



Dear Country Members,

Announcement: 2017 ANSW COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

As many of you will be aware, the ANSW Country Championships will be held this season in Dubbo on 20, 21 and 22 January 2017. Country Champs provides a great opportunity for country members to come together in an inclusive, fun, team environment. The event also provides a great opportunity for regional athletes to gain valuable competition experience.

Athletics NSW is committed to working to increase the number of country athletes at the event and to removing as many of the associated barriers as possible. For 2017, Athletics NSW is opening the event up to include the participation of junior athletes down to the age of 8 (Little Athletics U9 age group). In the case of registered Little Athletics NSW members, ANSW would not require these athletes to become financial members of an ANSW Club in order to be eligible to compete, however athletes would still be required to pay individual race entry fees.

Key changes

- 1) All LANSW members in the U9, U10 and U11 age groups can enter the Country Championships without paying for an ANSW Club membership.
- 2) All athletes in the U9, U10 and U11 age groups compete for their LANSW Centre not a senior ANSW Club (all age groups will compete for medals).
- 3) If you are a Dual Member (through the 2016/17 changes) you are all eligible to compete in the Country Championships for your ANSW club and LANSW Centre

If athletes younger than 11 years want to compete for Hooper Cup points, they will be permitted to compete in the 11 year age group provided that they are born after 1 January 2006 and they are a financial member of an ANSW Club.

Advantages of these changes

- We take away a significant cost for regional kids who otherwise would have to pay a full youth membership in order to potentially compete in only one event;
- We align the Country Championships age groups with the existing Dual Membership program;
- We provide additional opportunities, in conjunction with LANSW, for country based kids to compete; and
- We know that many families make a weekend of Country Championships. Having more children within those families able to take part in the event will bring a better experience.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Uniform

Senior club members must wear their correct club uniform. Athletes must have their Athletics NSW 2016/17 registration numbers attached on the front and back (except in pole vault and high jump events). Athletes competing in the U9, U10 and U11 age groups must wear either their ANSW or LA uniform. Temporary bib numbers will be provided for Little A members at athlete check in on the day.

Medals

Medals can be collected from the medal area once results have become official.

Entry

[Click here](#) to enter online.

Entries are \$20 for first event, and \$10 for every subsequent event, with a \$70 cap.

Family entry is \$70 for adults and unlimited children, for any number of events.

IMPORTANT: Entries have been extended to 8am Monday 16th January, 2017.

Timetable

[Click here](#) to view the DRAFT timetable.

On the Day Check-in

All athletes in TRACK events must report to athlete check in to advise of their intention to compete at least sixty (60) minutes before the scheduled starting time of the event.

Athletes entered in FIELD events only, are not required to report to athlete check in. Instead, field event athletes must report directly to the field event site at least twenty (20) minutes before the scheduled start time.

Age Groups

The age groups for the senior club component of the Championships are Under 12, Under 13, Under 14, Under 15, Under 17, Under 18, Under 20 and Opens. The age group is determined by the age you will be by December 31, 2017. Masters age groups; 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69 and 70+ years, ages determined as at the first day of competition, the 20th January 2017. The age groups for the junior component of the Championships are Under 9, Under 10 and Under 11. The age group is determined by the age you will be by December 31, 2017. Note that points towards the Hooper Cup can only be earned by senior club members competing in events U12 and above.



Athletics New South Wales

*Example 1: Simon is 2004 born, therefore will be 13 by December 31, 2017. He therefore is eligible to compete in the "Under 14" category, because his age is **literally under 14**. (I.e. everyone competing in Under 14 will be 13 or younger by the end of the calendar year).*

Example 2: Julie's birthday is October 14, 1987. By December 31, 2017 - i.e. the end of the calendar year - she will be 30 years old. Therefore, her natural age group is the 30-39 years category.

If you have any more questions please don't hesitate to contact the Athletics NSW office on 02 9746 1122 or info@nswathletics.org.au

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