SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION

State Team Selection Standard

Table of Contents

1. State Team Selection Standard Foundation 2

2. Document Procedure/Standard Expectations 3

3. Team Selection Process 4

3.1 Selection Criteria 4

3.2 Selection Process 7

3.3 Code of Conduct 9

3.4 Appeals 10

4. Definitions and References 11

4.1 Definitions 11

4.2 Abbreviations 11

4.3 References 11

5. Addendum A – Checklist 12

1. State Team Selection Standard Foundation

Purpose	The purpose of this Standard is to outline the process for State Team selections so that all eligible athletes have an equal opportunity to be selected equitably and without favoritism.
Scope	**In Scope** of this standard, all South Australian Little Athletics Association (SALAA) Athletes who are participating in a selection process for a South Australian State Team, or any other group specially targeted to represent SALAA.
Authorised User	Authorised users of this standard are: • SALAA board, management, and staff. • Selection Panel. • Parents and Guardians of athletes.
Prerequisites	Pre-requisites of Athletes to State Team Selection: • PBs for athletes (Centre, PB Days, Combined Events Entries, State Individual Championships Entries, Athletics SA Ranking Lists, State Individual Championships results as available). • Must be registered and financial with a Club affiliated with Little Athletics SA on or before the 31st of December. Pre-requisites of State Team personnel who travel with the team, is a Working with Children Check (WWCC) which has been sighted at a minimum of 4 weeks prior to travel.

2. Document Procedure/Standard Expectations

Principles

The principles for application of this standard are:

- Transparency for all individuals who are involved in the selection process.
- Ensure quality, consistency, and fairness between all selection events.
- To select the best available team for the Championships.
- To recognise the potential of athletes to participate at National competition level standard and identify and prepare athletes for the transition into National programs/teams.
- To maximize South Australia's point scores at National competitions.

Responsibilities and Delegations

The SALAA Board is responsible for:

- Oversight of the selection process.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for:

- Ratification of this standard and ensuring its publication.
- Monitoring the process of selection.
- Managing any reported breach of Standards or Code of Conduct.

State Team Administrator is responsible for:

- Preparing the State Team Information Booklet.
- Managing the appeals process.

Selection Panel is responsible for:

- Verifying eligibility of all team members selected.
- Ratifying the selection of the State Team.
- Ensuring all criteria are considered and met in team selection.
- Following the Code of Conduct.

SALAA workers are responsible for:

- Supporting the team selection process as per required in their work duties.

3. Team Selection Process

3.1 Selection Criteria

Constraints

When selecting a team, the following will apply in line with Little Athletics Australia Guidelines (and is subject to change). The following constraints apply:

Coles Australian Little Athletics Championships

U13 Athletes

- Up to 32 (able-bodied) U13 athletes. 16 Boys and 16 Girls.
- Up to eight (8) athletes for U13 Multi-Class, gender mix at State Association discretion.
- U13 athletes can compete in a maximum of six (6) events. Where conducted, Relays are included in the maximum number of events.
- U13 Multi-Class athletes can compete in a maximum of six (6) events. Where conducted, Relays are included in the maximum number of events.
- A maximum of 2 athletes per event per gender for both the U13 & U13 Multi-Class.
- Athletes are selected on the collective ability of the team to score as many points as possible. Placing in events at the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships does not guarantee selection in the U13 team.

> *Note:- Generally, U13 athletes will not be selected for one event only, therefore, should endeavour to qualify in the maximum number of events at the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships to increase their opportunity of selection.*

U14 Athletes

- Up to 32 (able-bodied) U14 athletes. 16 Boys and 16 Girls.
- Up to eight (8) athletes for U14 Multi-Class, gender mix at State Association discretion.
- U14 athletes can compete in a maximum of six (6) events. Where conducted, Relays are included in the maximum number of events.
- U14 Multi-Class athletes can compete in a maximum of six (6) events. Where conducted, Relays are included in the maximum number of events.
- A maximum of 2 athletes per event per gender for both the U14 & U14 Multi-Class.
- Athletes are selected on the collective ability of the team to score as many points as possible. Placing in events at the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships does not guarantee selection in the U14 team.

> *Note:- Generally, U14 athletes will not be selected for one event only, therefore, should endeavour to qualify in the maximum number of events at the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships to increase their opportunity of selection.*

U15 Athletes

- Up to 32 (able-bodied) U15 athletes. 16 Boys and 16 Girls.
- Up to eight (8) athletes for U15 Multi-Class, gender mix at State Association discretion.
- U15 athletes can compete in a maximum of six (6) events. Where conducted, Relays are included in the maximum number of events.
- U15 Multi-Class athletes can compete in a maximum of six (6) events. Where conducted, Relays are included in the maximum number of events.
- A maximum of 2 athletes per event per gender for both the U15 & U15 Multi-Class.
- Athletes are selected on the collective ability of the team to score as many points as possible. Placing in events at the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships does not guarantee selection in the U15 team.

