



**CHIEF STEWARD'S REPORT
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ATHLETIC LEAGUE**

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| Meeting Name: | Keith Patching Memorial Carnival – Brighton Oval |
| Date: | 24 th November '24 |
| Weather Conditions: | Fine: 25 degrees |
| Track Conditions: | Slow & Spongy: Sprint – 70m & 100m Circular – 328m |
| Report Prepared By: | Trevor Mules |
| Conduct of Meeting: | <p>Congratulations to athletes who in testing track conditions were successful in making it onto the presentation dais. The performances of the athletes were at a competitive spirit and exciting finishes were witnessed by all who were in attendance.</p> <p>A big thank you to the Brighton Bombers Athletic Squad for their assistance on the day and everyone who assisted us to make it a great meeting.</p> |

ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE

| UP – (Unacceptable Performance) Refer to the SAAL Handicap guidelines for definitions of UP | Athlete | Race | Reason | Notes/Penalty |
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| NAP – (Non Approved Performance) | Athlete | Race | Reason | Notes/Penalty |
| | Sam Kean | 1000m Men Straight Final (110.0m) | <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable Improvement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable time <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of effort <input type="checkbox"/> Racing tactics <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <p>After winning his 400m heat and qualifying for the final, athlete competed in the 1000m four minutes later. He was advised by his Coach not to run and ran last in (2:51.45sec) some 23.30sec from the winner.</p> <p>Action: No lift of handicap until an acceptable performance is reached.</p> |

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| | Anya Horgan | 400m U/18 Girls – Final (53m) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable Improvement <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable time <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of effort <input type="checkbox"/> Racing tactics <input type="checkbox"/> Other | Heat (58m): 56.29sec – 1st (6.08mps) Final (53m): 56.22sec – 1st (6.17mps) Keith Patching Heat 14/12/23 (55m): 59.54sec – 2 nd (5.79mps) Keith Patching Final 14/12/23 (55m): 1:00.21sec – 5 th (5.73mps) Barossa Final 28/1/24 (55m): 59.43sec – 4 th (5.81mps) Camden Heat 4/2/24 (55m): 1:08.66sec – 4 th (5.02mps) Overall improved performance from earlier in the year of approx. 15-20 metres. Action: Review of handicap |
| | Sam Kean | 400m Men Final (49m) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable Improvement <input type="checkbox"/> Unacceptable time <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of effort <input type="checkbox"/> Racing tactics <input type="checkbox"/> Other | Heat (49m): 51.25sec – 1st (6.849mps) Final (49m): 48.65sec – 1st (7.215mps) From Heat to Final was an improved time by 2.60sec = 18.75 metres. Previous times over 400m were of an acceptable performance. Note: Athlete chose to run in the 1km Straight Final approx. 1 hour earlier. Action: Review of handicap |
| ATHLETE INJURIES | Athlete | Race | Injury | Notes/Penalty |
| | Ben Wilson | 70m Novice Final | Hamstring Tightness | Form 40: 28-day suspension |
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| GENERAL COMMENTS ON RACE MEETING | |
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| <p>Include: Breaks & Mark Changes etc</p> | <p>100m U/14 - Heat 5: Noah Fitzgerald broke at the start and was penalised 0.75m and re-handicapped from 18m to 17.25m. Riley Fielder then broke on the restart and re-handicapped from 6.00m to 5.25m.</p> <p>100m Men - Heat 4: Nicholas Krznicar spoken to by Phil Daws & Chris Dimitrak to run the race out and not ease up before the finish line.</p> <p>70m Novice - Heat 4: Ben Wilson (& father who is not a coach) spoken to by Phil Daws and Chris Dimitrak regarding slowing up before the finish line and was advised to run the race out. Chief Steward noticed athlete grab the hamstring area on his way past the official's tent. This later proved to be the problem in the final where he was required to ease down before the finish line and run last, 0.53sec (approx. 3.84m) slower than the heat time (refer 'Athlete Injuries' section).</p> <p>400m U/18 Girls – Heat 2: Anya Horgan ran under 'Target Time' for the heat. After consultation with Chief Steward and Handicapper it was agreed after a significant improvement of some 12sec at Camden earlier in the year that Anya would be re-handicapped for the final from 58m to 53m. This was outlined to her Coach Frank McHugh and accepted.</p> <p>400m U/18 Boys – Heat 2: Scott Delean warned by Chief Steward about looking around in the straight.</p> <p>400m U/14 - Final: Ashton Zorich broke at the start and was penalised 2m and re-handicapped from 54m to 52m.</p> <p>400m U/14 - Final: Winner & Second placegetter both broke 'Target Time' for the event. Handicaps to be reviewed for adjustment.</p> <p>400m U/18 Girls – Final: Winner broke 'Target Time' for the event. Handicap to be reviewed for adjustment.</p> <p>400m U/18 Boys – Final: Winner & Second placegetter both broke 'Target Time' for the event. Handicaps to be reviewed for adjustment.</p> <p>CHIEF STEWARD'S COMMENTS</p> <p>Luis Lawrie-Lattanzio – 70m/100m/400m</p> <p>Before the running of the 100m Men Heats at the Brighton Carnival, Luis Lawrie-Lattanzio approached the Chief Steward with a Physio Certificate giving him clearance to run following his withdrawal from a semi-final at a Victorian athletic meeting the preceding weekend. He had been advised by SAAL to follow this course of action. Initially my response was to allow him to run, however, after investigating the matter further with the other stewards, I was reminded competing in Victoria that SAAL rules apply and do not allow him to run irrespective of a clearance within a 7 day period. Accordingly, I reserved my approval to ensure no precedent was set.</p> <p>My apologies for this delayed action and will ensure in the future that consultation on these matters also involve the stewarding team.</p> |

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| | <p>Coach's Behaviour Our sport is one of high emotion and Coach's behaviour thus far in 2024 has been outstanding.</p> <p>It is therefore regrettable, that it has come to my attention, that last weekend during the Brighton Carnival, there was some inappropriate behaviour from a coach. This coach then followed up with an official correspondence to SAAL following that meeting. In essence, the complainant coach denigrated another coach and his practices, to a group of people. The verbal commentary, and subsequent written correspondence, contained accusations that were inappropriate and defamatory, and unfortunately, this is not an isolated case by this complainant coach.</p> <p>I remind all coaches that the Chief Steward and the team are the arbitrators of the SAAL rules, and they alone are the decision makers regarding an athlete's performance. I would also like to remind all coaches and athletes that on the track, any defamatory verbal commentary to a SAAL Official, coach or athlete is a breach of the code of conduct.</p> <p>Effective immediately, there will be a no tolerance policy for coaches who engage in this behaviour. This type of incident will be the subject of a steward's inquiry, and the consequences will include sanctions by way of a fine or suspension. Coaches will display a high standard of behaviour and be role models on race days despite any other personal feelings.</p> | | | |
| ATHLETE ADVISORIES | Athlete | Race | Athlete Comment | Steward Response |
| | Henry Raymond | 70m Novice | Coach Kym Steer advised his athlete had a calf niggle but was OK to run. | Accepted and asked to perform at the best of his ability. |
| | Gianny Scoleri | 400m Men | Advised Chief Steward he had just recovered from COVID he contracted 2 weeks prior to the meet. | Accepted and asked to perform at the best of his ability. |
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