



Weekly Newsletter

7th October, 2017

Welcome to the 2017-2018 season of Little Athletics. Welcome to all the new families joining us, and welcome back to all returning families. The weekly newsletter will hopefully hit your email boxes by Thursday each week. It contains heaps of important information about the club and what's happening, so please ensure you try to read it each week. If you do not receive the weekly email, the newsletter will still be accessible directly from our website, and a link will be published on our [Facebook page](#) and on [Team App](#). Our line marking was finished Wednesday, and the jump pits have been topped up. Massive thank you's need to go out to Todd Martin, Mark Henry, & James Barrett for getting this huge job done. Thanks also to Ben & Tom for helping out.

Our AGM was held in August, and our [Executive Committee](#) has remained unchanged. A new role has been created this year in an Assistant Secretary. Thanks to Jenni Gaskett for taking on this role - Lisa Henry is very appreciative of the extra help. The Executive committee are well supported this season by possibly our largest amount of general committee members in recent years. If you ever need to raise something with the committee, either [email the club](#) or find one of us on a Saturday morning. We are the ones wearing the bright orange polo shirts.

Our move to Mornington Secondary College halfway through last season was very successful. There were a few teething problems dealing with a larger track, but these were ironed out quickly. The school has installed more drainage under the track and it is looking much better than it was this time last year. We are looking forward to a full season at MSC and are grateful for their continued support.

In new track news, the council have communicated to us that the build will (hopefully) begin before the end of the financial year. If this is the case, we will have 2 more full seasons at MSC. This should (*fingers crossed*) place us on our new, all-weather IAAF track at Civic Reserve for the 2019/20 season. We will keep you posted as we find out more information.

If you have yet to register for the season, please make sure you do ASAP. Your child will not be issued a bib until payment has been made and proof of birth date has been sighted by the club. This is a Little Athletics Victoria directive. If you are a returning member, please use your login details from previous years. This information is in an email sent to you by Little Athletics Victoria in August.

We will have a visit this weekend by members of the senior club MPAC (Mornington Peninsula Athletic Club). They will speak about how our older athletes can hold dual memberships with MLAC and MPAC so they can compete in the AV competitions on Saturday afternoons. MPAC will finally have a home with us at the new track at Civic Reserve when it is built, so we really need to foster a stronger relationship with them. There is also a heap of information on our website about how [AV and MPAC work](#). Please come talk to them in the Cottage at the beginning of the session if you have any questions.

Finally, this year we will be trialling a second hand athletics shoe stall. If you have any old spikes and waffles that no longer fit your children, we would appreciate you donating them to the club. We then plan to resell them for \$20, with all money going to the club. For every pair of shoes you donate, you will receive a \$10 off voucher that can be used at any time over the season (stock dependant) to buy a pair of second hand athletics shoes. We are hopeful that we can raise a bit of money from this, help people clear out their old shoes, and allow people to snap up some bargains! Donations and sales will occur in the Cottage from 8.30-9.30am each Saturday morning.

For those new to MLAC, each week we issue a weekly email. This email will cover the “hot topics” of the moment and some not so hot topics such as duty rosters on the day. Without further ado, here are this week’s bullet points.

The key points to note this week are:

- Duty Roster
- What happens on the Day?
- Athletes Bibs
- Uniforms/Merchandise
- Results HQ
- Club Sponsors
- Parking
- Dog policy
- First Aid
- Wet Weather
- Website
- Team App
- Facebook
- Weekly Program
- BBQ

And finally, just a reminder to everyone - when crossing the track, please remember to check if there is a race in progress, and cross safely and quickly. Also, keep young children close to you so they don't get barrellled over by kids running, or hit by a discus or shot put!

Duty Roster for Saturday 7th October 2017

Please note that we have 2 age groups rostered on to ensure that each duty is suitably attended.

Set up takes more than an hour and we really do need those rostered on to be there as required. The committee are always on hand but as we all know many hands make light work and it makes a world of difference to how the whole day runs when we can set-up on time for the program to start, especially on the first morning of the season!

The following Age Groups are rostered on this weekend:

Setup : **Under 10 Boys** and **Under 9 Girls** (*please arrive by 7.30am*)

BBQ : **Under 7 Boys** and **Under 12 Girls** (*from set up of the BBQ at 8.00am to pack-up and clean at the day's end*)

Pack Up : **Under 12 Boys** and **Under 7 Girls** (*concludes once the containers are locked up*)

What happens on the day?

Try to arrive well before 8.45am, as this is when we start the warm up. Most age groups are finished by 12pm.

Your First Priority

The first order of business should be to get your child to their relevant age group area. When you first arrive head for the age group trolleys that should be lined up on the track near the Cottage. These will be in chronological order from U6 Boys & Girls up to the Open Boys and Girls. Head to your relevant age group and sign in with the age group team manager(s). Age group managers this year will be wearing a Team Managers cap. If you are still unsure, head into the Cottage, and someone there can direct you where to go. All you need to bring on the day is a hat and drink bottle. Those without a uniform and those who are trialling only need to wear a t-shirt, shorts and runners. Please note that this year, some age groups don't have an assigned age group/team manager yet.

