	DNF
-	Leslie Ryman	NSW	DNF
-	Jack Hancock	NSW	DNF
-	David Melzer	QLD	DNF
-	Sydney Bray	QLD	DNF
-	Kerry Devine	QLD	DNF
-	Peter Waddell	NSW	DNF
-	Keith Jolly	QLD	DNF

Teams	1.	NSW	6 pts	(1,2,3)

By way of postscript, two subsequent races deserve special mention.

A special VRWC 50km Track Walk was held, in conjunction with VAWC 2 Hour Open and 1 Hour Junior Handicap races at the Melbourne University track in Melbourne on Saturday 22nd August 1959. With 13 starters, the race quickly developed into a duel between Noel Freeman and Ted Allsopp, all other opposition having retired except for Jim Short and Jim Gleeson. The following Australian Records were set

Australian Open 30,000m	Noel Freeman	2:30:54.4
Australian 2 Miles	Noel Freeman	2:42:23.4
Australian 30Miles	Ted Allsopp	4:11:10.6
Australian 50km	Ted Allsopp	4:20:23.8

VAWC 50km Track Walk, University Track, Melbourne, Saturday 22 August 1959

1.	Ted Allsopp	VIC	4:20:23.8 Australian Record
2.	Noel Freeman	VIC	4:28:29.4
3.	Jim Gleeson	VIC	4:53:30
4.	Jim Short	VIC	5:17:40

The Victorian 50km Championship was held 3 weeks later, on Saturday 26th September, on its usual Royal Showgrounds course to Rockbank and Return. Both Allsopp and Freeman were in attendance again and Ted chipped away at his own Australian 50km record with his winning time of 4:22:37.

1959 Victorian 50km Championship, Royal Showgrounds, Saturday 26 September

1.	Ted Allsopp	VIC	4:22:37 Australian Record
2.	Noel Freeman	VIC	4:30:06
3.	Jim Gleeson	VIC	4:51:17
4.	Jim Short	VIC	5:15:27
5.	Len Chadwick	VIC	5:21:04
6.	Ken Saunders	VIC	5:29:13

Allsopp and Freeman had dominated the Australian 50km scene throughout 1958 and 1959. The same could also be said for the shorter distance scene.

1959 Australian 10,000m Track Walk
E.S. Marks Field, Sydney, Saturday 10th October 1959

The 1959 Australian 10,000m Track Walk Championship was held at the E.S. Marks Field in Sydney on 10th October 1959 and conducted by the N.S.W.A.A.A..

With NSW Olympian **Ron Crawford** disqualified, it was a clean sweep for the strong Victorian team, with **Ted Allsopp** (47:07.8), **Noel Freeman** (47:58.8) and **Don Keane** (50:37.6) sweeping the medals. The teams championship saw a huge win to Victoria which filled the first 4 positions. The conditions were warm and the times were accordingly effected.

1959 Australian 10,000m Track Championship, Sydney, 10 Oct			
1.	Ted Allsopp	VIC	47:07.8
2.	Noel Freeman	VIC	47:58.8
3.	Don Keane	VIC	50:37.6
4.	Noel Norris	VIC	51:02
5.	William Kirby	NSW	51:40
6.	Alan Hancock	VIC	52:06
7.	Eugene Chicanowski	NSW	53:01
8.	Logan Irwin	NSW	53:29
9.	James Gleeson	VIC	53:33
10.	Keith Jolly	QLD	53:45
11.	Edward Edwards	NSDW	53:55
12.	Lawrence Hehir	VIC	54:03
-	Ron Crawford	NSW	DQ
-	Enzio Franchesci	NSW	DQ
Teams:	VIC	10	NSW 26

What a year it had been for Allsopp and Freeman. Seemingly, nothing was going to stand in their way in terms of 1960 Olympic selection.

