

ATHLETICS SOUTHLAND

ILT Foundation grant \$10,880 18 June 2009

Following on from a grant of \$54,500 on 31 July 2008 for operational costs and \$15,300 for athletes representing New Zealand 2008/2009.

ILT FOUNDATION JUMPS AT CHANCE TO ASSIST ATHLETICS SOUTHLAND

Recent success on the national high-jumping stage meant Athletics Southland was in dire need of new equipment to progress the sport further.

Now the ILT Foundation has come to the rescue in the form of a \$10,880 grant.

Southland won four of the 17 high jump medals at the National Track and Field championships in Wellington in March and to build on that success it was necessary to buy the new equipment.

Athletics Southland manager Lance Smith said the money received from the ILT Foundation will allow talented youth progressing through the ranks, the opportunity to develop even further.

“The need is mats suitable for national (or international) competition that allows our jumpers to practise with confidence and more importantly, allows Southland to host national or South Island championship meetings with high jump facilities equal to equipment used by visiting athletes,” Smith said.

“Effective high jumping requires suitable equipment and our high jump mats were no longer suitable – they were showing very serious signs of wear.”

ILT Foundation chairman Alan Dennis said with the Interprovincial (12 and 13-year-old athletics competition) being hosted in Invercargill next year it was paramount the equipment was bought.

“But it won’t just be the top athletes who get the opportunity to use this equipment. All primary and secondary school pupils who compete at Surrey Park will get to use it too - allowing all Invercargill children the use of the best possible athletic resources.”