



**Coles Australian Little Athletics  
Championships**

# **2024 LANSW State Team Selection Policy**

**Under 14 Australian Championships**

# COLES AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS UNDER 14

## NSW SELECTION POLICY

### 1. Introduction

This policy outlines the processes and procedures relating to the selection of the Little Athletics NSW U14 team to compete at of the 2024 ALAC (Australian Little Athletics Championships).

The ALAC is a two-day team competition for Under 14 age group athletes in which each athlete gains points from events towards a total team point score.

It is the responsibility of potential team members and their parents/guardians to read and understand this policy document and seek further clarification from LANSW as required.

### 2. Definitions

Some definitions of terms used in this policy are:

**LANSW** – Little Athletics NSW

**ALAC** – Coles Australian Little Athletics Championships

### 3. Selection Philosophy

LANSW is committed to selecting a combination of athletes to represent NSW at the ALAC that:

- i) Has the potential to score maximum team points for NSW.
- ii) Will display an attitude and commitment that is commensurate with the honour of being selected to represent their state.

### 4. Team Composition

LANSW will send an Under 14 team of 16 boys and 16 girls.

LANSW will send up to 8 athletes for Multi Class events.

### 5. Events at the ALAC

- (a) There are 14 individual events contested by both boys and girls, being: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 80m hurdles (girls), 90m hurdles (boys), 200m hurdles, 1500m walk, long jump, triple jump, high jump, shot put, discus and javelin.
- (b) There are 8 multi class events contested by both boys and girls, being: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, Long Jump, Shot Put, Discus and Javelin.
- (c) Each Association may enter up to two athletes in each individual event.

- (d) Each athlete may compete in a maximum of six events.
- (e) Multi Class athletes can compete in a maximum of six events.

## 6. Eligibility Criteria

- (a) All team members must be registered with LANSW in accordance with the Constitution and rules/regulations of LANSW.
- (b) All team members must be in the U14 age group.
- (c) All team members must have competed at the 2024 LANSW State Track & Field Championships, wearing their registered centre uniform. The state championships provide an opportunity for potential team members to display their worthiness for selection on a “level playing field”. Athletes who fail to compete in the LANSW State Track & Field Championships, regardless of extenuating circumstances, cannot be considered for selection.
- (d) All team members must have indicated their willingness to be selected by submitting an expression of interest no later than 12pm on Sunday of State Championships.

## 7. Selection Criteria

- (a) The selectors will name 32 U14 able bodied and up to 8 MC athletes who, *in their opinion*, have the ability to gain maximum team points for NSW. *The discretion of the selectors is absolute.*
- (b) Athletes are chosen from their performances recorded at the 2024 LANSW State Track & Field Championships.
- (c) Athletes must have finished in the top 4 in their first selected event. For any subsequent events the athlete must have finished in the top 6.

## 8. Implications for Selection

The selection committee must attempt to fill all available event spots with athletes that potentially have the greatest chance of gaining maximum team points for NSW. Therefore:

- (a) There is no guarantee of being selected.
- (b) Winning an event at the 2024 LANSW State Track & Field Championships does not necessarily ensure selection.
- (c) A good second or third place at the 2024 LANSW State Track & Field Championships with a back-up event may be more attractive to selectors with reference to the ALAC program of events.
- (d) Athletes need not necessarily win a medal at the LANSW State Track & Field Championships to be selected. E.g. Two or more top four placings may be attractive to selectors with reference to the ALAC program of events.
- (e) Athletes, generally, will need to perform well at more than one event. Single event specialists who appear to have no obvious “back up” events may be selected, but only when it is the best team option.
- (f) A better-performed athlete in a particular event at the LANSW State Track & Field Championships may potentially not score any better for that event at the ALAC, than a

lower-performed athlete in the same event at the LANSW State Track & Field Championships. The lower-performed athlete may offer better selection options in other events and therefore be selected in front of the “better-performed” athlete in that event.

- (g) The point scoring ability of an athlete is more important than their potential to win individual medals. An athlete’s potential to achieve a medal-winning position is not a factor in selection.

**9. Scoring at the ALAC**

- (a) Points are equated to place, not performance. The points table for all events is 15 for first place, 13 for second, then decreases by one point for each lower place down to one point for 14<sup>th</sup> place. This means that although a performance may be considerably better than the next place-getter, the better performance may score at best two, but generally only one point more for that event.
- (b) All competitors are awarded points for their placing therefore it is the quality of both athletes entered by an Association into that event that is important. In this context, a fourth and fifth placing (total of 21 points) at the ALAC, is better than a first and twelfth placing (total of 18 points) for a team.

