

BALMORAL LITTLE ATHLETICS CLUB**Parent/Guardian Onsite and Athlete Supervision Policy***Balmoral Little Athletics Club (BLAC)*

Policy owner	BLAC Management Committee	Status	Draft
Applies to	BLAC athletes, parents/guardians and nominated responsible adults	Version	1.0
Approved by	BLAC Management Committee	Effective date	To be confirmed
Review	Annually or when relevant requirements change	Review date	To be confirmed

BLAC is not a drop-off activity. A parent, guardian or nominated responsible adult aged 18 years or over must remain onsite for the full duration of an athlete's participation in activities covered by this policy.

1. Purpose

Balmoral Little Athletics Club (BLAC) is committed to providing a safe and positive environment for all athletes.

BLAC is a volunteer-run community sporting club. Coaches, Age Marshals, Age Group Coordinators, officials and other volunteers supervise the activities they are responsible for, but they do not replace the responsibility of a parent, guardian or nominated responsible adult for an athlete's general supervision and wellbeing.

This policy sets out BLAC's local requirement for adult supervision during training, competition nights and other Club activities where the onsite supervision requirement applies.

2. Responsible adult must remain onsite

A parent, guardian or nominated responsible adult aged 18 years or over must remain onsite for the full duration of an athlete's participation in BLAC training, competition nights and other Club activities where this requirement applies.

The responsible adult must:

- remain within the venue while the athlete is participating
- be available and contactable if required
- be able to attend to the athlete promptly in the event of illness, injury, behavioural concerns or another issue
- supervise any younger siblings or other children in their care who are not participating in a supervised BLAC activity.

A parent or guardian may nominate another responsible adult to supervise their child. The nominated adult must be aware of and agree to take on that responsibility.

Parents and responsible adults are encouraged to volunteer while onsite. Being rostered to a competition-night duty or assisting another age group does not prevent an adult from being the nominated responsible adult, provided they remain onsite and can attend to their child if required.

3. Athlete supervision

While participating in an event or organised activity, athletes will be supervised through BLAC's competition and training structure.

Athletes must:

- remain with their allocated age group or activity unless directed otherwise
- follow reasonable instructions from Age Marshals, Age Group Coordinators, coaches, officials and other authorised volunteers
- behave in a manner that does not place themselves or others at risk
- advise an Age Marshal, coach, official or other responsible adult if they need assistance or need to leave their group.

Parents and guardians remain responsible for their child's general supervision, behaviour and immediate personal needs while at the venue.

BLAC will continue to meet its own responsibilities for athlete safety, safeguarding and appropriate supervision while delivering Little Athletics activities.

4. If a responsible adult needs to leave

If the responsible adult needs to leave the venue before the athlete has finished participating, another responsible adult must be nominated before they leave.

Where possible, the athlete's Age Marshal, Age Group Coordinator or a member of the BLAC Committee should be advised of the change.

An athlete must not be left at the venue without an appropriate responsible adult onsite.

5. Where no responsible adult is onsite

BLAC may conduct supervision checks during training and competition nights.

If BLAC becomes aware that an athlete does not have a parent, guardian or nominated responsible adult onsite:

- the athlete may be unable to commence or continue participating until appropriate supervision is arranged
- the athlete will be kept in an appropriate supervised location while BLAC attempts to contact their parent or guardian
- the parent or guardian will be asked to return to the venue or arrange for another responsible adult to attend.

Repeated failure to comply with this policy may be referred to the BLAC Management Committee and may affect the athlete's ability to participate until satisfactory supervision arrangements are in place.

6. Emergencies

Nothing in this policy prevents BLAC officials, volunteers or other responsible persons from taking reasonable action necessary to protect an athlete in an emergency.

7. Alignment with LAQ requirements

This policy is a local BLAC supervision requirement and should be read alongside the Little Athletics Queensland (LAQ) Child Safeguarding and Young People Policy and LAQ Risk Management Plan.

LAQ requires affiliated Centres and Clubs to ensure children and young people are appropriately supervised during Little Athletics activities and to maintain appropriate processes for parent/carer contact, collection and safeguarding.

8. Related documents

- LAQ Child Safeguarding and Young People Policy
- LAQ Risk Management Plan
- BLAC Child Safety Policy / Statement
- BLAC Code of Conduct
- BLAC Competition Night Guidelines.

9. Responsibility

The BLAC Management Committee is responsible for implementing and reviewing this policy.

Parents and guardians are responsible for ensuring appropriate adult supervision arrangements are in place whenever their athlete participates in an activity covered by this policy.

Reference documents

Little Athletics Queensland, Child Safeguarding and Young People Policy (2024).

Little Athletics Queensland, Risk Management Plan.