

# Cross Country

by Roy Yeeles

An Australian Federal Police cross country team put in a creditable performance at the Police Cross Country Championships run in Hobart on September 20, 1980

The team, consisting of Steve Apps, Nigel Hadgkiss, Graeme Sindel and Ron Garbutt, ran strongly to finish in third place behind New South Wales and Queensland.

The course was a testing 10 000 metres over the rolling hills near the Tasmanian Police academy at Rokeby. The pre-race favourites were the defending champions, NSW, with the other teams somewhat unknown quantities.

Although the failure of South Australia and Victoria to enter teams this year reduced the field, a total of 21 runners answered the starting gun on a cool but fine day.

The early stages were closely contested with Nigel Hadgkiss running well in the leading bunch. However NSW began to show their power in the hills and Greg McInerney drew away to win in 34m.20s followed by team mate Bob Emmerly in 34m.20s. Third was Bill Hunter, of Queensland, in 35m.15s.

Behind them Nigel was battling it out with the two other NSW runners and eventually split them by finishing in a good time of 36 min and earning 5th place overall.

Meanwhile Graeme Sindel and Steve Apps were having their own private duel in the hills and long striding Steve finally edged in front to finish 9th in 38.18 with Graeme 10th in 38.25

Ron Garbutt had to overcome illness as well as the course and ran a courageous 41.13 to finish 13th, Roy Yeeles, running as an individual entrant, was 12th to finish in 39.24.

The weekend was extremely well organised by the host State. The visitors stayed in the modern Police Academy, various activities were laid on and even a social run in freezing rain on Sunday couldn't dampen the good humoured enthusiasm of all taking part.

AFP have provisionally been awarded the 1981 Championships with Canberra the venue. With that in mind and to cater for members interested in running it is proposed that an AFP Distance Running Club be formed.

*Team members, left to right: Nigel Hadgkiss, Ron Garbutt, Graeme Sindell, Steve Apps.  
Kneeling: Roy Yeeles*



## RUNNERS-UP IN SYDNEY NETBALL COMP.

A.F.P. members from Eastern Division have been excelling in their chosen sports recently. The Ladies Netball Team finished 'runners-up' in the Grand Final of the St. George District Netball Association competition held recently. Members of the winning team are (l-r) Back row: Marianne Varga, Robyn Hayes, Lindy Chandler, Toni O'Bryan; front: Tina Donnelly, Kerry Davis and Marie Hopkins.

