

Athlete of the Year Nominees

Winners Hilighted

BANTAM GIRLS:

Chiara Price - (was nominated in the Sprints) – Chiara was ranked 4th in the AO Indoors 150m, and 6th in the 60m. In the Sprint Medley Relay, she was on the first place Midget Girls Team. At the AO Outdoors she was 4th in the 80m and 4th in the 150m

Magda Seider Ramos (Jumps) Magda jumped 8.88m in the Triple Jump at AO's

BANTAM BOYS:

Casper Harris - In his first year with the program young Casper has shown range from the short sprints to cross country. Casper is definitely one to watch in the years to come.

MIDGET GIRLS:

Jesse Strong (Sprints) - Jesse was 15th in the AO Rankings for the Outdoors 80H. He was nominated to the district D team. He was 9th in the Indoors 60H.

Jocelyn Chau (MD) - It was a truly remarkable year for Jocelyn – she set PBs of 2:09.22 for 800m , 4:25.61 for 1500m and 9:40.07 for the 3000m. Her 1500m time set a new AO outdoor U16 record and her indoor time of 2:09.79 was also a new AO age group record. Jocelyn was 1st in both 800 and 1500 at OFSAA and 1st at AOs (both indoors and outdoors) in the 800m and 1200m.

Erica MacCallum (jumps) Erica was 11th at OFSAA n the LJ with a mark of 4.86m

Avery Foote (Jumps)- Avery was 8th at OFSAA in the LJ with a 4.91m jump and 22nd in the HJ in 1.35m

MIDGET BOYS:

Ben Fox (MD) has personal bests of 4:33.29 for 1500 and 2:12.46 for 800m
Recently Ben had a fantastic race at his first OFSAA Cross Country Championships placing 9th overall and leading the St Mikes boys to a 1st place team finish.

Marcel Aubrey - Marcel has personal bests of 4:31.9 for 1500m and 2:08.86 for 800m. He completed a very strong cross country season placing 23rd at OFSAA and 17th at the AO Championships.

Jake Leung (Sprints)- Jake was AO ranked in 10th in the 200m and 6th in the 300m Indoors, and 13th in the 200m and 8th in the 300m Outdoors. He was 15^{3h} in the 200m and 11th in the 300m at the Youth Nationals.

YOUTH GIRLS:

Alexandria Ferdinand (jumps)- This past season was a very successful for Alexandria proving that a shift in your training focus and commitment can make a big difference. Alex improved her PB to jump 1.68 on several occasions, including OFSAA where she was Senior Girls Champion. After finishing 1st at Legion provincials she went on to earn a bronze medal and Youth Canadian Championships and finished the year ranked 6th the Canadian rankings.

Stephanie Musing - Stephanie was on the Sprint Medley Relay team that placed 2nd at the AO Championships. She was 3rd in the 100mH and 7th in the 400mH at the Metros.

Jazz Shukla (MD)- After a year hiatus, Jazz returned to UTTC and really took her running to the next level. As the year progressed Jazz just kept getting stronger. She was an OFSAA finalist in the 800m (4th) and 1500m. She followed that up by winning the 800 at the AO Youth Championship and ended the summer with an outstanding personal best of 2:10.09

YOUTH BOYS:

JR Speed- JR was 2nd in the 60mH at the AO Indoors and he was on the 2nd place 4X200m Relay team and 3rd in the 4X400m Relay. He was 8th in the 110mH and 5th in the 400mH, and on the 3rd place 4X100m Relay team at the AO Outdoors. He was 8th in the 400mH and 5th in the 110mH at the Youth Nationals and on the 1st place team in the 4X100m Relay at the AO Juniors.

Sesan Akerewusi – Sesan was 5th in the 60m and on the 2nd place 4X200m Relay and 3rd in the 4X400m at the AO Indoors. At the Outdoors, he was 4th in the 100m, 6th in the 200m, and on the 3rd place 4X100m Relay team. At the AO Juniors Outdoors he was on the first place 4x100m Relay and made the Semi's in the 100m. He was 6th in the 100m at the Youth Nationals.

Jerome Jude – Indoors Jerome won the youth boys 1500m at the AO Championships. Outdoors Jerome was the silver medallist at the OFSAA Track and Field Championships and the AO Championships in the 800m running a personal best time of 1:52.12 (3rd ranked youth in Canada) Jerome also ran a 1500pb of 3:55.84. Jerome really showed his strength and determination at OFSAA when he split 48.9 for 400m in his 6th race of the meet.

Clayton Jeffrey - Clayton set the Canadian Youth Indoor Pentathlon Record with a score of 3455. He was the 2nd ranked Youth Decathlete in Canada with a score of 6214. Had individual marks of 6.94 in Long Jump, 14.23 in the 110M Hurdles and 54.44 in the 400M Hurdles, all of which medaled at OFSAA in the Senior Boys Division.

Jackson West – Jackson won the HJ at the AO's Youth meet in 1.87m. At OFSAA he jumped 1.75m for 11th, and 1.85m for 7th at AO's Junior. He was undefeated outdoors until OFSAA.

