

# Whittlesea City Little Athletics Centre



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## WHITTLESEA CITY LITTLE ATHLETICS CENTRE

### Relay Policy

#### Purpose:

To provide clear guidelines for the selection and management of relay teams representing Whittlesea City Little Athletics Centre (WCLAC) at Northern Metro Region Relays Carnivals and State Relays Championships.

#### Aim of Relays:

To provide all athletes the opportunity to represent WCLAC in a team-based track competition and to enjoy their involvement and achieve competitive results.

#### WCLAC Relay Sub Committee:

Relay Coordinator

Centre Team Manager/s

Chief of Officials

Relay Coach/s

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible to represent WCLAC at Region and State Relay events, athletes must adhere to the following criteria:

1. Under 9 to Under 17 little athletes financially registered with one of the 5 clubs affiliated with WCLAC.
2. Athletes must be available for both Region & State events. This season the:
  - Northern Metro Region Relay Carnival is scheduled for Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November @ Diamond Valley Little Athletics Centre, Willinda Park, Greensborough

- Little Athletics Victoria State Relay Championships is scheduled for Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December at WCLAC, Meadowglen International Athletics Stadium, 146-176 McDonalds Road, Epping
- 3. Athletes must be available for the majority of training sessions. Illness or special circumstances are an exception. Training times are TBC.
- 4. Payment of Entry Fee is required at time of team registration (banking details are on registration form)

## RELAY RACE AND TEAM RULES

Relay Competitions are conducted under the rules as set out by Little Athletics Victoria (LAVic) details of which are contained in LAVic Competition Rules located Re the LAVic website.

[Rules and Regulations - Little Athletics Victoria \(lavic.com.au\)](http://lavic.com.au)

## RELAY AGE GROUP TEAM MANAGERS (RAGTM)

The WCLAC Relay Coordinator will ask parents to volunteer as Relay Age Group Team Managers (RAGTMs) for each age group. RAGTMs will be issued with a copy of this policy to assist with team recommendations. RAGTMs who are 18 years old or older must hold a valid Working With Children Check (WWCC) A copy of the WWCC must be sighted by the Centre Secretary prior to engaging in any child related relay coaching.

## PARENT DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It is important to note and acknowledge that all parents assisting in the running of, and selection of relay teams are volunteering their time and experience to deliver a great experience for our athletes. This can often be a thankless and challenging process at times, and abuse, or disrespect being shown towards our volunteers will not be tolerated

- If athletes enter relay events, their parents / guardians will be required to fulfill a duty to assist with the conduct of the relay competition.
- A duty roster will be distributed to parents / guardians once relay teams and entries are finalised. If a parent / guardian fails to nominate for a duty, one will be assigned to them at the discretion of the Centre Team Manager.
- Parents are expected to encourage their child to participate in any team to which they have been selected.
- Parent interference with Relay Age Group Team Managers (RAGTMs) regarding team recommendations or training will not be tolerated by the WCLAC Relay Sub Committee and may result in the withdrawal of their child.

## TRAINING

Relay training will be held at the Meadowglen International Athletics Stadium in the weeks leading up to relay competitions. RAGTMs may choose to arrange relay training for their teams on an alternate day / time that suits the majority of their athletes. Athletes should be available for training if they agree to compete in a relay team, as these are team-based events. If an athlete is unable to attend, the parent / guardian must notify the athlete's RAGTM. If an athlete

would like to compete but cannot attend training, they can still be involved but may not be prioritised for an A team.

## TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA:

There will be an online form to express interest in being involved in WCLAC relays. Concurrently athletes may also be invited to compete by the WCLAC relay subcommittee.

Team selection and athlete running order will be determined by:

- The number of WCLAC athletes who register for relays by age group and gender
- Maximum of 4 events per athlete
- Athlete's commitment and availability to attend all relay competitions, relay training sessions and WCLAC weekly competitions
- Athlete's attitude and training performance
- Athlete's relay ability including baton changing and receiving
- Athlete's history of performance for WCLAC
- The timing of the relay program
- Ensuring, where possible, that each athlete that wants to compete in the relays is selected in at least one team
- The RAGTM's recommendations
- The competitive chance of the relay team qualifying for the State Relay Championships, as determined by the WCLAC Relay Sub Committee
- Athlete times will be collected for 100m, 200m and 400m across the first 4 weeks of competition
- Best time and average time will be considered across the above distances
- Any other selection criteria as determined by the WCLAC Relay Sub Committee from time to time

Any team selected for NMR Region Relay Carnival that qualifies for the State Relay Championships will be unchanged, with the exception of:

- Known cases of athletes who were injured and unable to compete at NMR that was approved by the WCLAC Relay Sub Committee. In these circumstances changes will only be made where it was communicated to the other athletes in the team that this was a possibility, as the injured athlete would have been in the team had they not been injured.
- Illness that prevented the athlete from competing at NMR and was communicated to the other athletes in the team.
- Pre-planned unavailability that was approved by the WCLAC Relay Sub Committee and communicated to the other athletes in the team.
- Athletes who ran at NMR and qualified but who are now unavailable to run at State Championships, either due to injury or schedule clashes. An athlete from the same age group if available will be elevated to the team to fill the vacancy or an athlete selected by the WCLAC Relay Sub Committee.
- For events where WCLAC qualified both an A and B team, RAGTMs may recommend to change the teams based on updated performances.

## EXPECTED PARENT, SPECTATOR, OFFICIALS & ATHLETE BEHAVIOUR

It is expected that parents, spectators, officials and athletes abide by the WCLAC Standards of Behaviour Policy (as detailed in the WCLAC Handbook ([link here](#)))

All RAGTMs and the WCLAC Relay Sub Committee will abide by the principle of fair play and will attempt to provide every athlete the opportunity to compete to the best of their ability and most importantly enjoy the team events.

If a parent or an athlete has any concerns surrounding the process of team selection, team management or coaching, they must send an email to the WCLAC Relay Coordinator at [whittleseacity@lavic.com.au](mailto:whittleseacity@lavic.com.au) and a response will be made within 48 hours of receiving the email. The response may be made in consultation with the WCLAC Relay Sub Committee and / or the WCLAC President.

## DECISION MAKING

- Each age group will be appointed an age group team manager to assist with training and competitions.
- The age group team manager will be able to provide advice on team selection and running order.
- The final selection will be made by the WCLAC relay sub committee
- Where there is a disagreement, the WCLAC relay sub-committee will take a vote and the final decision is made.

## Appendix 1:

### Relay Process