**10. Other selection considerations**

Athlete workload and recovery time must be taken into account by the selectors. In the selection process, selectors must pay attention to the ALAC timetable of events to note potential event clashes. It should be noted that the ALAC event clashes will obviously be different to those at the LANSW State Championships. Due to the nature of the ALAC timetable of events, however, it is inevitable that some athletes will be selected to compete in events that do clash or are in close proximity to each other on the ALAC program.

**11. Selection Committee**

The selection committee will consist of at least three individuals to select the girls’ team and at least three individuals to select the boys’ team. One or more other individuals may be enlisted to act in an official support role. In addition, the Sport and Events Manager will act as the Chairman of Selectors.

The committee meets in person during the LANSW State Track & Field Championships and in person on the Sunday afternoon/evening after these championships to finalise all selections.

**12. The Selection Process**

This takes place during the LANSW State Track & Field Championships and will be finalised on the Sunday after these Championships.

**13. Announcement of the team**

The team will be publicly announced at 5pm on Monday 25 March via the LANSW website and relevant social media.

**14. Selection queries**

In the period immediately after the team announcement, any queries or concerns relating to the selection of the team should be directed to the LANSW office. The query will be directed to the person most capable of providing an accurate and informed response.

## 15. Requirements after selection

Following the selection of the team as set out in this policy, all members of the team will be expected to comply with additional requirements. Their place on the team is conditional on the following:

- (a) All team members are expected to meet minimum standards of behaviour while assembled, travelling or training as part of the team. Any team member who does not meet that minimum standard of behaviour *in the assessment of the team management* will be dismissed from the team.
- (b) All team members or parents/guardians of team members must immediately inform the team management of any illness or injury that could reasonably impact on the athlete's ability to perform at the level expected of the athlete at the ALAC.
- (c) If at any time prior to the departure of the team for the ALAC any team member is assessed as injured, ill or unfit, that team member may be withdrawn from the team at the discretion of Little Athletics NSW.
- (d) LANSW may request a medical/fitness test for any team member with a healthcare professional nominated by LANSW. Failure to comply with the request in a reasonable time frame will result in the athlete being withdrawn from the team.
- (e) Team members are required to attend all scheduled team activities including the pre-championship camp from Friday, 5 April to Sunday, 7 April 2024. It is the responsibility of potential team members and their parents/guardians to make themselves aware of, and available for, these commitments. 100% attendance is expected. It is expected that team members will take their selection seriously and display an attitude and commitment to the team that is commensurate with this honour. Team members must remember that they have been selected to represent their state and are part of a team and therefore should be prepared to forego most matters in respect of meeting that commitment. Except in the case of what the team selectors consider to be extreme extenuating circumstances, failure to attend all or part of a scheduled team activity will result in the athlete being withdrawn from the team. Appeals for consideration of extenuating circumstances must be submitted in writing to LANSW as soon as practicable after the extenuating circumstances arise. A medical certificate must be produced in the case that a team member's attendance at a team activity is affected by illness. A decision in each case about whether to accept a claim of extenuating circumstances as an excuse for non-attendance at part or all of a team activity will be made by the team selectors on an individual basis. *The discretion of the selectors is absolute.* Regardless of extenuating circumstances, an athlete who misses or will miss more than one team activity will automatically render themselves ineligible.
- (f) The team levy must be paid by due dates. The amount of the levy and the due dates for installments will be well publicised.
- (g) Team members and parents will need to formally agree that they will abide by a "Conditions of Selection" and a team member "Code of Conduct". Failure to do so will result in the athlete being withdrawn from the team.

## 16. Replacement of team members

A team member who does not or cannot meet one or more of the conditions listed under "Requirements after selection" will be withdrawn from the team and replaced by a reserve.

**17. Reserves**

Reserves are identified by the selectors in the case that a team member does not or cannot meet one or more of the conditions listed under “Requirements after selection”.

Reserves will only be contacted if they are needed to replace an originally-selected team member.

Reserves that are called onto the team will be bound by all conditions in this document.

**18. Power to Amend this Policy**

This policy can be amended at any time by Little Athletics NSW if it is of the opinion that:

- Such an amendment is necessary as a result of any change in the Little Athletics Australia Guidelines;
- To give effect to the policy following discovery of a drafting error or oversight;
- For any other reason determined to be in the best interests of LANSW.

LANSW will not be responsible or liable to anyone as a result of any such amendment.

**19. Further information**

For further information, contact the LANSW office on (02) 9633 4511 or [admin@lansw.com.au](mailto:admin@lansw.com.au).