

SPECIAL NOTICE

6 March 2025

52nd STATE URBAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP at MOOROOPNA **SATURDAY 22nd & SUNDAY 23rd MARCH, 2025**

This special notice is circulated to all brigades who will be competing in the 2025 State Urban Junior Championship for the attention of:

- Brigade members appointed as Officials and Judges
- Brigade Coach/es
- Brigade Officer or Member in charge of the Junior competitors.

ACCESS TO COMPETITION VENUE

Please note that there is no access to the track and grounds prior to 3pm on Friday.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS & JUDGES

List of Officials and Judges appointed for the Junior Championships is attached.

TIMEKEEPERS: There is a need for additional members to assist with Timekeeping over the weekend – if you are able to assist with this role, please contact the VFBV office on (03) 9886 1141 or championships@vfbv.com.au ASAP.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (WWCC)

Please remind all Officials and Judges of VFBV's requirement to have a current WWCC card for the State Championships, Juniors and Seniors, with VFBV registered as an organisation. If members need information of how to apply for a new WWCC or update their existing WWCC to add VFBV as an additional organisation, they can contact the VFBV office.

All competing Brigades are required to nominate as a minimum, Two non competing members to act as Judges. Where a Brigade has more than one Team competing, for every additional Team, one extra Judge is required to be nominated. Failure to nominate the required number of Judges may result in the Brigade being disqualified from competing in a track event.

Officials and Judges are requested to report to the OIC of Judges' office at the Competition Track between 1600 and 1700 hours on the Friday afternoon. Alternatively, Officials can report to the OIC of Judges on Saturday morning before or following the Official Opening. This ensures their presence is recorded, to enable the OIC of Judges to allocate members to the event Rosters. Officials are requested to regularly check the appointment board at the Chairman of Judges Office to see when they are rostered, to enable events to get underway on schedule.

Officials and Judges are requested to be in attendance at the plug line at the conclusion of the event prior to their appointed event, to register with the OIC Judges and be provided with any information required.

VFBV Dress Guidelines for Officials & Judges:

The Dress Guidelines, with CFA summer uniform being the preferred option, are:

1. Track Masters, Track Marshalls and Marshalling Officers are required to wear CFA summer uniform on Saturday and can wear CFA Workwear on Sunday;
2. All other Officials & Judges are required to wear either:
 - CFA summer uniform;
 - CFA Workwear; or
 - VFBV alternative dress polo & shorts (colour of enclosed shoes and socks optional);– but not a combination of; or
3. Competitors appointed as Judges, can judge in their complete team competition gear.

DISCIPLINE AND BEHAVIOUR:

The Officer in Charge of each Junior Brigade is responsible for the discipline and behaviour of the attending members at all times. VFBV asks for the co-operation of the Brigade Officers and Officer in Charge to ensure that recognised standards of discipline and behaviour are observed. Initiation practices or behaviour are not acceptable and will not be tolerated at the risk of disqualification from the Championship or future Championships.

Senior members of Brigades are asked to observe the established standard that consumption of alcohol on or in the vicinity of the competition tracks, Opening Parade or at the Presentation Ceremony is not permitted. Co-operation of senior members would be appreciated at the State Junior Championship.

Please note that under state legislation and local Council policy, smoking is not permitted within the Championship grounds. All Brigade members and spectators are requested to please observe the No Smoking requirement.

MEETING OF TEAM COACHES WITH CHAMPIONSHIP COORDINATORS

A meeting of team coaches with Championship Co-ordinator and Track Masters will take place on the main track following the Opening Ceremony on Saturday morning. If all teams can ensure their coaches are represented at the meeting.

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

The order of events are attached and to be noted, that ROLL CALL for Brigades on Saturday is at 0845 hours for the commencement of the Opening Parade at 0900 hours, and Sunday at 0845 hours with events on both tracks to commence at 0900 hours. Events will continue through the lunch period on each day to assist with finishing at a reasonable time. Officials and competitors to take lunch break as their rostered events allow.

Please note that the start time for each day has been changed to 0900 hours, not 0830 hours.

OPENING PARADE

For the Opening Parade, Brigades will be lined up in two sections in a random order, as per the attached list. Junior Brigades to line up in the assembly area in the open area behind the Marshall Track, in the order as listed.

On Occupational Health grounds, the Association has approved competitors wearing hats during the Opening Parade subject to the following conditions:

- (a) hats must incorporate brims to protect the entire head,
- (b) the same style and colour of hat being worn by all members of the respective team,
- (c) baseball caps not being approved.

