

Victorian Athletic League – Stewards Report

Meeting: Lancefield

Date: Saturday 15th November 2025

Venue: Lancefield Park Recreation Reserve, Lancefield

Weather: Overcast

Track: 400m grass track

Officials

- **Commentator:** Ollie Wurm
- **Wind Gauge:** Automatic
- **Starters:** Matt Webster & Brendan Ferrari
- **Photo Finish:** Chloe and Max Blennerhassett
- **Results:** Nila Blennerhassett
- **Stewards:** Acting Chief Steward Tim Mason & John Henry
- **Handicapper:** Colin Lane, Darren Arthur & Kim McDonough
- **Official Media:** Neil Jameson, Valentino Condello
- **Colour Stewards:** Jess Burrows
- **Ground Setup:** Scott Burrows

Track Allowance Request

Following the running of the 120m Gift, the Acting Chief Steward was requested to consider a Track Allowance for the meeting. After consideration of all relevant factors, including analysis of race results, no track allowance was warranted.

Performance Classifications – Non Acceptable Performances

NAP – Injury (14-day suspension)

- **120m Over 35's:** Scott Rowsell – Tight Hamstring
- **300m Masters:** David Woods - Hamstring
- **400m Men's:** Matthew Warren - Hamstring

NAP - Break

- **120m Men's –** Joshua Lotsu

NAP - Inconsistent Performance

- **120m Men's–** Dash Muir

NAP - Outside Time Range:

- **70 Open** – P Biggs, M Burleigh, M Mullens, J Stapleton, M Zeed, H Anderson, C Dunbar, N Angelakos
- **120 Men's** – C Dunbar, M Warren, E Mekonnen, M Standfield, J Bennett, J Stapleton, N Angelakos
- **120 Women's** – K Wright, A Patsouras, K Henderson, O Barry, A Iyer, H Fox
- **400 Men's** – N Angelakos, L Burnett, P Tancredi, N Livitsanos

General Notes

Acknowledgements:

- Congratulations to the **Lancefield Athletic Club** for their excellent effort in hosting the meeting.
- Special thanks to Chris & Gina and all of the Committee for organisation and 400m track setup.

Operational Reminder:

- Clubs must provide personnel to **remove starting blocks** from the track after all sprint races.
- Non-compliance causes delays between events and is **not the responsibility of the starters**.

Stewarding Comments

Athlete Discussions and Feedback:

- **Dash Muir** was questioned about his poor performance in men's 120m. Mr Muir explained it was where he was at this stage of the season with several factors – exams and a focus towards the amateurs. Mr Muir was reminded that the VAL look for consistent performances in all races. He was given a NAP.
- **Josh Sait**: 1600m winner was questioned as to the difference in performance from Essendon to Lancefield – with regards to strong finishing in the event against his performance at Essendon. Mr Sait explained that he had run the 550m an hour before at Essendon. The Acting Chief Steward reminded the athlete to be aware of their responsibilities, and this was not acceptable in the future.

All athletes and coaches are advised that this rationale adversely impacting performances in other events will not be accepted by the Stewards. Future occurrences will be subject to review and may result in formal sanctions.

- **300m Masters Final** - There was severe interference in the final of the Masters 300m when athlete David Woods injured a hamstring. Subsequently interfering with several athletes around him.
- **70m Men Final** In a first for the VAL, three athletes — Jared Glover, Brendan Matthews, and Nicholas Antinino — recorded identical times, and were the equal 8th in qualification for the final. As per the Regulations, raw times were then considered, which meant Antonino was excluded from qualification. However, athletes Glover and Matthews ran in the same semi-final and had identical raw times. The Acting Chief Steward, in accordance with Regulation 14.15, determined progression by a coin toss. The toss resulted in athlete Glover advancing to the final.

The VAL thanks both athletes for their professionalism and the respectful manner in which they accepted this decision.

- **Chief Steward Richard Wearmouth** – Was taken ill prior to the event and Assistant Steward Tim Mason filled the role for the day. The VAL wish Richard a speedy recovery.
- Athletes and coaches are reminded that all competitors must run through the finish line on every occasion. Several athletes failed to do so, which not only reflects poorly on the sport but may also jeopardise the outcome of the event.

Reminders to Athletes and Trainers

Attendance:

Athletes are responsible for being present at the start line on time for all heats and finals.

Performance Declarations:

- All athletes must declare any performance history outside of the VAL prior to competing.
- Personal Bests (PBs) must be reported immediately to the VAL office.
- New athletes must ensure that all performance history is complete and accurate.
- Failure to comply may result in sanctions.

Consistency & Intent:

All competitors are reminded to review the **Stewarding Notes** issued at the start of last season, focusing on “*winning intent*” and maintaining *consistent performances* from week to week.

Access Control:

Only **registered runners and trainers** are permitted on the infield for warming up or competing. Any non-registered persons will be asked to vacate the area immediately.