Australian Track & Field Championships 1959-60
Leederville Oval, Perth, Western Australia, 5 & 7 March 1960

The granting of the 1960 Australian T&F Championships to Perth was a controversial one, with many athletes and commentators complaining about the cost of airfares and accommodation. Given that this was the main Olympic qualifying opportunity for most contenders, it did not seem fair. Even the Australian Selectors got into the act, complaining that they could not afford to make the trip. The State Manager of Shell Australia eventually came to the party, covering all costs for the selectors. No such magnaminity was on display for the athletes!

For the walkers, a 2 Miles Track Walk had no implications with regard to Olympic selection, so only a small group bothered to make the trip. Alas, I can't tell you the exact number as the published meet results only indicate the first 3. **Noel Freeman** retained his title with 14:03.2, ahead of **Don Keane** and **Harry Summers** – an all Victoria trifecta.

2 MILES WALK - Men - Saturday 5 March 1960			
1	Noel Freeman	VIC	14.03.2
2	Don Keane	VIC	14.18.2
3	Harry Summers	VIC	15.00.0

1960 Olympic 20km Trial
Centennial Park, Sydney, Saturday 7th May 1960

1960 was an Olympic year and the 20km and 50km trials were expected to bring out the best walkers.

First to the Olympic 20 km trial which was held on 7th May 1960 in Centennial Park in Sydney. **Noel Freeman** stormed through the first 10 km in 41:39 before slowing to win in 1:32:12.4. **Ted Allsopp** chased him early but paid the penalty and faded to third behind **Ron Crawford** of NSW. Ron's time of 1:34:22 gained him Olympic selection. Ted's time of 1:34:33 was not deemed to be adequate for selection. Given his stellar form in the years leading up to this, the decision was astonishingly disappointing.

Gavan Breen, back in 7th place, had moved from Tasmania to Victoria, and he would represent that State for the remainer of his career. He would to on to a completely different field after his time as a walker, eventually being honoured in 2016 with an A.M. for "distinguished service to the Indigenous community through the preservation of languages, to the development of orthographies, and to education". He now lives in Alice Springs, continuing his work with Aboriginal languages.

Don Keane failed to finish, thus ending his efforts for a third Olympics. He retired after this race and soon moved back to his native Perth where he lived for the rest of his life.

1960 Austrlian 20km Olympic Trial, Sydney, Saturday 7th May			
1.	Noel Freeman	VIC	1:32:12.4
2.	Ron Crawford	NSW	1:34:22
3.	Ted Allsopp	VIC	1:34:33
4.	Norman Bead	NZL	1:41:03
5.	Logan Irwin	NSW	1:51:05
6.	Jim Gleeson	VIC	1:42:29
7.	Gavan Breen	VIC	1:44:46
8.	William Kirby	NSW	1:49:26
9.	Peter Waddell	SW	1:49:26
10.	John Smyth	VIC	1:51:51
-	Harry Summers	VIC	DNF
-	Don Keane	VIC	DNF
-	Edward Edwards	NSW	DQ

1960 Australian 50km Championship and Olympic Trial
Mentone, Melbourne, Saturday 5th June 1960

The Olympic 50 km trial was held on 5th June 1960 in Mentone (Melbourne), as part of the 1960 Australian 50km Championship. **Ted Allsopp, Ron Crawford** and **Noel Freeman** shadowed each other early after a slow start. When Freeman applied the pressure at the 20 km mark, neither Crawford nor Allsopp could respond, with Allsopp eventually retiring at the 32 km mark. Crawford held on to finish second while Logan Irwin came through for third. **Gavan Breen** and **Jim Gleeson** also broke the 5 hour mark.

