Little Athletics NSW NEWSLETTER - August 2011

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE



Business Development Advisory Committee

Expressions of Interest are called for the Business Development Advisory Committee for the next 2 years. Click here to download a copy of the flyer and committee guidelines. Expressions of Interest close on Wednesday, September 21, 2011 at the Association Office.

Risk Management Advisory Committee

Expressions of Interest are called for the Risk Management Advisory Committee for the next 2 years. Click here to download a copy of the flyer and committee guidelines. Expressions of Interest close on Wednesday, September 21, 2011 at the Association Office.

Registrations for the 2011/2012 season

Centres should now be in promotion mode for the coming season. Promotional material for registrations details need to be forwarded to previous athletes and schools.

Athlete Assistance Program

Via the Athlete Assistance Program we can provide a discount or waive the registration fees for some athletes each year. It is hoped that by offering the Athlete Assistance Program, the LANSW can help to overcome the financial obstacles that prevent some young people from participating in our sport in NSW. Any persons applying for financial support under the Athlete Assistance Program need to make a clear statement indicating the reasons for their application, and be able to verify the claim of financial hardship. They must possess a Centrelink concession card. The program can provide up to a maximum of \$200 per athlete for registration fees and/ or Centre uniform and/or running shoes. Applications are assessed on a case by case basis, based upon the demonstrated need for funding assistance and the funding assistance sought. For details and an application form, click here.

Online Registrations

All Centres are reminded that they MUST offer members the opportunity of registering and paying online for this season. This simply means that individuals will have the ability to use this means of registration if they so choose. A reminder that registrations made online with a credit card payment are not be included on the Registration Receipt form; these registrations are reported directly to the Association from IMG e-Commerce. The online registration system is now active on the LANSW website and an email has been sent to all existing members.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Association Constitution and Regulations

After the recent AGM, the Constitution and Regulations require some further refinement and the intention is to directly involve the wider membership in that process. Notwithstanding the rejection of the Constitution and by default the Regulations, the Board retains its resolve to produce a contemporary constitution and regulations for the Association to meet 21st century challenges.

We have agreed we will not rush this task and will instead work through it with our membership with the intention of bringing back an amended constitution and regulation package for consideration at next year's AGM. For a whole variety of reasons, not the least the protection of future government funding, we are obligated to pursue this task and get a new Association Constitution and Regulations endorsed at next year's AGM.

Centre Assurance Scheme Roll-out

Thanks to the successful trial this past season, we will be rolling out to all Centres the Centre Self Assurance Scheme (to be known as "Tracking our Progress.")

Apart from feedback to the Association about how individual Centres are progressing annually, this scheme will provide opportunities for Centres to hear about successful strategies employed by other Centres to create pools of qualified officials or coaches, improve their retention of athletes, meet their administrative obligations etc. The cross sharing of better practice ideas is one of the key objectives of the widespread introduction of the Centre Self Assurance Scheme.

The trial undertaken by 5 Centres this past season has highlighted some "fine tuning" of the survey tool, which we intend discussing with each of the pilot Centres before finalising the tool for widespread use later this current season. But we know from the trial, that the tool is not overly complex to use, and over time will prove beneficial to both individual Centres completing it and the Association receiving it, in terms of widespread assurance that we are continually striving for better outcomes for our LA membership, our Centres and the Association in all our key functional areas.

The information this project will start providing from year one, will help us all better understand the successful drivers of growth, membership capture and retention, officials development and retention, succession planning, skills development and so on.

The planning is for a once per year survey at the end of the season, so the completion of the survey is both reflective as well as strategically linked to other end of year tasks such as Centre annual reporting obligations etc.

A revised constitution & regulations package will be put forward for consideration at the 2012 AGM.

CHAMPIONSHIPS & OFFICIALS



Competition & Rule Changes

Following the Annual Conference held in Orange last month, the following changes to rules/specifications are confirmed: -

Spikes

U13-U17 athletes can now wear spike shoes in all track events (except walks), as well as Long Jump, Triple Jump, High Jump and Javelin.

High Jump

At Association Championships the bar will be raised by 5cm increments for the first three rounds of competition. After the completion of the first three rounds the bar will be raised by 5cm until there are 6 or fewer competitors remaining, and increments of 2cm thereafter until only 1 competitor remains.

State Cross Country and Road Walks

Athletes will no longer be allowed to go up one age group to form a team. They can only compete in their own age group for these two events.

State Relays

Athletes in the U12 to U17 age groups may compete in both Track and Field relays on the understanding that there is no clash management provided. It will be the responsibility of the athletes to move between events via the Marshalling area.

Specification changes

Under 14 girls Javelin from 600gm to 400gms Under 15 girls Javelin from 600gm to 500gms Under 17 girls Javelin from 600gm to 500gms Under 17 girls Shot from 4kg to 3kg

State Multi Event

Clarification from the July newsletter regarding the events that will now be contested by the U17 age group at the State Multi-Event Championships - the U17 boys and girls will now have 7 events (removing discus and adding high jump & javelin).