> *Note:- Generally, U15 athletes will not be selected for one event only, therefore, should endeavour to qualify in the maximum number of events at the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships to increase their opportunity of selection.*

U15 Athletes – Australian Combined Event Championships (ACEC)

- Maximum two (2) athletes per gender for the U15 Combined Event Championships – Total of four (4) athletes. Two (2) boys and two (2) girls.
- Athletes are selected based on their result at the Little Athletics SA Combined Event Championships with priority given to the First (1^{st}) placed athlete with the highest overall point score.
- U15 athletes are ineligible to compete in both individual events and Combined Event Championships at ALAC.

Eligibility

To be considered for selection, all athletes must satisfy the following eligibility criteria:

- Agree in writing to adhere to the State Team Code of Conduct.
- Be eligible under the relevant age group.
  - U13 athletes must be 12 years as at midnight on the 31 December immediately prior to ALAC.
  - U14 athletes must be 13 years as at midnight on the 31 December immediately prior to ALAC.
  - U15 Athletes must be 14 years as at midnight on the 31 December immediately prior to ALAC.
- Meet the eligibility criteria for the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships and/or Little Athletics SA Combined Event Championships as per Rules LR5 in the Standard Rules of Competition.
- Have nominated within the time frames accepted.

Nominations	• U13 athletes must nominate prior to the completion of the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships. • U14 athletes must nominate prior to the completion of the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships. • U15 athletes must nominate prior to the completion of the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships if vying for individual selection on the team. • U15 Combined Event athletes must nominate prior to the completion of the State Combined Events Championship.
Nomination Notification	Requests for nominations are emailed out to all potential athletes. The online form should be completed by the stated time. Nomination information is also provided on the SALAA website.
Team Sizes	The maximum team size is limited to the number of athletes specified by Little Athletics Australia. An equal number of boys and girls are strongly encouraged, but this is not a requirement. There is no obligation to select the maximum number of athletes.
Cancelation or Postponement of Qualifying Competitions	In the case of postponement or cancelation of qualifying competitions and: • It is beyond the date for team nominations. • The Selectors will select a team from athletes who have nominated. • Base the selection on performances throughout the season.

3.2 Selection Process

Selection Panel	A Selection Panel comprising of at least three (3) Little Athletics SA Board Members will be appointed to ratify the selection of the State Team.
State Team Personnel	SALAA will appoint a minimum of: • State Team Administrator. • No less than three (3) Team Managers and no less than six (6) Team Coaches.
Considerations	The Selection Panel will be made aware of any disciplinary warnings or exclusions (yellow or red cards) issued to eligible athletes at State events throughout the season. They must consider these before selecting an athlete to the team.
U15 Combined Events Selection Criteria	The top ranked eligible and nominated athletes up to the maximum athletes per event will be selected from the Little Athletics SA Combined Events Championships. A minimum score of 3000 points will be required.
U15 Team Selection Criteria	Athletes will be selected based on results achieved at the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships. The preliminary team will be selected based on selecting the top ranked eligible and nominated athletes up to the maximum athletes per event. For certain events, a minimum performance standard may be set.
U14 Team Selection Criteria	Athletes will be selected based on results achieved at the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships. The preliminary team will be selected based on selecting the top ranked eligible and nominated athletes up to the maximum athletes per event. For certain events, a minimum performance standard may be set.
U13 Team Selection Criteria	Athletes will be selected based on results achieved at the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships. The preliminary team will be selected based on selecting the top ranked eligible and nominated athletes up to the maximum athletes per event. For certain events, a minimum performance standard may be set.
U13, U14 & U15 Team Finalisation	The preliminary team will be modified to meet the constraints of selection. Athletes' performances will be scored as a percentage of the current Australian Best Performance for the event. The total of an athlete's scores in their selected events represents their value to the team. To reduce the team size to be less than or equal to the maximum athletes allowed: **Step** / **Action** 1. **Remove** the athletes with the lowest total scores 2. **Reallocate** the events to other team members. 3. **Consider** results achieved by athletes in other competitions other than State Championships when reallocating. Consideration will also be given to the individual athlete's workload for the ALAC competition, and potential relay compositions.