1960 Australian 50km Championship, Melbourne, Sat 5th June			
1.	Noel Freeman	VIC	4:32:28
2.	Ron Crawford	NSW	4:38:51
3.	Logan Irwin	NSW	4:47:58
4.	Gavan Breen	VIC	4:54:41
5.	Jim Gleeson	VIC	4:58:14
6.	Alan Hancock	VIC	5:04:20
7.	Peter Waddell	NSW	5:13:46
8.	Kenneth Saunders	VIC	5:22:22
9.	Leslie Ryman	NSW	5:34:21
10.	John Ferguson	NSW	5:35:22
11.	John Smyth	VIC	6:02:44
-	Enzio Franceschi	NSW	DNF
-	Ted Allsopp	VIC	DNF
-	Sydney Bray	QLD	DNF
-	Kenneth Cambell	QLD	DNF
Teams	1. VIC	10 Pts	(1,4,5)
2. NSW	11 Pts	(2,3,6)	

For the record, both Noel Freeman and Ron Crawford for selected for the Olympic 20km/50km double, with Ted Allsopp missing out on both events. This was seen as a traversty of justice but nothing could be done – the selectors' decision was final.

The thought of another 4 years must have been a daunting one for Allsopp who was now in his mid thirties. To make matters worse, youngsters Bob Gardiner, Frank Clark and Peter McCullagh would soon join Noel Freemen as additional rivals and push the standard even higher.

1960 Glover Shield 10,000m Track Walk
Melbourne University Oval, Melbourne, Saturday 18th June 1960

Victoria was too strong on home turf in 1960, easily winning both the Glover Shield and the Robinson Shield, the competition being held only two weeks after the 50km trial. Once again, **Noel Freeman** and **Ted Allsopp** featured in the medals, taking first and third. The only big gun missing was Ron Crawford who obviously felt he had raced enough at this stage. He would now wait for the Olympics.

Two New Zealanders were in action – 1956 50km gold medallist **Norm Read,** along with **Lindsay Fortune**. Read walked superbly, beating Allsopp to finish second to Noel Freeman whose winning time of 45:21.6 was impressive.

Some new names would become well known in succeeding years – **Frank Clark, Jim Henderson, Peter McCullagh** and **Ron Miller.**

1960 Glover Shield Open Men 10,000m Walk, Melbourne		
1. Noel Freeman	VIC	45:21.6
2. Norman Read	NZL	46:55
3. Ted Allsopp	VIC	47:35
4. William Kirby	NSW	48:23
5. Gavan Breen	VIC	49:05
6. James Henderson	VIC	49:36
7. Lindsay Fortune	NZL	49:57
8. Peter McCullagh	VIC	50:05
9. Alan Hancock	VIC	50:09
10. James Gleeson	VIC	50:10
11. Francis Clark	NSW	50:12
12. Ian Taylor	VIC	51:24
13. Noel Norris	VIC	53:05
14. John Smyth	VIC	53:11
15. Peter Tierney	VIC	53:29
16. James Rileigh	NSW	54:21
17. Irwin Saunders	VIC	55:00
18. Brian Brennan	NSW	55:26
19. James Short	VIC	55:48
- Adrian Jones	VIC	DQ
- Ronald Miller	VIC	DQ
- Kenneth Saunders	VIC	DQ

Robinson Shield Junior Men 10,000m Walk		
1. James Henderson	VIC	49:36
2. Peter McCullagh	VIC	50:05
3. Alan Hancock	VIC	50:09
4. Francis Clark	NSW	50:12
5. Ian Taylor	VIC	51:24
6. Noel Norris	VIC	53:05
7. Peter Tierney	VIC	53:29
8. Brian Brennan	NSW	55:26

SeniorTeams	VIC	12	VIC2	31	NSW	42
Junior Teams	VIC	6				

The Olympics were a mixed bag for Freeman and Crawford. They did brilliantly in the 20km, Noel taking the silver medal (1:34:16.2) and Ron finishing 11th (1:39:16.2) but the story in the 50km was a far different one as, controversially, they were both disqualified before the 2 km mark while leading. Given Noel's clean judging sheet in the 20km event, his disqualification in the 50 km remains a discussion point. In the bitter aftermath (he felt he could have won the 50 km), the future direction of his career was perhaps set to be one dogged by controversy.

Ted Allsopp bounced back in early October with a win in the Victorian 50km Championship, his time of 4:36:14.0 a good one, but the timing had been wrong!