John Reston - John has been throwing for 4 years and with UTTC since he was 13. This past year he fought through injury to compete during the season. He threw the weight over 18m indoors.

JUNIOR GIRLS:

Teah Domazet - Teah placed 4th in the 400mH at the Metros and 1st in the 400mH at the TCDSB

Kerry-Ann James – Kerry-Ann started training with UTTC just after OFSAA this past year and immediately started to show drastic improvements. After finishing 4th in long jump and 1st in triple jump at the Athletics Ontario Provincial Championships Kerry-Ann went on to finish 11th in long jump at National Championships. On her last attempt for triple jump at National Championships Kerry-Ann flew to a personal best jump of 12.09m gaining her the National title and 1st place national ranking for 2015. The future is very bright for this immensely talented athlete.

Rachel Glynn – Rachel joined the club in the fall of 2014 bringing with her an 800m personal best of 2:12.99. She worked very hard and persevered through some tough months but once she adapted to the new training she really flourished. She was a finalist at OFSAA and Jr Nationals in the 800m and finished the season as one of the top juniors in the country running 2:08.3.

Kayla Greenburg - Kayla is a long standing JD member with our program and first year Varsity athlete. Had the best year ever, tying her high jump PB of 1.65 four times. She had a break out year for approach consistency.

JUNIOR BOYS:

Kadre Gray – Kadre won the Silver medal in High Jump in 2.10m at OFSAA.

Justyn Knight - While still a Junior, Justyn has developed into one of Canada's top MD athletes. Justyn set a new Can Jr 5k record in 13:34.86 (which was formerly set by Bruce Kidd in 1962). Justyn also ran a stellar time of 3:39.66 for 1500m.

Ezana Debalbew – Ezana threw a 14.97m PB at OUAs and was 7th in the Weight Throw. He had a 48.58m PB at Nationals and won the Discus. He represented Canada at the Pan Am Jr Championships in Edmonton this summer, with a throw of 47.58 placing 7th.

SENIOR WOMEN:

Sarah Wells – Sarah has been a part of the U of T track club for over a decade. Among her time here she has become a 4x National Champion, an Olympic semi finalist and most recently a Pan Am silver 400mH and 4x400m relay bronze medalist. Sarah has hopes of competing in her second Olympic Games this upcoming summer where she aspires to be in the Olympic final

Rachel Jewett – Rachel won bronze in the 600m at CIS, and gold in the 4x400m, and 4x800m Relays

Rachel Hannah – Rachel set the UTTC records in the 10,000m (32:36), and marathon (2:33.30). She was a Bronze medalist at Pan Am Games in the marathon and a silver medalist in the Pan Am Cross country. She was the Canadian XC champion.

Sasha Gollish – Sasha was the Bronze medalist at Pan Am Games in the 1500m. She won Silver at the Canadian Championships in the 1500m, and broke the UTTC record in the 800m in 2:02.90, and the 1500m in 4:07.08. She was CIS Athlete of the year, medalling in 5 events – gold in the 4x800m, 1000m, 3000m, and silver in 600m, and 1500m.

Gabriela Stafford – From 2014-2015 Gabriela went from being one of Canada's top junior athletes to one of country's top senior athletes lowering her 1500m PB by 10 seconds to 4:07.44. Indoors Gabriela set Fieldhouse records at Cornell in the 3k and at the Armory in New York City in the 1k and in both instances was awarded female athlete of the meet honours. At the OUA Championships Gabriela placed 1st in the 1k and 2nd in the 1500 and at CIS she anchored the gold medal, record setting 4x800m relay, while also capturing the silver medal in the 1k and Bronze in 1500m. G's season finished on the ultimate high by winning a Silver medal in the 1500m, while representing her country at FISU (World University Games) in South Korea.

Maddie Buttinger – Maddie was the 2015 National Heptathlon Champion and Athletics Ontario Senior Women's combined events Athlete of the year. Maddie had an outstanding competitive year on both sides of the Atlantic. Maddie also demonstrated her versatility by trying out as a Bob Sledder. She made the development squad.

Ekua Cudjo - Ekua joined UTTC at the age of 12 as a sprint hurdler. She switched from the track to the field in 2013, picking up the shot put and weight throw for indoor events and later in the year started hammer throw. She had the most success in her throwing career in 2015 - setting a new school record in weight throw in 17.62m. That ranked 2nd in the CIS. At the OUA and CIS championships, she placed 2nd and 4th respectively. In the outdoor season, I finished her season with a big PB of 51.91 which earned the silver at the AO Championships.

Julia Stille - Julia competing in long and triple jump. During the indoor season she was the OUA and CIS silver medalist in triple jump, and OUA bronze medalist in long jump. Outdoors, she placed 3rd at the Ontario championships and 4th at Nationals.