SAFETY CO-ORDINATORS

In continuing the emphasis on Occupational Health and Safety at competitions and Championships, Safety Co-ordinators are appointed to oversee all safety related aspects both on the competition track and within the grounds. If brigades have any safety concerns, they should be reported to the VFBV office.

INFORMATION FOR BRIGADE COACHES

The conduct of all events shall be in accord with the Association's Urban Competition Conditions & Rules as prescribed in the 2011 Rule Book; with amendments since 2011 available from the VFBV website tinyurl.com/urban-champs

Coaches should take care that Rules governing:

- Age of Junior competitors for the two age groups (Rule 5),
- Eligibility to enter more than one team (Rule 3(e)), &
- Borrowing of competitors at State Junior Championships (Rule 7),

are fully observed as any infringement shall be liable for Brigade disqualification.

Please note the requirement for Brigades with more than one team, that a borrowed competitor cannot be used in Team A where a Brigade has two teams, or in Team A or Team B where a Brigade enters three teams, without the approval of the Association. The same rationale applies where a Brigade enters more than three teams.

Wristbands for competitors

Where brigades have more than one team entered, the competitors will be required to wear a wrist band indicating which team they are part of. Coaches for brigades entering more than one team should attend the VFBV office to obtain wrist bands for their competitors on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. If required replacement wrist bands can be issued on Sunday.

HYDRANTS & TESTING OF WATER

It is compulsory for all Junior teams to use VFBV hydrants for all wet events.

Brigade hydrants to be used in the Hydrant Race must be weighed, checked and sealed on Friday afternoon between 1500 hours and 1700 hours, or on Saturday and Sunday mornings between 0800 hours and 0830 hours.

Please not that access to the track grounds prior to 3pm is not permitted.

The timing of the water will take place prior to 0815 hours on each day of the Championship. The times to be announced following each test.

AGE SECTIONS

Coaches should ensure that:

- 1) The Brigade is affiliated with VFBV, Junior competitors must be registered with CFA, and competitors aged 16 years or over must be registered with CFA as Senior members of their Brigade, prior to competing.
- 2) Under 14 Years: Juniors shall be aged 11 years, and to be under 14 years on the 1st October 2024 eg. born between 2nd October 2010 and 22nd March 2014.
- 3) Under 17 Years: Junior and Brigade members shall be aged 11 years, and be under 17 years on the 1st October 2024 eg. born between 2nd October 2007 & 22nd March 2014.

Names and details of all competitors is required to be completed in the Operoo Entry and Registration form prior to the State Junior Championship, including contact details for a parent/guardian of each competitor who will then be forwarded consent forms for their child. No competitor is able to compete unless they were listed on the brigade's entry form when completed in February.

Also to be included in the Entry and Registration form is which events each competitor is competing in. Should this change prior to the Championship or on the day, this can be amended using the online Operoo eForm. Coaches are requested to ensure that any change is made well prior to the relevant event/s commencing. The purpose of listing in which events the Juniors compete in, is for VFBV to identify the names of placegetters for announcing at the Trophy Presentations.

Hydrant race competitors: Teams are requested to ensure that they have indicated on their entry forms which of their competitors are the first and second entries in both Event 1 – Hydrant Race, One Competitor – Under 14 Years and Event 12 – Hydrant Race, One Competitor – Under 17 Years.

DRAINING OF HOSES

For every event where hoses are used, the Competition and Rules Committee request that all competitors after they have run, be expected to assist with the draining of the hoses and help set up, in readiness for the next heat. Judges rostered on for that event will assist the competitors where required.

COMPETITION DRESS (TROUSERS)

Coaches and team managers are requested to closely check the correctness of trousers worn by their Junior members and to avoid putting Officials in the position of disqualifying or speaking to a Junior member for failing to observe wearing: *"Ankle length trousers, (centre of ankle bone) with trouser legs neither tied, rolled nor held in socks; or featuring leg side zips or stirrups, or being skin tight in fitting". (Rule 19b).*

Please avoid any embarrassment and upsetting junior competitors.

COMPETITION DRESS (FOOTWEAR)

Following on from flooding at the venue in October 2022, Coaches and team managers are requested to ensure that all competitors are wearing appropriate athletic footwear when competing for occupational health and safety reasons.

USE OF VIDEO CAMERA

It is a rule that if a competitor intends to use a video camera whilst competing, this must be either mounted on the competitor's helmet or on the competition reel.

