



**Little
Athletics**
Victoria

TO: Centre & Region Secretaries

FROM: Anthony McIntosh – Chief Executive Officer

DATE: Thursday, 2 July 2020

SUBJECT: Announcement: 19/20 State Championship events & return to competition

19/20 State Championship events

It is with much regret that LAVic has taken the decision to cancel both the 19/20 State Track & Field Championships, and the 19/20 State Cross-Country Championships.

These decisions were taken because of the escalating COVID-19 infection rates in the Victorian community, the State Government responses, and the associated risks and difficulties in conducting these large events in a highly volatile and unpredictable environment.

LAVic's intent has been to salvage what it possibly could from what has been a frustrating and desperately disappointing 19/20 season for our members and the sport. Hence the timing of these announcements deep into the season.

It is now clear that the risks involved in hosting State Championship events between now and season's end – particularly for the health of those in attendance – is unacceptably high. These are risks that LAVic is not willing to take.

A 'Frequently Asked Questions' (FAQ) document has been posted on the LAVic website to assist answer key questions. Click [HERE](#) to view/download.

It's anticipated that LAVic will field a large volume of queries over the coming days. To that end, Centres and families are encouraged to:

1. Consult the FAQs as a first step;
2. In the event further advice is required, put questions in writing either via email to office@lavic.com.au, or direct message the LAVic Facebook account.

This will help us enormously to respond quickly and effectively.

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Foundation for all sports

Reg No. A0003260D ABN: 47 646 887 442



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Training and competition protocols and authorisation

State Government announcements of recent days have delayed the finalisation of the protocols for Centre & Organising Body authorisation to conduct competition and training. These will be released shortly.

For Centres that have already received authorisation to return to modified training, they will be automatically authorised to conduct competition, if they wish. They will also be issued with further advice regarding the (modest) easing of some restrictions they are required to comply with.

Return to competition

LAVic will continue to provide the opportunity to Centres and Organising Bodies to conduct Cross-Country competition for the remainder of the season. These events have relatively low participation rates, typically draw competitors from a localised area, attract low spectator numbers and are conducted in open parkland venues. These conditions present a low risk for COVID-19 transmission.

Centres and Organising Bodies will be required to agree to the competition protocols issued by LAVic, so as to remain compliant with State Government restrictions, and ensure a safe and legal activity.

Membership registrations

The member registration portal will be re-opened in coming days and authorised Centres will have the option of accepting new members. The winter Association fee component – normally \$55 – will be significantly reduced. The actual amount will be confirmed soon & prior to portal opening. Centres will have the opportunity to review their fee components, as desired.

Note that in an effort to maximise athlete participation, athletes registered with locked down Centres, but residing in non-locked down postcodes, will be able to train and compete with other Centres by mutual agreement with the host Centre/Organising Body and LAVic.

More detail will be released on this procedure in due course.

Thanks to Centres and Region committees for their patience with this.

The LAVic team

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