

# WILLIAMS Weekly Update 22/01/2026

This season we have faced all weather extremes, with Frankston throwing up extremely strong winds. In the interest of the safety of all participants, the decision was made not to erect the usual VAL marquees on the oval, and set our officials up off the oval. Thanks to our officials who adapted to different conditions, and to the athletes for helping this all work smoothly.

This week we have a different vein of weather to contend with – heat! The VAL has an Unfavourable Weather Policy, which includes the following:

*.... the Victorian Athletic League encourages decision makers to apply the principle of safety first – while also looking to minimise any inconvenience caused to travelling participants. Common sense will apply at all times and athletes and other participants should always be conscious of the likelihood of unfavourable weather impacting events.  
... Extreme Heat In the case of extreme heat, temperatures forecasted at 38 Degrees Celsius or higher will render an event postponed, cancelled or have its program modified to periods or intervals where the temperature is below 38 degrees*

It is our full intention to proceed with the meeting. We will be doing all we can to minimise changes to the program, but with a safety-first mindset, and the wellbeing of our participants, officials and spectators first and foremost. Any changes to the program will be conveyed to participants via social media on both Friday and Saturday.

## Ballarat Gift

Entries close this Sunday at 8pm. Don't miss out on this iconic and prestigious 2-day event. Day 1 livestream will be provided by MySport Live, with Kayo covering Day 2 from 1pm.

## League Sponsor

The VAL welcomes Francis Daniel Lawyers as a valued partner and sponsor of the league. Please visit their website: [www.fdlawyers.com.au](http://www.fdlawyers.com.au) to discover their range of services. We sincerely thank them for their support.



## Handicap Queries and Discussions

Athletes and Coaches are reminded that all queries regarding handicaps must be addressed to the Director of Handicapping via [handicaps@val.org.au](mailto:handicaps@val.org.au)

Under no circumstances should handicappers be contacted directly, via phone or email, or sought out for one-on-one discussions. Similarly, handicappers will not contact athletes or coaches regarding handicaps other than through the DOH.