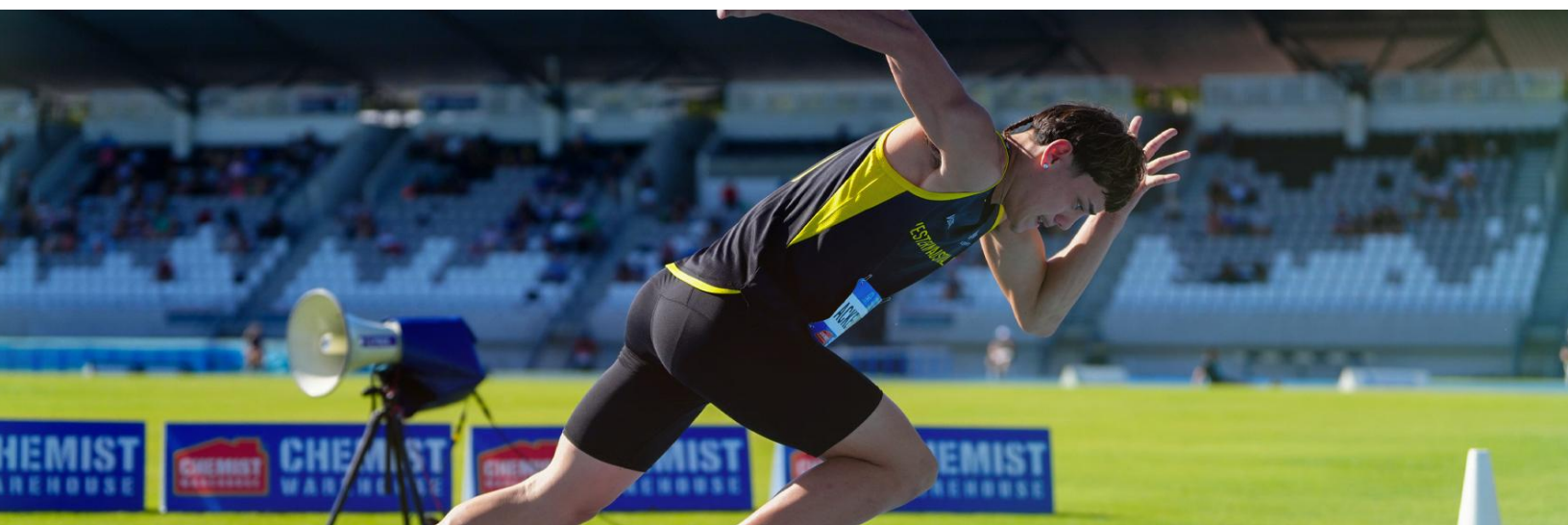




Aligned Junior Athletics Championships

Year 1 Scope (April 2026)

Side-by-side delivery of the Australian Athletics Junior Championships & the Coles Australian Little Athletics Championships





Outline

This will set the scope and operating parameters for Year 1 of the aligned national junior championships delivered side-by-side in Brisbane: the Australian Athletics Junior Championships (AAJC, delivered by Australian Athletics) and the Coles Australian Little Athletics Championships (ALAC, delivered by Little Athletics Australia).

Year 1 focuses on aligning dates, eligibility, selection interfaces among MAs, operations, and programming, while preserving ALAC's teams-based identity and AAJC's individual championship model.

Context & Alignment Principles

- Side-by-side delivery in Brisbane in April 2026, with consecutive schedules at the same venue to create a single national junior opportunity, clearer pathways and reduced travel duplication for families.
- Year 1 (2026) prioritises pragmatic alignment (age groups on offer at each championship, eligibility at each championship, uniform guidelines and acceptance, scheduling coordination).

Venue

Queensland Sports and Athletics Centre – QSAC
Kessels Road, Nathan, Mount Gravatt, QLD

ALAC

State Athletics Facility for ALAC, Main Stadium for Warm Up.

AAJC

Main Stadium for AAJC, & State Athletics Facility for Warm Up.