SCRATCHING FROM EVENTS

With the procedure of accepting entry of Brigades in all events, the co-operation of coaches is sought, and if the brigade will not be competing in an event or events, a scratching form should be completed at the VFBV office at Mooroopna in ample time prior to the event. Brigade competitors when not in attendance when called by the Marshalling Officer to participate in an event, will be disqualified.

PROTESTS

Official Protest Forms will be available from the VFBV office at Mooroopna and only these forms will be recognised. Any Brigade intending to lodge a protest must first inform the officiating Track Master of their intent **within five minutes** of the completion of their run and report to the VFBV office **within 10 minutes** of the completion of the run.

The decision of the Protest Committee shall be final without appeal; and if the protest is dismissed or deemed by the Committee to be frivolous, the Brigade shall forfeit the deposit.

Where a Protest is upheld and the Brigade was competing in pairs, unless exceptional circumstances exist, the announced winner of the heat will not run in the next round or final (unless included in the fastest losing teams).

Brigades are advised that unacceptable behaviour by any Coach or Brigade member will not be tolerated, and that the Committee will look seriously at consequences for any bad behaviour or sportsmanship following the outcome of a Brigade's Protest.

GENERAL INFORMATION

BBQ LUNCH: CFA is funding a BBQ lunch for Junior competitors on the **Saturday**, and all Junior competitors will be provided with a voucher to obtain their free lunch from within the grounds. **Please note the change of day for the BBQ lunch.** Vouchers for the BBQ lunch will be available on Saturday morning – please listen out for announcements.

MEALS: Breakfast will be available for purchase at the track each day of the Championship. Food trucks including take away foods, soft drinks, ice cream etc. will be available throughout the weekend.

PARKING: Car parking is available within the grounds, with access from the Midland Highway and follow the directions. Disabled parking will be available for vehicles displaying a disabled permit.

BRIGADE AWNINGS: Brigade awnings will be permitted outside the perimeter of the track as directed by the Championships Committee; such awnings should not exceed 6m x 6m. It is the responsibility of brigades to ensure all awnings including free standing awnings, are properly pegged down and secured, and if sited in front of other Brigades not block their view.

Brigades are responsible for securing awnings overnight, and are required:

- To remove covers of awnings at the completion of each day's events;
- To have a fire extinguisher and/or fire blanket on hand if using a BBQ in their shade area.

TEAM ENTRY FEES: The VFBV Board have waived entry fees for this year's State Championships to encourage participation in the Championships by new teams.

EVENT CONTROL CENTRE: Throughout the weekend the Event Control Centre can be contacted on 0461 333 645 to report any incidents of anti-social behaviour.

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Travel reimbursement for competing brigades must be submitted to CFA by midnight **Sunday 4th May 2025**. Travel claims can be completed online here <https://tinyurl.com/2025-travel-claim> or by completing and returning the form attached to this memo. Any claims submitted after Sunday 4th May may not be accepted by CFA so please do not delay in returning your claim form.

BUS TRAVEL

A reminder to brigades if they are wishing to claim for bus travel to the State Championship this must be approved by CFA prior to the Championship, please contact championships@cfa.vic.gov.au to seek approval for the use of buses.

PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

Presentation of individual and station trophies for each event will take place on the relevant competition track, at the conclusion of each event or the next day as advised at the start of each event. Could coaches please make sure that placed competitors are ready for the presentation ceremony immediately the event concludes.

Presentation of the Aggregate Trophies will be presented on the Main Track following counting of aggregate points at the conclusion of the final event. Senior Members and Junior Members to be presented with Aggregate trophies are asked to be in full dress uniform, competition dress or in brigade official tracksuits for the presentation, which will conclude with an address by the VFBV State President.

Conditions of Acceptance of Entry: responsibility of brigades accepting perpetual trophies

It is a '*Condition of Acceptance of Entry*' for all VFBV Championships, that Brigades by entering to compete, accept the responsibility to maintain, repair and engrave any Perpetual Trophy presented as a result of their success; and that any damage suffered to a Perpetual Trophy while in the possession of the Brigade is made good at the Brigade's cost and in time for return to VFBV for the following year's State Championships; and that failure to comply:

- (a) VFBV will have repairs undertaken and engraving in lieu of the work obligated to the '*Trophy Holding Brigade*' and will invoice the Brigade for the costs incurred in carrying out this work;
- (b) Failure to reimburse VFBV for works associated with (a) above, would result in the refusal to accept that Brigade's nomination for future State Championship events where such failure to meet their obligations ignores the '*Condition of Acceptance of Entry*' .

