

Little Athletics NSW

Age Group Information Handbook

2018/
2019 Season



Age Group Information Handbook

Introduction

From the commencement of the 2018/2019 competition season, Little Athletics across Australia is changing the date on which it determines its age groups, to 31 December. This has direct implications for some of our athletes and parents, as well as Centres who run Little Athletics activities from week to week.

The purpose of this communication is to inform the Little Athletics community of what the changes are, to highlight the implications of these changes, and ultimately to assist those affected to smoothly transition. It is vitally important that everyone has a good grasp of what these changes mean for them.

In the event you have questions, please direct these in the first instance to your centre. The staff in the LANSW office can also assist and your queries can be directed to admin@lansw.com.au and should be addressed 'Age Group Change'.

Summary

- **Age groups:** the date on which Little Athletics will determine its age groups, will move from 30 September to 31 December. This change will take effect in season 2018/2019.
- **Who's affected:** athletes born during the period 1 October to 31 December will progress up an additional age group (i.e. two age groups) heading into the 2018/2019 season.
- **U17 age group:** Centre, Zone, Region and State levels of competition will still be offered for affected athletes who would have been in their second year of U17 in 2018/2019 (i.e. athletes born between 1 October 2001 and 31 December 2001, will still be eligible to register in the U17 age group for the coming season). This provision will only apply for the 2018/2019 season.
- **Tiny Tots:** Children who are 3 or 4 years of age will participate in the Tiny Tots age group. Children who are only 2 years of age as at 1 October but turn 3 years of age between 1 October and 31 December, will not be eligible to register until their third birthday.
- **ALAC (Australian Little Athletics Championships):** eligibility criteria for the Australian Little Athletics Championships (ALAC) have been adjusted to include athletes affected by the age group change.
- **Trans Tasman Tour and Challenge:** competition rules and selection policies have been adjusted to include athletes affected by the age group change.
- **National U15 Camp:** eligibility criteria have been reviewed and adjusted to include athletes affected by the age group change.
- **Records:** no new records will be established as a result of the change in age groups.

U17 Age Group

Change

- Athletes affected by the change who would have been in their second year of U17 in 2018/2019 (i.e. athletes born between 1 October 2001 and 31 December 2001), will still be eligible to register in the U17 age group for the 2018/2019 season.

Implications

- The U17 age group for the 2018/2019 season, will have athletes registered from across a 27-month age bracket, being those athletes born between 1 October 2001 and 31 December 2003.
- This extended age group will apply to all levels of competition and will be for the 2018/2019 season only.

Tiny Tots

Change

- Children who are 3 or 4 years of age will participate in the Tiny Tots age group. Children who are only 2 years of age as at 1 October but turn 3 years of age between 1 October and 31 December, will not be eligible to register until their third birthday.
- Athletes turning 3 years of age after 31 December, cannot register until the following season.

Implications

- For the 2018/2019 season, the Tiny Tot age group will be comprised of children born in the period 1 January 2014 to 30 September 2015, plus those children born in the period 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015, only after they have reached their 3rd birthday.

ALAC (Australian Little Athletics Championships)

Change

- The competition rules have been adjusted to allow season 2017/2018's U12 athletes born in the period 1 October - 31 December (who will skip U13's in 2018/2019) to still be eligible for the U13 Australian Teams Championship (ATC) in April 2019.
- Team sizes have been increased from 26 athletes to 32 athletes and 3 athletes will be selected in each event, instead of 2, to facilitate the extended age group.
- The competition rules have also been adjusted to allow season 2017/2018's U14 athletes born in the period 1 October - 31 December (who will skip U15's in 2018/2019) to still be eligible for the U15 Australian Multi-Event Championship (AMEC) in April 2019.
- Team sizes have been increased from 3 boys and 3 girls, to 4 boys and 4 girls.

Implications

- No athlete directly affected by the age group change will be disadvantaged. All athletes within the designated age range (see below) will have the opportunity to qualify for ALAC.
- Selection for the 2019 Australian Teams Championship (ATC) will be open to athletes born during the period 1 October 2005 - 31 December 2006 (for 2019 ALAC only) and therefore provides for all U13 and some U14 athletes.
- Selection for the 2019 Australian Multi-Event Championship (AMEC) will be open to athletes born during the period 1 October 2003 - 31 December 2004 and therefore provides for all U15 and some U17 athletes.

• Athletes born in the period 1 October 2005 - 31 December 2006 or 1 October 2003 - 31 December 2004, who wish to be considered for selection for the ATC or AMEC respectively, will need to notify LANSW accordingly.

• For track events, and where field event specifications are the same, selections will be made from a comparison of performances across the two different age groups at the relevant State Championship (either State Track & Field, or State Multi-Event). Where specifications differ, athletes in the 'older' age group, will be required to participate in a trial that will be held in conjunction the actual championship event for the 'true' age group.

Trans Tasman Tour and Challenge

Change

• The competition rules and selection policy have been adjusted to allow season 2017/2018's U11 athletes born in the period 1 October - 31 December (who will skip U12's in 2018/2019) to still be eligible for selection for the Trans Tasman Challenge in January 2019.