Age Groups

ALAC (Teams Championship)

- Under 12 (born 2014) and Under 13 (born 2013); includes Multi-Class in both.

AAJC (Individual Championship)

- Under 14, Under 15, Under 16, Under 17, Under 18, Under 20, as per AA championship structure and entry standards.



Dates

ALAC: April 12-14

AAJC: April 15-20

Scheduling & Program Coordination

- Consecutive & condensed ALAC / AAJC schedules.
- U14 events at AAJC placed in the front half of the AAJC program to reduce total days away for dual-championship athletes.
- ALAC structure will maintain track familiarisation, opening ceremony & competition days.

Specifications

- No changes to specifications (implements, hurdle heights, take-off boards, starting heights) in Year 1.
- AAJC implements/boards/starting heights operate per AA standards; states should consider these when selecting/entering athletes via MAs.

Combined Events, Relays, Race Walks & Para/Multi-Class

Combined Events

- Conducted at AAJC for U15 and up.
- No ALAC team score for Combined Events.

Relays

- ALAC: 4×100m and Swedish Medley for U12 (born 2014) & U13 (born 2013); relays contribute to team points.
- AAJC: 4×100m & 4x400m offered.

Race Walks

- ALAC: 1500 m Walk for U12 (born 2014) & U13 (born 2013).
- AAJC: 3000 m Walk for U14/U15 etc.



Para & Multi-Class (terminology unchanged in Year 1)

- ALAC: U12 (born 2014)/U13 (born 2013) MC events (100/200/400/800/LJ/SP/Discus/Javelin) as listed.
- AAJC: Para events will follow AA age structures and standards with no change to previous years; Year-1 alignment maintains current entry minimums/qualification and classification requirements.

Eligibility & Membership

- Championship entries to be administered by the applicable MA for each championship.
- States to determine selection mechanics and policies (including combined qualifying meets if needed) to balance team needs and individual aims.
- An athlete may be eligible for AAJC or ALAC if they are a current, financial member of either an LAA MA or an AA MA.
- Athletes turning 11 or younger in the year may not enter any events (born 2015).
- Athletes turning 12 may enter U14 AAJC Pole Vault and Hammer only if suitably qualified or via performance standard or MA top three pathway.
- 12-year-olds are not eligible for AAJC except in events as outlined above.
- 13-year-olds may compete in both AAJC and ALAC with no restriction on their eligibility for AAJC events beyond normal AA rules/standards, and they may “age-up” per standard AA provisions.
- Steeplechase: athletes must be turning 14 in the year to enter.

Team Sizes, Entries & Selection (ALAC)

- Maximum 28 athletes per gender for U12 (born 2014) and for U13 (born 2013).
- Multi Class: Maximum 12 athletes per age group (gender mix at MA discretion).
- Entries per event: Maximum 3 athletes per team per event (all age groups, including MC).
- Maximum events per athlete: 6 (relays included).
- Selection overseen by LAA MA in collaboration with AA MA.

Uniforms

- Athletes must wear the approved State/Territory team uniform; sponsorship logos will need to be as per the rules.
- Dual participation: athletes contesting both AAJC and ALAC may wear either approved AA-MA or LAA-MA team uniform at both events.



Australian Little Athletics Championships (ALAC)

Australian Athletics Junior Champs (AAJC)

Specification Events

Specification Events						
80m Hurdles		76.2cm				
90m Hurdles	76.2cm			76.2cm		76.2cm
100m Hurdles			83.8cm		83.8cm	
200m Hurdles			76.2cm	76.2cm	76.2cm	76.2cm
2000m Steeple			76.2cm	76.2cm	76.2cm	76.2cm
Shot Put	3kg	3kg	4kg	3kg	4kg	3kg
Discus	1kg	1kg	1kg	1kg	1kg	1kg
Hammer Throw	3kg	3kg	4kg	3kg	4kg	3kg
Javelin	600g	400g	700g	500g	700g	500g
Combined Event			Multiple	Multiple	Multiple	Multiple

NOTE: Indicates event open to 2014 born athletes