STEVEN ELLIS

Chair, Competition & Rules Committee

STATE URBAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM OF EVENTS

SATURDAY 22nd MARCH

COMMENCES AT 0900 HOURS

OFFICIALS TO REPORT IN AT 0830 HOURS

ROLL CALL OF BRIGADES (for Opening Parade) 0845 HOURS

OPENING PARADE – COMMENCES AT 0900 HOURS

Official Opening

Event 1	Hydrant Race – One Competitor, Under 14 Years
Event 2	Y Coupling – Two Competitors, Under 17 Years
Event 3	Wet Hose Striking Second Disc – Four Competitors, Under 14 Years
Event 4	Y Coupling – Four Competitors, Under 17 Years
Event 5	Wet Hose Striking First & Second Discs – Four Competitors, Under 17 Years
Event 6	Marshall – One Competitor, Under 14 Years
Event 7	Wet Hose Striking First & Second Discs – Four Competitors, Under 14 Years
Event 8	Marshall – One Competitor, Under 17 Years
Event 9	Wet Hose – Two Competitors, Under 17 Years
Event 10	Marshall – Two Competitors, Under 14 Years
Event 11	Wet Hose -Two Competitors, Under 14 Years

SUNDAY 23rd MARCH

COMMENCES AT 0900 HOURS

OFFICIALS TO REPORT IN AT 0830 HOURS

ROLL CALL BRIGADES (for Events 12 & 13) AT 0845 HOURS

Event 12	Hydrant Race – One Competitor, Under 17 Years
Event 13	Y Coupling – Two Competitors, Under 14 Years
Event 14	Wet Hose Striking Second Disc – Four Competitors, Under 17 Years
Event 15	Y Coupling – Four Competitors, Under 14 Years
Event 16	Wet Hose Striking One Disc Twice – Four Competitors, Under 14 Years
Event 17	Marshall – Two Competitors, Under 17 Years
Event 18	Wet Hose Striking One Disc Twice – Four Competitors, Under 17 Years

TESTING OF HYDRANTS: Hydrants will be weighed, tested, sealed and officially recorded on Friday between 1500 and 1700 hours; Saturday between 0800 and 0830 hours; and Sunday between 0800 and 0830 hours. **There is no access to the track and grounds prior to 3pm on Friday.**

TESTING OF WATER: The water shall be tested prior to 0815 hours on each day of the Championship. The times will be announced following each water test.

PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES: Presentation of aggregate trophies will take place on the main track at the conclusion of Sunday's final event. Presentation of individual and station trophies to take place on the relevant track, at the conclusion of each event or the next day as advised at the start of each event.

FILMING: VFBV and CFA reserve the right to carry out filming/photography of events during the Championship in order to be used in promotional materials. As filming will occur in a public place, waivers are not required, however if any guest or competitor does not specifically wish to be filmed, please visit the VFBV tent.

2025 STATE URBAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETING TEAMS

48	Ararat	132	Maffra
31	Colac	231	Melton A
15	Echuca A	231	Melton B
15	Echuca B	240	Rowville
67	Euroa A	32	Sale
67	Euroa B	55	Swan Hill A
331	Eynesbury A	55	Swan Hill B
331	Eynesbury B	55	Swan Hill C
33	Frankston	224	Upwey A
202	Gisborne	224	Upwey B
253	Grovedale	49	Wangaratta
28	Hamilton	27	Warracknabeal A
236	Hoppers Crossing	27	Warracknabeal B
24	Horsham	128	Wendouree
16	Kangaroo Flat	130	Werribee A
53	Kerang	130	Werribee B
7	Kyneton		

OPENING PARADE

BRIGADES ROLL CALL: 0845 hours
TO COMMENCE MARCH: 0900 hours

ORDER OF MARCH

GROUP 1

Warracknabeal
Melton
Eynesbury
Ararat
Maffra
Grovedale
Echuca
Swan Hill
Kerang
Gisborne
Hamilton
Upwey

GROUP 2

Horsham
Hoppers Crossing
Euroa
Kangaroo Flat
Wangaratta
Rowville
Wendouree
Colac
Frankston
Werribee
Sale
Kyneton

2025 STATE URBAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP APPOINTED OFFICIALS & JUDGES

CO-ORDINATOR DEPUTIES

Steven Ellis – Creswick
Robert Waterson - Cohuna
Sean Brittan – Werribee
Peter Every – Wendouree

SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR DEPUTY

Bruce Pickett – Geelong West
Robert Clark - Grovedale

TRACK MASTERS

Rod Bates – Maffra
Malcolm Bishop - Warrnambool
Harriet Foard – Kyneton
Harold Jochs – Swan Hill
Bill Maltby – Castlemaine

