

Victorian Athletic League – Stewards Report

Meeting: Terang

Date: Sunday 30th November 2025

Venue: Terang Recreation Reserve

Weather: Showers for fair bit of day cleared later in afternoon, very wet track

Track: 400m grass track

Officials

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

Performance Classifications – Non-Acceptable Performances

LOT (Loss of time)

- **120mWomen:** Zoe Neale, Andrea Herne, Katie Moore & Harriett Fox.

General Notes

Acknowledgements:

- Congratulations to the **Terang Athletic Club** for their excellent effort in hosting the meeting.
- Special thanks to Ken and all of the Committee for organisation and 400m track setup under difficult weather conditions.

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:

- 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.

- Mark Andrews was given permission to compete in flats. He was reminded to inform stewards when reverting to spikes.
- Circular track was soft and slow on inside so many athletes tracked two and three wide.
- Lachie Falconer-Boag eased before finish line in 120m heat. He was advised to run through the line.
- Saye Morris lost his footing early in his 120m heat. His lane had deteriorated throughout the day due to weather and spikes. His explanation was accepted.
- Madeline Parris ran third in her 120m heat after finishing third in the Warrnambool Gift. She explained that she was stiff and sore after multiple Saturday runs. She was hoping to warm up better if she reached the semis which she did and took out the final.
- A technical malfunction hindered heat three of the 400m. the runners had completed 50 to 100m so heat three was rescheduled to run after heat four.
- It was noted that there appeared to be timing inconsistencies, with many athletes in certain semi-finals recording significantly slower times compared to their heats. The VAL will conduct a review and, if required, implement additional controls to validate whether any systemic issues may have affected timing accuracy during high-wind and wet conditions.

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.