

Victorian Athletic League – Stewards Report

Meeting: Waverley

Date: Sunday 7th December 2025

Venue: Central Reserve, Waverley Little Athletics Centre (WLAC)

Weather: Sunny with a cool wind, slightly warmer later into the afternoon.

Track: 400m grass track

Officials

- **Commentator:** Ollie Wurm
- **Wind Gauge:** Automatic
- **Starters:** Rob & Keiren McIntosh
- **Photo Finish:** Jo Spencley, Chloe and 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 Burrow

Performance Classifications – Non-Acceptable Performances

NAP – Injury (14-day suspension)

- 100m Mens: Kipp Wilson, Brad Scrivener & Brendan Matthews
- 800m 45+: Gary Simondsen

NAP - Break

- 100m Women: Allira May & Andrea Hearne
- 100m Men: Matt Dinan & Kristerfer Kardakovski
- 300m Women: Grace O'Dwyer

UP – Unsatisfactory Performance

- 300m Masters: Luke Robertson

LOT (loss of time)

- 100m Men: Daniel White Alikakos
- 400m Men: Jarrod Glover & Andrew Boudrie
- 800m Open: David Mathews

General Notes

Acknowledgements:

- Congratulations to the **Waverley Gift Committee** for their excellent effort in hosting this meeting.
- Special thanks to Todd and all of the Committee for their organisation of their meeting.
- Stewards inspected the sprint track before the meeting as there was concern over the state of the red lane @ the 50m mark. It was decided that, if possible, the red runner could move into a scratched lane.
- In the semi's this wasn't possible as there are eight starters. The stewards decided because it was club track fault athletes in the red lane would be allowed to scratch from the semi's and not incur a penalty.
- The examination of the track was too late to redraw heats, leaving out the red lane.

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:

- Mr Aiden Green and coach was spoken to by stewards after his performance in his 100m Mens heat. The Stewards felt that he was in a winning position but didn't finish off. Mr Green stated that he never got near the lead and had finished the same distance behind at the finish. His explanation was excepted & noted.
- Stewards spoke with Mr Luke Robertson after an extremely slow start in his 100m Masters heat. He stated that was normal for him and he was advised to work on this part of his race.
- Mr Declan Gall finished a long way behind in his 800m Open heat and explained that his preparation had been hindered by various factors. Mr Gall also explained that he ran faster at Waverley than the previous week at Terang, this explanation was excepted.
- Mr Luke Robertson was queried about his lack of intensity in the 300m Masters **final**. Mr Robertson explained that he was forced three wide on the home turn and this slowed his finishing effort. The Stewards disagreed and issued Mr Robertson a **Unsatisfactory Performance (UP) as per VAL regulations**.
- Mr Daniel White Alikakos and coach Mr Andrew Mulhlan were spoken to with regards to a loss of time after the heat. Mr White Alikakos indicated that he was significantly impacted by the two false starts and subsequent gun misfire. Mr White Alikakos indicated that his history of injuries he couldn't perform as he wished. Stewards noted and accepted the response.
- 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.
- 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.

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.