

PARENT VOLUNTEERING - FAQ

Why are volunteers needed?

Little Athletics relies on its parent volunteers and at Inglewood Little Athletics Centre (Inglewood LAC), we need approximately 80-100 volunteers on competition day to help our program run safely and efficiently for all our athletes and members.

As part of the registration at Inglewood LAC, your family agrees to the volunteering requirements.

How many competition days am I required to volunteer on?

We require parents to volunteer a minimum of 50% of competition weeks over the regular summer season. For example, if the season is 12 weeks, we ask you to volunteer a minimum of six (6) times prior to our Centre Championships at seasons end and at least once (1) during our Centre Championships. This equates to volunteering approximately once every fortnight; however, you can choose which competition days suit you.

Only one parent (or family representative) needs to volunteer on competition days. We really appreciate the extra help, two parents (or family representatives) helping on one day does not constitute 2 volunteering occasions.

What happens if I do not meet the minimum requirements?

If you do not meet the minimum volunteering requirements, your athletes will not be eligible to medal at the Centre Championships nor receive a medal or trophy at the end of the season.

Inglewood's Executive Committee does have a discretion, in extenuating circumstances, to vary this requirement. Please e-mail the Executive of the Committee on admin@inglewoodlac.com.au if your personal circumstances may not permit you to fulfil the minimum volunteering requirements at your earliest convenience for the Executive to be able to consider any request and make alternative arrangements. An early e-mail advising the Executive of issues with volunteering may be more favourably considered than one that is received at the end of the season.

Are there any volunteering roles that do not require volunteering on competition days?

Most of our volunteers are needed on competition days. There are a couple of volunteering roles that on non-competition days:

- Coaching at training
- Washing volunteer vests

If you are unable to volunteer on competition day and would like to be considered for the above roles, please contact our Volunteer Co-ordinator at admin@inglewoodlac.com.au at your earliest convenience advising of the reason why your family is unable to volunteer on competition day.

Please note that coaching requires a weekly attendance during one of our training days.

What if I work on competition days or my athlete has a younger sibling that I have care for?

As stated above, Little Athletics is heavy reliant on volunteers. If your family is having difficulty meeting the minimum volunteering requirements, please refer to process outlined above. Also, the volunteer can be a member of your family or family friend.

My athlete is an Under 6 athlete, do I still have to volunteer?

If you only have an U6 athlete, you are not required to volunteer although we encourage you to attend each site in the first couple of weeks of competition, with your athlete to allow them time to settle in. If your U6 athlete has an older sibling competing, your family will be required to volunteer.

What are the duties of a volunteer?

Each track and field site will have a Site Referee (wearing an orange vest) who is an experienced volunteer. They will allocate a role for you for that competition.

You do not need to have any experience to be a volunteer, we just ask you to help and hopefully have some fun.

Some of the duties include:

- Recording
- Retrieving throwing equipment (throws)
- Measuring/timing
- Raking a sand pit (jumps)

Your family will be allocated to a site for the whole of the season. For example, if you have been allocated to "Jumps", you are on the jumps site (long, triple and high jump) for the whole season.

I have been allocated for a Chaperone, what do I do?

Athletes in the age groups of U7 to U12 have Age Group Chaperones. The role of the chaperone is to meet the athletes at marshalling and take them to the event that was called. For example, if the U8 girls were called to shot put, the chaperone will meet the girls at marshalling and take the group to the shot-put site. The chaperone will stay with their group at the site until the athletes have finished.

There will be at least 1 chaperone per age group, depending on how many athletes are registered in that age group. Large age groups may have up to 4 chaperones.

I have been allocated on Set Up, what do I do?

Set Up crew arrive 1 hour prior to competition. We do require our Set Up crew to volunteer on a weekly basis, given the time commitment each weekend is less than site volunteers. (we do understand that you may miss a week once or twice).

General Information for Volunteers on Competition Days

Arrival time: be ready to help at 7:45am so that we can start calling athletes to their first events at 8:00am. If sites do not have enough volunteers, we cannot send athletes out to their events. Our goal is to have competition underway by 8:00am, so please be aware that if you arrive on site to volunteer after this time there is no guarantee a spot will be available.

If you are allocated to a site, such as track, throws or jumps, head directly to the site and see the Site Referee (orange vest). If your allocated site is full, ask the Site Referee if there is an alternate site elsewhere in the arena that requires volunteers. Alternatively, our Announcers may also call out for volunteers at sites that require further help.

Wear enclosed shoes and a hi vis volunteer vest when on the arena as only athletes and volunteers wearing hi vis vests may enter the arena (exception: U6 only parents).

Sign the volunteer list: it is your responsibility to make sure your name is marked off the volunteer list. You need to see the Site Referee at your site at 7:45am, get your name marked off the list and wear the hi-vis vest that you are given. The hi-vis vests enable the Site Referee and the Announcing Desk to see if each site has enough volunteers before they call the athletes to their events.

If you are volunteering at a site that differs from the one your family has been allocated to, please sign on to that site. For example, if your family has been allocated to Jumps, but it is full and you are helping at Throws, please sign the Throws sign on sheet.

Finish time: you are required to remain on your site until that site has finished competition for the day regardless of when your athletes compete their events.