

"Since commencing with your squads I have seen a vast improvement in Jordan's sporting achievements. He has come to really value you as a coach and friend and also the great communication you have with him and me as a parent is a great asset. The continued support you show and the way you handle yourself with Jordan and now with Reece I am very happy with and also the fact that the kids look forward to coming to training and seeing you. As you know they like to ring with their good results always saying "Can I ring Tony".

It's always good to see a great relationship between a coach like you and his athletes. You also provide very good advice on the good and bad situations of their efforts and also to me.

So on that note we thank you and with your continued support we will look forward to bringing you many more great results.

The boys put in a lot of effort both at training and events, but we never forget who works with them behind the scenes and dedicates his time and effort in helping them to achieve and have fun along the way – Tony".

"Tony took on my son's training after knowing him for a considerable amount of time prior to his commencement in his squads. Since then Michael has finished an extremely close 5th in the National School Boys Athletics in multi-event and has achieved many PBs and Little Athletics club records and two State silvers in Little Athletics, as well as a final berth in the beach sprint for Qld Lifesavers. My younger son, Lachlan, is now also training with Tony and has achieved many successes in distance events even at his young age.

Tony treats the children with individual development techniques whilst still training them in a group environment, which is important to young children. Tony also not only looks for their immediate improvement but their long term development. I believe that when dealing with young children this is an important aspect that Tony has incorporated into his squads. Tony has also freely given of his own time to come and support both of my children in their endeavours and if he can not be there, both boys are always keen to ring and let Tony know of their achievements, whether they be good or bad.

I have happily recommended Tony to several of my associates as well as children that Michael and Lachlan compete with and against and would be only too happy to further express any references towards the dedication of this coach".

"Our son has run with Tony Baker for over two years now. We find he is encouraged in a non-pressured way to develop & feel more confident about his running. The squad is made to seem like fun instead of the hard work that it actually is. Conor has never said he doesn't want to go to training, so we think that says it all!"

"It is a pleasure to write in support of Tony Baker's coaching talents. Tony has taught my son many things – including how to train & how to race. My child looks forward to the training sessions, and enjoys the friendly but focused atmosphere of the squad. He always comes away feeling special & challenged. Tony's squad has given him much confidence and eagerness to progress his career on the track."

"We always read your newsletter out of interest even though Harry & James have been unable to come to training with your squad because of their school commitments so far this year. I think that it is incredible that you not only ALWAYS acknowledge their achievements, this month you actually included their photo in the newsletter! You are so generous with your time and advice with regard their sport (even though it is always over the phone at present), as well as being incredibly supportive of them on a personal level. They feel that you are not only their coach but also their friend – as do I. Thank you SO much for everything that you have done for Harry & James –whether it be as their coach in cross-country, athletics or rugby, acting as their masseur or as their therapist, or simply being their friend. I have and will continue to recommend you as a coach for other children.

I think that it is very important that your squad athletes and their parents really appreciate that your interest and commitment to them goes way beyond whether or not the athlete is able to make your training sessions and pay you."

We have been extremely happy with the coaching and support provided by Tony to his Flying Eagles squad. Tony is obviously an extremely knowledgeable coach who takes a keen interest in all of his squad, both from athletics and a personal development point of view. I have also been impressed with the patient, polite, and positive manner he communicates with all his athletes and how he encourages the older athletes to mentor the new group members. I would happily endorse him to any prospective athletes.

I guess the ultimate testament is that Jimmy never wants to miss a training session, no matter what.

My eldest daughter developed an interest in cross-country running and triathlons since beginning high school in 2004. Initially focusing on triathlons, she showed steady improvement in cross-country running for school without any formal running coaching.

When she finished a very respectable second in the Met-West regional cross-country trials in June 2008, I realized that she was showing some potential. Whilst her triathlon training no doubt contributed to her success, it was obvious a specialist running coach was needed.

When I asked the parent of another junior athlete for advice regarding a coach, I was wholeheartedly recommended Tony Baker.

When I first met Tony I was very impressed with his calm professional manner and the instant rapport he developed with my daughter.

I have been very impressed with Tony's genuine interest in Cassie's performance. He will often phone her after an event to check on her results and always with words of encouragement and praise. This bond between coach and athlete is so important, and Cassie really responds to his enthusiasm and obvious love of coaching.

My daughter has been training with Tony for 9 months now. She enjoys every training session. I have also seen a significant improvement in her running under the guidance and coaching of Tony.

In addition, Tony is happy to accommodate Cassie's other training commitments and has been very conscious of the needs of her triathlon coach.

I cannot recommend Tony Baker highly enough to anyone in need of athletics coaching.