

Background

The motto of Little Athletics NSW is “Family, Fun and Fitness”, and the mission statement is:

“Little Athletics NSW aspires to provide the community with recreational athletics activities that contribute to the healthy development of our children.

Such activities will promote: -

- Fun
- Fitness
- The development of skills
- The building of character and self-esteem
- The fostering of good sportsmanship

in a safe, positive, family-friendly and inclusive environment.”

Little Athletics NSW is deeply committed to this motto and mission statement.

Little Athletics NSW does not believe that deliberate usage of drugs for the purpose of improving performance is a problem within Little Athletics but we, as a body, must accept that it is a possibility that cannot be ignored. The more likely situation we face is the non-deliberate usage of banned substances (e.g. ingredients in some cough medicines) by younger athletes.

Overall, it is appropriate that the broader community issues in relation to drug usage are recognised by Little Athletics NSW and its affiliated centres.

Policy

Little Athletics NSW and its affiliated centres:

- A. are strongly opposed to the use of any banned substances for the purpose of obtaining an advantage in competition;
- B. are strongly opposed to the use of illegal recreation drugs;
- C. are strongly committed to the education of its members, whether child or adults, on the consequences of using all drugs including the legal recreational drugs such as alcohol and tobacco; and
- D. support the initiatives, especially those related to the education processes, espoused and implemented by the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA).

Action on Return of a Positive Test Result

If Little Athletics NSW is made aware of a Little Athlete returning a positive drug result to a test carried out by, or under the authority of ASADA, Little Athletics NSW will:

- A. Where the test was carried out at a Little Athletics carnival, investigate the incident itself and, taking notice of the disciplinary clauses contained in the constitution and the principals of natural justice, apply an appropriate penalty

OR

- B. Where the test was carried out at an activity organised by another body (e.g. Athletics Australia), take notice of action taken by that body and, having regard to the disciplinary clauses contained in the constitution and the principals of natural justice, apply an appropriate and equivalent penalty.