Greg Murphy – Kerang
Anthony Rhodes – Melton
Tony Winsall – Belmont
Robert Waterson – Cohuna

TRACK MARSHALLS

Mel Chappel – Dandenong
Peter Every – Wendouree
Jeff McEachern – Wodonga

Ron Shultz – Benalla
Ross White - Eaglehawk
Gerrard Williams – Euroa

MARSHALLING OFFICERS

OIC Bruce Snell – Hamilton

Adrian Bailey – Pakenham
Thomas Day – Pakenham
Robyn Desmond – Dromana
Peter Hannan – Ararat
Shymma Harris - Pakenham
Stephen Harris – Pakenham

Jean Kelsey – Pakenham
Charlie Landsdown – Pakenham
Chris Lewis – Seymour
Andrew MacDonald - Pakenham
Susan Mongelli – Pakenham
Michael Ziersch – Horsham

STARTERS

OIC Geoff Browning – Kangaroo Flat

Stephen Ash - Kerang
Adam Browning – Kangaroo Flat
Robert Keith – Ararat

Peter Quinn – Morwell
Anthony Rhodes – Melton
Philip Trifilo – Werribee

TIMEKEEPERS

OIC Ale Eenjes – Traralgon

Lei De Guy – Gisborne
Frank Eenjes – Traralgon
Frank Harris – Kangaroo Flat
Len Griffiths – Benalla

Steve Phillips – Benalla
Sharon Swaneveld- Colac
Julia Trethown – Benalla

ANNOUNCERS

OIC Timothy Desmond – Dromana

Ron Gartside – Castlemaine
Neil Hogan – Wendouree

Clare Murphy – Kerang
Trevor Rickards – Melton

COMMUNICATIONS

OIC Jim Van Der Velden – The Basin

Matt Ahern
Donna Maro – The Basin

Sarah van der Velden – Bairnsdale

RECORDERS

OIC Helen White – Narre Warren

Andrew Bath – Colac
Louise Black – Leongatha
Greg Greenwood – Maryborough
Vickie Linaker – The Basin
Don Lovison – Morwell

Nell Maro – The Basin
Samantha McKean – Narre Warren
Jason Stone – Melton
Cheryl van der Velden- The Basin
Kerri Winsall – Belmont

JUDGES

OIC Darryl Wagstaff – Maryborough

DOIC Peter White – Casterton

DOIC Phil Slender – Tatura

Forad Ali – Hoppers Crossing
Kayla Ash – Kerang
Kendall Ash – Kerang
Zallie Ash – Kerang
Lauren Brayshaw – Rowville
Kim Briggs – Eynesbury
Bayley Charalambous – Morwell
Scott Clarke – Melton
Jess Cockerill-Wright - Junortoun
John Davies – Horsham
Scott Eldridge – Strathfieldsaye
Gary Farrell – Castlemaine
Heath French – South Wangaratta
Bella Gluskie – Rowville
Nic Hanna – Kyneton
Harriet Foard – Kyneton
Rennie Hannan - Ararat
Bruce Harker- Gisborne
Jacqui Heenan – Hoppers Crossing
Laura Hitchcock – Hamilton
Kaitlin Howell – Eynesbury
Ian Hubble – Maryborough
Graeme Jilbert - Swan Hill
Devante Johns – Melton

Warren Johnston – Horsham
Dallas Knights – Sale
Hunta Lindsay – Swan Hill
Anthony King - Sale
David McLarty – Seymour
Belinda Middlebrook – Eynesbury
Ken Miller – Maryvale
Terry Miller – Maryvale
Dwayne Millington – Melton
Matthew Monck – Sale
Blake Moritz – Hamilton
Daniel Moylan – Echuca
Colin Newell – Warracknabeal
Anthony Passalick – Maryborough
Cody Polack – Warracknabeal
Andrew Richards – Warracknabeal
John Seymour – Wangaratta
Royce Sharp – Wangaratta
Tristian Smith – Kyneton
Alan Squires – Melton
Ryan Stone – Melton
Luke Tracey – Kyneton
Tim Welshe – Diggers Rest

FIRST AID OFFICERS

OIC Marc Leitch – Melton

Glenn Charteris – Geelong West
Danielle Cooke – Melton
James Gluskie - Montrose
Graeme Green – Benalla

Peter Patterson – Swan Hill
Cathryn Portelli – Kyneton
Maison Ring – Molyullah

TROPHIES

Julie Britten – Cohuna
Kayla Manning – Daylesford

Bill Rodda – Korumburra