



**Australian Little Athletics  
Championships**

# **LANSW State Team Selection Policy**

**Under 13 Australian Teams Championships**

# AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS UNDER 13 TEAMS EVENT

## NSW SELECTION POLICY

### 1. Introduction

This policy outlines the processes and procedures relating to the selection of the Little Athletics NSW team to compete at the Under 13 ATC (Australian Teams Championships) as part of the ALAC (Australian Little Athletics Championships).

The ALAC Teams Event is a two-day team competition for Under 13 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** – Australian Little Athletics Championships

**ATC** – Australian Teams Championships (for Under U13 athletes)

### 3. Selection Philosophy

LANSW is committed to selecting a combination of athletes to represent NSW at the ATC 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

Each Association is entitled to send an Under 13 team of up to 26 athletes. Ideally this is made up of 13 boys and 13 girls, however this is not compulsory. For example, an Association may select 12 girls and 14 boys or any other combination. An Association may take less than 26 athletes.

### 5. Events at the ALAC

- (a) There are 13 individual events contested by both boys and girls, being: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 80m hurdles, 200m hurdles, 1500m walk, 4 x 100m team relay, long jump, triple jump, high jump, shot put, discus and javelin.

**NOTE:** The 3000m is NOT contested at the ALAC and therefore performances in this event at the LANSW State Championships is generally not taken into consideration when selecting the team.

- (b) Each Association may enter up to two athletes in each individual event and one team in each relay event.

- (c) Each athlete may compete in a maximum of four individual events or a maximum of three individual events plus one relay.
- (d) All athletes competing in a laned track event will compete in a heat and final/consolation final. The heat and final/consolation final are deemed to be one event.

#### **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 U13 age group in the current financial year.
- (c) All team members must have competed at the 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.

#### **7. Selection Criteria**

- (a) The selectors will name twenty-six 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 LANSW State Track & Field Championships. If required, to fill any event vacancies, the selectors may also view performances done by already-selected athletes at the LANSW Region and LANSW State Multi Event Championships.

#### **8. Implications for Selection**

The selection committee must attempt to fill sixty available event spots with a combination of twenty-six athletes that potentially has 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 LANSW State Track & Field Championships does not necessarily ensure selection.
- (c) A good second or third place at the 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 eight 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 points 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.
- (h) In an effort to fill all event vacancies, athletes may be selected to compete in events at the ALAC in which they did not compete in at the LANSW State Track & Field Championships and/or would prefer not to do. An athlete’s acceptance and good attitude towards this situation is essential if they are to retain their position in the team.

#### **9. Scoring at the ALAC**

- (a) Points are equated to place, not performance. The points table for the individual events is 17 for first place, 15 for second, then decreases by one point for each lower place down to one point for 16<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) Relay events are awarded double the corresponding points scored in individual events.
- (c) 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 25 points) at the ALAC, is better than a first and twelfth placing (total of 22 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 Championships Director will act as the Chairman of Selectors.

The committee meets in person during the LANSW State Track & Field Championships and also in person on the Monday 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 Monday after these Championships.

During the State Track & Field Championship weekend, the selectors record, track and highlight the Under 13 results on a master sheet. Taking into account all of the previously mentioned considerations and guidelines, the selectors then gradually narrow down the list of potential

athletes until the most satisfactory list is finalised. The process is completed and checked during a final meeting of the selectors on the following Monday.

**13. Announcement of the team**

Team members will be advised of their selection via telephone by 9pm on Monday following the LANSW State Track & Field Championships. A State Team Selector will contact all those selected in the team so it is essential that potential team members remain contactable up until 9pm. Athletes who have not received a phone call by 9.00pm can assume that they have not been initially selected.

As it is important to finalise the team as quickly as possible, selected athletes will have until 4.00pm the next day to accept or decline their place in the team. Should an athlete decline their place in the team another athlete will be selected to fill the vacant position and be contacted accordingly. If a selected athlete has neither accepted nor declined their place in the team by the deadline, the position will be assumed as vacant and another athlete will be selected to fill the position.

The team will be publicly announced on the Monday night via the LANSW website and other relevant social media as soon as possible after all team members have been informed of their selection.

**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 required 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 will result in the athlete being withdrawn from the team.
- (e) It is compulsory for all team members to attend all scheduled team activities including both pre-championship camps. These dates will be well publicized and 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 publicized.
- (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).