

**Meeting:** Geelong Gift Sunday March 16<sup>th</sup> 2025

**Weather:** Wet day with extreme winds

**Track:** 350m circular, grass track surface was excellent and well grassed.

**Commentator:** Harry McDonough

**Wind Gauge:** Automatic

**Starters:** Graeme Humphrey, Rob McIntosh

**Photo Finish:** Chloe Blennerhassett

**Results:** Nila Blennerhassett

**Stewards:** Chief Richard Wearmouth, Chad Ryan & John Henry

**Handicappers:** Colin Lane, Chad Ryan, Kim McDonough, Jono Rogers

**Official Media:** Neil Jameson, Max & Sam Blennerhassett

**Colour Stewards:** Dianne Tzilantonis

**NAP's:**

**ICP: Inconsistent Performance**

Ruby Crisp Women's 70m

**IE: Insufficient Effort**

Hudson Downes 120m Mens

**Injuries**

Jesse McKenna 300m Mens

Chris Brown 300m Masters

Jessie Payne 400m Women's

**Breaks**

Mikaela Vanderzee 70m Women's

Tim Rosen 70m Mens heat

Oskar Kerby 120m Mens

Fraser Stott 120m Mens

**LOT: Loss of time**

120m Women Halle Martin, Zoe Neale

**550m Open** Tom Hecomovic, Michael Chimenton, Neil Brennan, Darren Naismith

**OTR: Outside Time Range**

**Women 70m** Laura McDougall, Megan Blair, Kelsie Roberts, Keely Henderson, Harriett Fox, Alex Tzilantonis

**Men 70m** Lachlan Shanks, Joshua Young, Mitchell Mullins, Chris Diegan, Vic Sharma, Daniel Martin, Peter Biggs, Chris Byron, Marcus Schafer

**Women's 120m** Josephine Gaisie, Keely Henderson, Grace O'Dwyer, Katherine Wright, Akshaya Iyer, Olivia Barry

**Mens 120m** Mitchell Mullins, Michael Singh, Michael Romero, Akon Chol, Darcy Ireland, Jack O'Dea

Masters 120m David Tinney, Graeme Armstrong, Robert Mulholland, John Hilditch, Dean Maclennan, Laura Jane Hilditch, Josephine Gaisie, Marcus Schafer, Brendan Bailey, Peter Biggs, Gary Davidson

Masters 300m David Gill, Tim Cherry, Danielle McDowell, Stefan Catalano, Greg Kilpatrick, Marcus Downes, Dean Maclennan, Ian Porter, Corey Williams, Richard Polkinghorne

Stewards Notes from the day: Congratulations to Matt and VAL team on excellent track and quality athletes participating.

When stables are celebrating a team victory could you please refrain from doing so till after all runners have crossed finishing line.

Hugh Van cuylenberg was fined \$25 for failing to appear for the 300m Masters final.

After viewing livestream and Jamo's stills of the 400m Women's final it was established that Lucy Zotti had taken a run where there was insufficient room. She therefore interfered with two athletes and has been fined \$25.

Chris Brown was injured after his 300m Masters heat win and was given permission to scratch from the final.

Jess Payne was sore after qualifying for the Women's 400m final. She was given permission to scratch from the final.

Meg Deane was given permission to return to spikes.

Tristan Courts was interviewed after a poor 800m U/18 effort. He explained he had been ill and shouldn't have run. He was informed to notify stewards in advance. His explanation was accepted.

Stewards spoke with Martine Beer after an uncharacteristic effort in the Women's 800m. She explained she had been unwell which affected her performance. She was told to inform stewards before competing. Her explanation was accepted.

Maki Loukeris was spoken to after an improved performance from his latest run. He explained that he had been doing training overload and the last week had freshened up. They also spoke with coach Craig Mair who substantiated the narrative. They were told it is important to notify Stewards when substantial training differences occur.

Athletes are not permitted to practice starts on race starters gun. There have been a number of warnings about this so in future offenders will be fined.

It is the responsibility of runners to ensure their performance history outside the VAL has been declared prior to their next meeting. Pb's should be notified immediately to the office and new runners should ensure their performance history is correct. Failure to do so may result in sanctioned being applied.

Please note that from future meetings after Ballarat 2025 if you are still running in flats, you will be required to compete in them for the rest of the season.

**We are concerned with athletes pulling up sore with cramp and we remind you that if you can't give a full effort throughout the race, you will be issued a 14-day penalty or a UP?**

**All athletes are reminded that they must wear their own singlet underneath the VAL singlets at all times and return their VAL singlets asap after their event.**

Athletes are reminded that it is their responsibility to check whether they have progressed to the next round, future breaches will incur a fine.

Runners are advised to re-read the Stewarding notes that were issued at the commencement of last season, particularly in regard to 'winning intent' and also competing with consistency from week to week.

Registered Runners and Trainers only, should be on the ground and this should be limited to warming up and competing. Anyone outside of registered Runners and Trainers will be requested to leave the infield.

Breaking in a heat or semifinal and not progressing will result in an NAP at best. Breaking in a final is an automatic NAP at best.