- Boys 200m, 110m Hurdles, 800m, long jump, shot put, high jump, javelin
- Girls 200m, 100m Hurdles, 800m, long jump, shot put, high jump, javelin

Rules of Competition

These will now be updated to reflect the above Discussion Items and will be on the website soon.

Directors Visits to Zone Championships

Directors will be visiting the following Zone Championships in the upcoming season: -

Central Coast Hunter Inner City Mid South Coast North East Metropolitan North West Metropolitan Outer West Metropolitan Port Hunter South West Metropolitan Western Plains Western Riverina Michael Gray Trevor Hinwood Heather Mitchell Heather Mitchell Neil Sandall Trevor Hinwood Peter Barnes Neil Sandall (TBC) Heather Mitchell Michael Gray Dereck Fineberg

The updated Rules of Competition will be available on the Association website in mid August.



The Region Technical Advisors for 2011/12 will be: -

Region 1 – Trevor Hinwood

- Region 2 Michael Gray (Saturday) & Dereck Fineberg (Sunday)
- Region 3 Peter Barnes
- Region 4 Greg Dickson
- Region 5 Neil Sandall

Applications To Officiate At State Level Carnivals

Applications are now being called for officials with the appropriate grading and/ or experience who wish to officiate at one or more of the following State Level Carnivals:-

٠	Trans Tasman Trials	Nov 6th	Flinders (Shellharbour)
٠	State Relays	Nov 26th-27th	SOPAC
٠	State Multi	Mar 3rd-4th	Cessnock
٠	State Track & Field	Mar 23rd-25th	SOPAC
٠	Cross Country / Road Walks	July 1st	West Dapto

Current Association Officials will receive availability forms soon.

Other interested officials are to use either:-

- a) Association Officials Nomination Form This is for officials who want to officiate at all or most of the above carnivals.
- b) Carnival Official Nomination Form
 This is for officials who only wish to nominate for one carnival or part days (minimum ½ day) of carnivals.

You can obtain copies of the forms from your Zone Co-ordinator or from the Associations website:-

Click on	Education and Training
Then click on	Officials Information

Completed forms are to be sent to the Association Office by August 31, 2011.

Please note:

- 1. When making appointments, whilst all efforts are made to meet official's preferences, it is not always possible to appoint all officials to their preferred areas.
- 2. Nominations to officiate at State level carnivals will be considered by a panel.

For further information please contact Di levy at the Association Office.

2011 Officials Courses				
Zone	Date	Venue		
Mid West Met	Sat, Oct 15	Holroyd Sports Ground, Cnr Peel & Roberts St, Merrylands (Throws or Jumps ONLY)		

Applications to officiate at State Carnivals in 2011/12 close on August 31.

CHAMPIONSHIPS & OFFICIALS

Mid South Coast	Sat, Oct 15	John O'Dwyer Oval, Croome Road Sporting Complex, Albion Park Rail
Mid South Coast Western Riverina	Sun, Oct 16 Sat, Oct 22	Thompson Street Sporting Field, Sussex Inlet Jubilee Park, Cnr of Bourke St & Red Hill Rd, Wagga Wagga
Nth Met Western Riverina	Sat, Oct 22 Sun, Oct 23	Kingsdene Oval, Carlingford (11am start) Leeton High School, Palm Avenue, Leeton

DEVELOPMENT



September/October Holiday Coaching Clinics

- Canterbury LAC, Wednesday, September 28
- Kurri Kurri LAC, Thursday, September 29
- Cranbrook LAC, Friday, September 30
- Port Stephens LAC, Thursday, October 6
- Blacktown LAC, Thursday, October 6

Should your Centre be interested in hosting a coaching clinic during the September/ October school holidays, or if you just want more information, please contact Alvin Umadhay at the Association office.

Junior Encouragement & Talent Squad (JETS)

The latest stop for the JETS program was on Sunday July 31 at The Ridge Athletics Track, which is the venue used by Illawong Little Athletics Centre.

Sixty-three athletes registered for this coaching clinic which apart from JETS members, included a number of athletes present by special invitation.

The program included some fun icebreaker activities and two one-hour event coaching sessions, conducted by the nine JETS coaches in attendance - Brigitte Bannister, David Bruce, Joe Ebejer, Rob Geisler, Clare Maloney, Gary Micallef, Rick Watkins, Lindsay Watson and Darren Wensor

It was commonly agreed that the clinic was a great success, the high quality of the coaching being commented on by many of the participants.

The 2011-2012 JETS program will see the introduction of the Under 12 age group. Applications for the 2011-2012 program will be available very soon. The first JETS Coaching Clinic of the 2011-2012 program will be held in October at Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre. Keep an eye out for further details.