• The competition rules and selection policy have also been adjusted to allow season 2017/2018's U10 athletes born in the period 1 October - 31 December (who will skip U11's and become U12's in 2018/2019 and will therefore be U13 in 2019/2020) to still be eligible for the Trans Tasman Tour to Auckland in January 2020.

Implications

• No athlete directly affected by the age group change will be disadvantaged or miss the opportunity to experience the tour to Auckland.

• All athletes within the designated age ranges (see below) will have the opportunity to be selected in the Trans Tasman Team for both the home Challenge in 2019 and the tour to Auckland in 2020.

• Selection in the U12 age group for the 2019 Trans Tasman Challenge in Sydney will be open to athletes born during the period 1 October 2006 to 31 December 2007 and therefore provides for all U12 and some U13 athletes. Selection in the U11 age group will be open to athletes born during the period 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008.

• Selection in the U12 age group for the 2020 Trans Tasman Tour to Auckland will be open to athletes born during the period 1 October 2007 to 31 December 2008 and therefore provides for all U12 and some U13 athletes. Selection in the U11 age group will be open to athletes born during the period 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2009.

LAA (Little Athletics Australia) National U15 Camp

Change

• As selections for the camp are based upon State Championship performances by athletes in the U14 age group, the eligibility criteria and performance standards will be reviewed and adjusted to allow season 2017/2018's U13 athletes born in the period 1 October - 31 December (who will skip U14's in 2018/2019), to still be eligible to qualify for the 2019 LAA National U15 Camp.

• The number of positions available for the camp will be increased from 100 athletes to 125 athletes for 2019 only, to facilitate the extended age group.

Implications

- No athlete directly affected by the age group change will be disadvantaged. All athletes within the designated age range (see below) will have their performances considered for selection to attend the 2019 National U15 Camp.
- Selection for the 2019 LAA National U15 Camp will be made from athletes born during the period 1 October 2004 to 31 December 2005 and therefore provides for all season 2018/2019 U14 athletes and some U15 athletes

Age Group Transition Assistance

We are aiming to hold a number of skills clinics at the start of the 2018/2019 season, specifically to assist those athletes who will be transitioning up two age groups and missing the introduction year of a new event or event specification. Delivery of these clinics will be somewhat determined by demand and all costs will be borne by Little Athletics NSW.



Year of Birth	Month of Birth	Age Group 2017/2018	Age Group 2018/2019	Age Group 2019/2020
2015	January to September	Too Young	Tiny Tots	Tiny Tots
	October to December	Too Young	Tiny Tots (from age 3)	Tiny Tots
2014	January to September	Tiny Tots	Tiny Tots	U6
	October to December	Too Young	Tiny Tots	U6
2013	January to September	Tiny Tots	U6	U7
	October to December	Tiny Tots	U6	U7
2012	January to September	U6	U7	U8
	October to December	Tiny Tots	U7	U8
2011	January to September	U7	U8	U9
	October to December	U6	U8	U9
2010	January to September	U8	U9	U10
	October to December	U7	U9	U10
2009	January to September	U9	U10	U11
	October to December	U8	U10	U11
2008	January to September	U10	U11	U12
	October to December	U9	U11	U12
2007	January to September	U11	U12	U13
	October to December	U10	U12	U13
2006	January to September	U12	U13	U14
	October to December	U11	U13	U14
2005	January to September	U13	U14	U15
	October to December	U12	U14	U15
2004	January to September	U14	U15	U17
	October to December	U13	U15	U17
2003	January to September	U15	U17	U17
	October to December	U14	U17	U17
2002	January to September	U17	U17	TOO OLD
	October to December	U15	U17	TOO OLD
2001	January to September	U17	TOO OLD	TOO OLD
	October to December	U17	U17	TOO OLD

REGISTRATION AGES TABLE

2018/2019 Season



DATE OF BIRTH	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
JAN	TOO OLD	17	17	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	TT	TT
FEB	TOO OLD	17	17	16	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	TT	TT
MAR	TOO OLD	17	17	16	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	TT	TT
APR	TOO OLD	17	17	16	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	TT	TT
MAY	TOO OLD	17	17	16	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	TT	TT
JUN	TOO OLD	17	17	16	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	TT	TT
JUL	TOO OLD	17	17	16	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	TT	TT
AUG	TOO OLD	17	17	16	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	TT	TT
SEP	TOO OLD	17	17	16	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	TT	TT
OCT	17	17	17	16	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	TT	TT* at 3yrs
NOV	17	17	17	16	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	TT	TT* at 3yrs
DEC	17	17	17	16	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	TT	TT* at 3yrs

*Tiny Tots Age Group

Three and four year olds may register as a Tiny Tot where a centre offers a Tiny Tots program. Children who are two years of age and have not yet turned three, are not permitted to join Little Athletics until their third birthday. All Tiny Tots must only participate in gross motor skill games and activities.