CHIEF STEWARD'S REPORT SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ATHLETIC LEAGUE	
Meeting Name:	**MARION GIFT CARNIVAL – CLUB MARION, WESTERN OVAL 262 STURT ROAD, MARION**
Date:	SUNDAY 11/10/2026
Weather Conditions:	Windy then meet cancelled due to lightning after men's gift.
Track Conditions:	**Sprint** (70 &120m): **FAIR** **Circular** (370m): **FAIR**
Report Prepared By:	Chris Dimitrak (Chief Steward)
Steward's Summary:	

OVERALL: 37 RACES OVER 2 DAYS from 70m to 800metres (300m and 1600m races deferred due to lightning)

After a well-earned five-month break…. it was fantastic to officially welcome everyone back for the opening meet of the new season!

While the weather gods certainly weren't on our side, with persistent lightning and thunder forcing the postponement of the 300m–1600m events, it didn't dampen the excitement of our season opener!
Wonderful to see familiar faces, returning athletes and some exciting newcomers kick-starting their professional running journeys.

A huge welcome back to our dedicated race-day team, along with some fresh faces stepping into important roles this season!

Important housekeeping matters and clarify expectations surrounding athlete performances.

As we commence the new season, in reviewing performances from our opening meet, considerable leniency has been applied (in most cases) in recognition of this being the first competition following a five-month break!

Moving forward, commencing immediately at Flinders, it is important that we establish a **clear, fair and consistent approach.**
Any athlete performing outside the extreme range will be spoken to (with coach or representative) and given the opportunity to provide an explanation.

DEFINTIONS - (AP) ACCEPTABLE PERFORMANCE / (NAP) NON-APPROVED PERFORMANCE / (UP) UNACCEPTABLE PERFORMANCE

This will be done with conjunction **only with CHIEF STEWARD and HANDICAPPER concerned**. This will allow each performance to be assessed on its individual merits before determining whether an NAP or UP is warranted for the steward's report.

The intention is not to penalise athletes unnecessarily, but rather to ensure transparency, accountability and consistency in the application of performance standards throughout the season.

As outlined in my address on Sunday, athletes are responsible for notifying their coach if they believe their performance may be below an acceptable standard. Whether due to a school sports day, a friend's 21st birthday or simply feeling unwell, these circumstances must be communicated to the **Chief Steward or relevant Handicapper** before their event. This is essential for fairness and transparency.

Failure to communicate these circumstances in advance may result in penalties being considered, in accordance with the relevant performance guidelines.

What an exciting season we have ahead of us! With another 45 new athletes joining through various membership categories, the future of our sport continues to look incredibly bright.

To all our athletes and coaches, I wish you a magnificent season filled with memorable moments, outstanding performances and plenty of success!

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EVENTS

12.00pm	**70m Under 14 3 heats**
	Heat 1 - Break – Adilyn Anderson
12.12pm	**70m Under 18 Girls 2 heats**
12.20pm	**70m Under 18 Boys 3 heats**
12.32pm	**70m Over 35 2 heats**
12.40pm	**70m Under 14 – Final and Presentation**
12.49pm	**70m Under 18 Girls – Final and Presentation**
	Maeve McGorm – Scratched due to injury
12.58pm	**70m Under 18 Boys – Final and Presentation**
1.07pm	**70m Over 35 – Final and Presentation**
1.16pm	**70m Para – Straight Final and Presentation**
1.45pm	**120m Novice 3 heats**
1.57pm	**120m Women 3 heats**
	Alex Day – Ran below expectations (NAP)
2.09pm	**120m Men 3 heats**
	Heat 2 – Break - Clancy Jensen
2.21pm	**800m Under 18 – Straight Final and Presentation**

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2.30pm	**800m Women – Straight Final and Presentation**
2.39pm	**800m Open – Straight Final and Presentation**
2.48pm	**120m Novice - Final and Presentation**
2.57pm	**120m Women Final and Presentation**
3.08pm	**120m Men Final and Presentation**

ATHLETE NOTIFICATIONS
Alisha Peeters
The Chief Steward was spoken to by Austin Botha's father post the Athlete Meeting regarding pb notification from Saturday.

BREAKS
Adilyn Anderson
Clancy Jensen

INJURIES
Maeve McGorm

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