Athletes Exceeding the Event Limit	Where an athlete has too many events, they will be removed from their lowest scoring event(s). Those events will be allocated to other members of the team as above. This may include removing an athlete from an individual event to select them in a relay team. Selectors may consult with individual athlete's coaches to help determine the best event mix for an athlete.
Not Meeting Performance Standards	Athletes will not be selected merely to fill the team numbers. If performances would not be competitive at the national level as compared to previous years' ALACs they will not be selected. This includes whether their performances are the best in the State.
Relay Selection	The Selectors will recommend relay teams as part of the team selection. These will be finalised by the team management in preparation for the competition. The 4x100m teams will generally be the four athletes in the team with the best 100m times. The Swedish Medley relay team will consider each athlete's 100m, 200m and 400m times. An estimated 300m time will be determined for each athlete. A combination of athletes will then be selected that has the potential to achieve the best time.
Multi-Class Athletes	Eligible and nominated Multi-Class athletes up to the maximum athletes per event based on their rankings at the Little Athletics SA State Individual Championships will be selected. This is provided they have met any Little Athletics Australia qualification standards. Athletes will be ranked using the Multi-Class Baseline Scoring Tables.
Replacement Athletes	Where a selected athlete withdraws from the team prior to the competition, replacement athletes may be selected at the sole discretion of the selectors.

3.3 Code of Conduct

State Selector Code of Conduct

Any State Selector must acknowledge that the highest degree of professionalism in dealing with other committee members, athletes, parents, peers, and all others associated with the team is required. Therefore, the individual will:

- Act with integrity, fairness, honesty, diligence, and non-bias.
- Declare any actual or perceived conflict of interest to the chair and other panel members as soon as it arises.
- Ensure that they are thoroughly familiar with the content and intent of this standard and all other related information.
- Ensure that all selection materials, discussions, and meetings remain confidential to the selection committee.
- Remain discreet at all times and must not promote the fact that they are selectors.
- Direct all enquiries from athletes, parents, coaches etc., regarding the selection process to the State Team Administrator.

Conflict of Interest

A conflict of interest by a State Team Coach, Manager or Selector is deemed to be:

- A child of which they are parent/guardian/direct relationship vying for a position.
- Contact with any athlete vying for a position on competition days.

Where there is a relationship with a child that person in question must stand down from that role until the following season.

3.4 Appeals

Appeals

An athlete not gaining State Team selection may lodge an appeal on the sole grounds that the State Team Selection Standard was not properly followed or implemented.

If a parent/guardian believe that an athlete has incorrectly missed selection, they should:

Step	Action
1.	**Lodge** a written appeal with the State Team Administrator.
2.	**Appeal** must be lodged within 7 days after official publication of the team on the SALAA website.
3.	**Appeal** is lodged by the State Team Administrator to the Selection Panel
4.	**Determination** is made by the Selection Panel

The determination of the Selection Panel will be final.

Extenuating Circumstances

The Selection Panel may give weight to extenuating circumstances when considering the performance of athletes.

Athletes unable to participate in events, trials, training camps or other attendances required must advise the Selection Panel in writing of this fact and of the reasons before their commencement.

In the situation of illness or injury:

- Athletes must submit a medical certificate to the Selection Panel.
- This must be submitted no later than 12:00 midday on the Sunday of the Championships.
- Acceptance of a medical certificate does not guarantee selection.

In the situation of bereavement, equipment failure, travel delays or other extenuating circumstances, a decision will be made by the Selection Panel on an individual basis.

Removal from State Team

Athletes are ineligible for selection or continued membership of the State Team if they:

- Breach or fail to observe this standard.
- Breach of fail to observe the SALAA policies, standards, and behavioral expectations.
- Breach or fail to fulfil a requirement of the LAA Anti-Doping Policy.

4. Definitions and References

4.1 Definitions

Maximum Athletes	The maximum number of athletes that may be selected in the team as specified in the LAA Regulations for the ALAC.
Maximum Athletes per Event	The maximum number of athletes that may be selected in an individual event per gender as specified in the LAA Regulations for the ALAC.
Scoring Athletes	The number of athletes that will score points per event as specified in the LAA Regulations for the ALAC. The number of scoring athletes may be less than the maximum number of athletes.
Maximum Events per Athlete	The maximum number of events an individual athlete may be selected in as specified in the LAA Regulations for the ALAC. The regulations will specify if relays are included in this maximum.

4.2 Abbreviations

PB	Personal Best
ALAC	Australian Little Athletics Championships
ATC	Australian Teams Championships
ACEC	Australian Combined Event Championships

4.3 References

Related Documents	State Team Operations Manual

5. Addendum A – Checklist

Checklist for Parents/Guardians of Athletes to be nominated for State Selection

Item	Check
Athlete has been nominated for team selection	☐
Athlete has been nominated in State Individual (U13, U14, U15) or Combined Event (U15) Championships	☐
Athlete participates in one of the above events ***or***	☐
An exception has been applied for in writing	☐
Acceptance in writing has been received	☐
Code of conduct, Waivers and other required information forms have been signed and returned	☐