

Memo: To all Team Managers & Athletes.
From East Region Committee
Date: 10 November 2009
Subject: Athletes in Field Events at East Region

Recent growth of athlete numbers at the Athletics Victoria East Region has resulted in a number of athletes missing out on the opportunity to compete in field events. In an attempt to provide appropriate competition as effectively as possible, we ask that all take note of the following so as to assist the East Region deliver the best possible outcome:

1. Athletes registered with East Region clubs will be given **priority** when reporting in for a heat of any field event. This means that any athlete who is invitation or a members of a club from another region will only be able to compete if there are vacancies in a given heat.
2. Athletes **must** obey grading. The heat gradings are designed for an even spread of competitors across the event. There have been many cases of athletes entering incorrect heats, which prevents legitimately graded athletes the opportunity to compete. Athletes are reminded that the Field Referee has the power to warn or disqualify athletes who do not take due care to obey grading.
3. Heats for elite athletes will be **seeded** . Athletes are to notify the event field official in charge of their intention to compete. This is so a seeded start list may be prepared to ensure the best ranked athletes are offered a start in this heat. Athletes who are of the required standard, but are not given a start, will be offered the next most suitable heat.
4. It is not possible that all athletes will be able to compete at the time or heat they wish to. Athletes should note that most late heats have vacancies. The last heat will, within reason, accept any athlete who was not able to secure a start in an earlier heat. This is subject to safety considerations (eg. concurrent long throwers in the discus and javelin will not be possible) and any other constraints.
5. If athlete is entered in a heat, but does not compete, they will be disqualified and prevented from competing in another heat of that event in that round.
6. There may be PA announcements to advise if a heat has vacancies. Athletes should avail themselves of any such opportunities, rather than wait for a more convenient time. Conversely, some athletes may have to wait until later in the program to compete. Unfortunately the volume of competitors is forcing this situation.

Although the above may seem rather strict, we are operating at capacity and require athlete co-operation for the benefit of all. The aim to ensure the great competition and atmosphere at East Region is maintained. We want all officials and athletes enjoy a positive experience – and you can help by following the above guidelines.