

RELAY TEAM SELECTION POLICY

2 February 2016



Purpose

The policy outlines the philosophy and procedures relating to the selection of a relay team to represent the Centre.

Relays are unique in athletic competition as they are the only team-based event where athletes work together to succeed.

Policy

The Centre is committed to ensuring that the selection of Centre teams is fair, objective and consistent with the following selection philosophy:

1. The Centre will endeavour to nominate as many Centre teams as possible to represent the Centre at competition
2. A Centre team at age group level will have preference to nominated athletes over a team to be composed of mixed age groups
3. The composition of athletes in a Centre team will have the potential to achieve the best performance possible, and therefore the highest placing possible, within the age group. For any competition with multiple relay events for an age group, a specific team will be selected for each relay event offered at the competition.

Responsibility

The selection committee will consist of the Championships Officer, Records and Rankings Officer and Registrar. The Championships Officer will be the chair of the committee.

The selection committee will be responsible for the selection of all relay teams.

The Championships Officer will complete and submit all registration forms and arrange the payment of any applicable fees before competition deadlines.

Coaches of teams will be responsible for determining the running order of athletes in a team.

Parents/Guardians of nominated athletes are responsible for

1. ensuring any competition fees are paid in full
2. ensuring that athletes attend any meeting relating to the competition
3. ensuring that athletes attend any training relating to the competition
4. ensuring that athletes attend the competition
5. notifying the Championship Officer of any withdrawal due to injury or exceptional personal circumstance.

Fees are the responsibility of individual athletes, and must be paid before any deadline communicated by the Championships Officer. Failure to pay necessary fees will result in the athlete forfeiting their place in the team.

Procedures

Selection Process

The following process shall be followed to select a Centre team.

1. The Committee of Management will determine a nomination date and a selection date.
2. The nomination date will be in advance of the selection date.
3. Both dates will be communicated to all Centre members.
4. Athletes will be required to nominate for selection by the nomination date, in the form requested by the Championship Officer.
5. The selection committee will review nominations and determine the final team selections.
6. The Championship Officer will present the proposed final team selections to the Centres Committee of Management for endorsement by the selection date.
7. The Championship Officer will arrange for the notification of selection.

Selection Criteria

The criteria to be used by the selection committee to finalise a Centre team will be:

1. The athletes must have been nominated by the nomination date.
2. Athletes must be a current registered athlete with Little Athletics Tasmania (LATAS), and meet all pre-qualification requirements for the competition.
3. Athletes must make themselves available for inclusion in the team of their current age group before being recommended for inclusion in a team participating in a higher age group.
4. The actual performances of the athletes achieved at any LATAS affiliated Centres and State conducted meets, up to and including the selection date.
5. The athlete's attendance at Centre meets, overall general behaviour, attendance at training and attitude to team participation.
6. The ability of the Centre to apply its selection philosophy, taking full consideration of the rules of competition imposed by the competition organiser.

The selection committee will not take into account:

1. Any performance by an athlete at other competitions (non-LATAS controlled, i.e. like a school carnival or Athletics Tasmania) or from previous seasons.
2. Any performance after the selection date.

Insufficient nominations of athletes in an age group

1. Should there be insufficient nominations from athletes in an age group, the selection committee, taking full consideration of the rules of competition imposed by the competition organiser:
 - a. Will make direct contact with Parents/Guardians of athletes to fill remaining positions within teams; or
 - b. is to consider combined age group teams.

Unsuccessful athlete nominations

1. Should there be unsuccessful athlete nominations, athletes should be designated as reserves UNLESS the rules of competition provide for alternative opportunities for participation, in which case, unsuccessful

athletes must be provided with full details of those alternative opportunities, and any deadlines associated with those opportunities.

Notification of Selection

1. Parents/Guardians of nominated athletes will be informed of selected Centre teams.
2. After Parents/Guardians have been advised, the team selections will be announced to the rest of the Centre members.

Selection Queries

1. The composition of a selected Centre team will be final and not be open to discussion with athletes or Parents/Guardians.

Guidelines

The rules of competition provided by the competition organiser will have precedence should there be any ambiguity or conflict with this policy.

A relay team consists of four or five athletes who will represent the Centre for a specific event at a competition. One athlete may be designated as a reserve, but that in no way diminishes the contribution they make to the team. Should an athlete fail to compete they are letting down the remainder of the team, and therefore careful consideration should be given by Parents/ Guardians before nominating an athlete for participation.

Should an athlete withdraw or fail to attend the competition, and in the opinion of the selection committee, withdrawal is not due to injury or exceptional personal circumstance, the athlete will not be eligible for selection for a relay team for the remainder of the season and will not be eligible for any end of season Centre or LATAS Awards.

Little Athletics Tasmania conducts the State Relay Championships each year, which is a championship competition between Centres from around the State. The competition is open to athletes from U6 to U15. The competition comprises both heats and finals. Finalists are awarded medals or ribbons based on their overall final placing. The arrangements for the State Relay Championships are:

- U6, U7 and U8 athletes compete in a 4x100m team relay event PLUS a long jump event (as individuals, not as a team).
- U9, U10, U11, U12, U13, U14 and U15 athletes compete in 4x100m, 4x200m and Swedish relay events.

The Swedish relay consists of four athletes, with an individual running either 100m, 200m, 300m or 400m for the team.

Policy Acceptance

Policy endorsed by Committee of Management (2 February 2016).

Laurence Paine

President

(Season 2015-16)