We would appreciate some parents stepping in to these roles if possible. There is some information about the role on our [website](#).

Registered vs Unregistered Signing in

If you have registered and paid by Thursday this week, there will (hopefully) be an athlete's bib assigned to your child which must be pinned to the front of their uniform. LA Vic had a little trouble getting these to us in time for Saturday. If you have paid and there is no bib, don't panic, there will be one for your child by Week 2. The bib is used to electronically record times. If there is no bib there for your child do not worry, the team managers will hand write the results from the day and we will manually record. This bib **must** be returned at the end of each morning to the team manager. If you accidentally take it home, please remember to bring it back next week, and try not to put it through the wash! Once your payment has been made, all manual results will be uploaded to Results HQ and a bib will be printed for your child.

Registration and Merchandise in the Cottage

Registration enquiries, payments and merchandise sales all happen in the Cottage. This can be the craziest spot of all over the first few sessions. Our volunteers are there all morning each week so there is no need to rush straight in after signing in your child. Pick a time when the queues are small and head on over.

Little Athletics Victoria have moved the registration process completely online. You should have received a registration email from Little Athletics Victoria with your login and password if you are a returning member. Please log in to the system if you are a past member, don't create a new profile. If you are having trouble logging in, please email us and we'll sort you out. If you have access to a computer and are willing to pay by credit card there is no real need to head to the Registration desk to register or pay. Hopefully this will reduce our queues. Even if you haven't paid when you registered online and wish to pay, the system allows you to re-enter and pay. If you do not have a credit/debit card, we can take cash payments at the Registration tent, but you **must** register online first.

If however you are having difficulties completing these functions online head on over to the Cottage and we will assist. We understand that some families do not have ready access to a computer or online banking.

Registration Packs

LA Vic are not providing us with registration packs this season. However we do have 100 left over from last season that we will be distributing to **NEW** athletes only once payment has been received. Please print out your receipt and present it to collect your pack. They can be collected from the Cottage. If this is your child's first time at Little Athletics, confirmation of date of birth needs to be shown to the club. This can be done by bringing in your child's birth certificate or passport to the Cottage.

For the Under 6's & 7's

Specifically for the under 6's and 7's, we have a couple of committee members on hand to provide you with further details as to what occurs with these age groups, as we understand that it is these age groups where the vast majority of our new members come from. Our committee members are all wearing bright orange polo shirts. For other age groups there are many experienced MLAC campaigners who will be there on the day.

Athletes Bibs

Each athlete fully registered prior to Thursday on the week of competition is allocated their own bib. This bib has a bar code affixed to it. This bar code is unique to your child and is used as part of our electronic timing system.

At MLAC we store these bibs with the team folder. Each team folder has a satchel inside in which the bibs and pins are to be placed at the conclusion of the day's events.

With this in mind can you please make sure your child does not depart at the conclusion of their events with their bib.

Uniforms/Merchandise

Uniforms and other club merchandise will be available for sale only at Mornington Secondary College on each competition day in the Cottage. Club t-shirts/singlets/crop tops, MLAC hoodies, and LA Vic branded shorts are all available for purchase. This year we are also selling orange compression socks. There are only limited numbers available, so if you are interested, come take a look. T-shirts - \$45, Singlets - \$45, Crop Tops - \$50, LA Vic shorts - \$25, Compression socks (small/large) - \$20.

Results HQ

To view your child's results, you will need to log in to Results HQ. You will need to have paid the club registration fee to have access. The login details are a little confusing:

Username: Your family username is the email address you used to register your primary member with (usually your oldest child)

Password: Your password is the Login ID of your primary member when you log in to LA Vic.

You can view your whole family's results on one page, and also view all MLAC results. Tickets can be printed out to keep. We endeavour to have the results available by Sunday evening.

If you have registered and paid by Thursday evening and there is no bib for your child, please talk to someone at the Registration desk in the Cottage.

If you have any problems logging in, please contact Lisa Henry lhenry@morningtonlittleleaths.org

<https://www.resultshq.com.au/login>



Club Sponsors

The club will continue this season to be actively fundraising to raise money so we can contribute to the new track at Civic Reserve. We hope our members can help us as much as possible towards this goal. With this in mind, we'd like to make you aware of some of our sponsors/loyalty partners, and how you and they can help the club:

- **Cafe2U** - Damien and Elizabeth set up their van each Saturday morning to provide our parents with their morning coffee. They donated ~\$800 to the club last season. They are available for private & business events, or fundraisers. Contact them on 0448 974 907 or mornington@au.cafe2u.biz for all enquiries.