SENIOR MEN:

Gregory MacNeil – Gregory had the second fastest 400 hurdles time in Canada last year with 50.87. He competed for Canada at the Pan Am games. He was the AO Champion in the 400 hurdles. Gregory was the CIS Indoor 60M Hurdles Champion with a time of 7.85

Adam Karakolis – Adam had a PB in the Shot at 16.02m, the Weight in 16.19m, and the Discus in 51.12m. He graduated from U of T with a BSC degree in psychology earning a 3.92 GPA. He is currently in Schulich school of Law at Dalhousie.

Jason Wurster - Jason hit the jack pot in 2015, got married, new house, new baby and competed for Canada at the Pan Am games. He was 6th.

Sacha Smart – Sacha had another outstanding year in 2015 running PBs of 2:21.35 for the 1k and 3:44.60 for 1500m. At the OUA Championships Sacha showed his range and strength placing 2nd in both the 600 and 1k, 4th in the 1500 while also running on the gold medal winning , OUA record setting 4x400m relay team. Sacha went on to place 2nd in the men's 800m at the 2015 Canadian Senior National Championships.

Masters Women:

Kate Cochrane-Brink - Kate broke the CAN Outdoor record three times this year in the 400mH. She was ranked World Outdoor 400mH (#9); CAN Indoors 200m (#4), 800m (#3), 1500m (#3); CAN Outdoors 400m (#2), 400mH (#1);

She was the top W45 400m hurdler in the country and top 10 in the world, she is also one of the country's best 400m runners. During the Ontario Indoors, for club points, she demonstrated her versatility by winning races from 60m to 1500m.

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Nancy Catton - Nancy set ONT Outdoor records in 200m and 400m and Club Indoor records in 60m, 200m, and 400m. She was ranked - World Indoors 400m (#12) 800m (#11) ; CAN Indoors 200m (#3), 400m (#1), 800m (#1); CAN Outdoors 200m (#1), 400m (#1), 800m (#2)

Nancy is the best 200m and 400m in her age group in the country and the 2nd best 800m runner. Her times have been steadily improving since she joined the Club and she is an all-round superb runner. Lyon was her 1st international competition as a Master and she performed at a very high level in both the 400 and 800m

Annie Bunting - Annie set ONT Outdoor records in 1500m (twice) and 800m and the ONT Indoor record for 800m. Club Outdoor records in 400m, 800m, 1500m; Club Indoor records 400m, 800m, 1500m, mile, 5000m; She was ranked - World Indoors 400m (#6), 800m (#1), 1500m (#4), Mile (#2); World Outdoor 800m (#3), 1500m (#5); CAN Indoors 400m (#1), 800m (#1), 1500m (#1), 5000m (#1); CAN Outdoors 400m (#1), 800m (#1), 1500m (#1);

Annie was the top W50 middle distance runner in the country (#2 at national Outdoor in 8 & 15 but ran strong races at 5 distances Indoors (400, 800, 1500, Mile, 5000m) and Outdoors (400m, 800m, 1500m) with improved performances throughout the year culminating with Silver & Bronze in Lyon

Masters Men:

Chris Lemassif - Chris' move to a shorter distance this year was very successful, as he ran faster times than he had over the last 5 years, and broke our Club records in the 50m, 60m and 200m.

After winning the 60 and 200 at both the Ontario and the Canadian indoor championships, he competed at the European Masters Indoor Championships as an "out of competition guest". There he ran the 3rd fastest time over 60 and the 4th fastest over 200m.

This summer, he was a semi-finalist over 100 and 200 at the world masters championships in Lyon. In the CAN rankings, this year Chris is #4 over 60, #3 over 100m and #2 over 200m (#2). He is also ranked 16th in the world over 200m.

Keijo Taivassalo - Keijo set Club Indoor M75 records in the 800m, 1500m, 3000m and Club Outdoor records in the 800m, 1500m, 5000m, 10000m.

He was ranked - World Indoors 800m (#12), 1500m (#5), 3000m (#6); World Outdoor 800m (#17), 1500m (#15), 5000m (#8), 10000m (#4) Marathon (#3); CAN Indoors 800m (#1), 1500m (#1), 3000m (#1); CAN Outdoors 800m (#2), 1500m (#2), 5000m (#2), 10000m (#1).

Clearly the top M75 distance runner in the country he was undefeated in races in Canada from 800m to 10000m. He also won his M75 age group in the Boston Marathon, won a Bronze in the marathon in Lyon, and came 5th in both the 5000 and 10000m in Lyon.

Peter Zowkewych - Peter had the highest age graded point totals in Ontario in both indoor and outdoor pentathlon. He broke the Ontario Record in the Outdoor High Jump. Peter broke 11 UTTC Club Records - Indoors in the Triple Jump, Long Jump, Shotput and Pentathlon. Outdoors in the 200, High Jump, Long Jump, Shotput, Discus, Javelin, Pentathlon. He won gold at the USATF Southeast Regional

Championships. Peter was ranked Canadian #1 in the Indoor and Outdoor High Jump, Canadian #2 in the Indoor Pentathlon and #1 in the Outdoor Pentathlon, Canadian #3 in the Indoor and Outdoor Shotput and World #12 in the Indoor Pentathlon and World #17 in the Outdoor Pentathlon.