- **Ritchies Supermarkets Community Benefits** - We are registered with Ritchies/IGA for the Community Benefits program. If you shop at a [Ritchies](#) store (listed on our website) and present your Community Benefits card linked to our club, we will receive 0.5% of all sales once the monthly combined spend reaches \$2000. We have a few pre-linked cards left for collection at the Registration desk, or pick one up in store and link it to our club. Since February 2016 we have had money trickling in to the amount of nearly \$250. Every cent we raise from this program will go towards the new track. So the more of our members that shop there and present our linked card, the more money we will receive.

RITCHIES
Where the Community Benefits

- **Rebel Sports** - As with the Ritchies program, [Rebel](#) (recently rebranded from Amart Sports) also run a Community Kickbacks scheme. Sign up in store and link your card to our club. 5% of all sales come back to us each quarter! We use the money to buy equipment and vouchers.



If you have any other fundraising ideas, please forward them on to the club via email. We are also on the lookout for more sponsors. If you, or someone you know wishes to sponsor us in some way, send us an [email](#) and we will send you our sponsorship proposal.

Parking

Please Note: There is **NO PARKING** available for us in the basketball stadium car park, as this area is for the exclusive use of those attending the basketball stadium. We have also been asked not to park near the swim centre. We are to use the land at the north end of the school for parking. Access to this land is from Eagle Street, which is at the set of traffic lights at the Bata intersection with Nepean Hwy. There will be people directing the traffic first thing in the morning as not all of this land is suitable for parking. If this area fills up, there is minimal parking within the school grounds - along the driveway at the front of the school, the fenced basketball courts just past the bus bays, and the staff car park. We have been asked to advise that there is to be **STRICTLY NO PARKING ALONG NEPEAN HWY!!**

Dog Policy

Please note that we have a strict **NO DOGS** policy on competition days. There have been a number of incidents and near misses over the past few years, plus we have a few athletes with dog allergies and those who are scared of dogs. We would greatly appreciate if you left your dogs at home.

First Aid

We are fortunate again to have Dr Leesa Huguenin, Sports Physician, overseeing our First Aid program. She generously donated a new First Aid kit to the centre last season. We have also purchased a defibrillator for the club with the help of a grant from the RACV. This year, we are hoping to have a roster of parents with a medical background who can oversee the minor injuries that might occur each week, with Leesa there as a back-up for major injuries. If you are a doctor, or have a nursing or first aid background, and would be willing to be our First Aid officer a couple of times over the season, please contact Lisa Henry to have your name added to list. lhenny@morningtonlittleaths.org. If your child is injured, have them come to the Cottage and we will organise first aid.

What happens in the event of Wet Weather/Extreme Heat

When the weather forecast does not look great, the committee makes a decision by 8:00 a.m. on the morning of competition whether the competition day will go ahead or be cancelled. In the event of cancellation a notice will be posted on the following sites by 8:00 am:

Website www.morningtonlittleaths.org
Facebook www.facebook.com/mlac82
Twitter @mlac82
Team App www.teamapp.com

We communicate with our members almost exclusively via electronic means. We will always email you important information, but it is also distributed via our Facebook page and Team App.

Website

Our [website](#) was updated last season and has had a lot of wonderful feedback. Most club information can be found here - if there is anything important missing, please let us know.

Team App

As with previous years, we will be utilising [Team App](#) to get information out to our members and their families about news and events around the centre.

Download Team App (it's free!) from iTunes or the Play Store and search for Mornington Little Athletics.



Facebook

We also have a [Facebook page](#) filled with news and photos of our athletes. Make sure you "Like" it to see posts in your Newsfeed. If you do not wish to have your child's photo published, please send an email to our secretary Lisa Henry lhenry@morningtonlittleaths.org. She will endeavour to ensure your child's photos are never published.



Weekly Program

This week's program is Program 1 and can be downloaded by clicking [here](#) or find it on the club [website](#).

BBQ

Our humble BBQ raises much needed funds for the club. Thank you to Tim Lambourne for taking on the role of BBQ coordinator this season - it's a big role and the club appreciates you taking it on. The BBQ is set up under the Cottage verandah. Pay for your sausage in bread or egg and bacon roll inside the Cottage, then head out to the BBQ for your goodies. Each week, 2 age groups are rostered on to help at the BBQ. We need 3-4 people there at all times over the morning to have it run smoothly. We don't expect parents to spend longer than 45 minutes helping out. So if your age group is rostered on, please work out a schedule with the other parents and make sure people are relieved as the morning goes on. We all want to watch our kids compete, and those kids want a sausage at the end of the session!

If unsure of what to do on the day, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via email or by speaking to one of the committee members on Saturday mornings. They are easily identified in their bright orange polo shirts

Regards,

Mornington Little Athletics Centre

mornington@lavic.com.au

PO Box 544

Mornington, Victoria, 3931

www.morningtonlittleaths.org