



## **ROSTER POLICY**

Ridgewood Little Athletics Centre is a volunteer run organisation that requires substantial parent involvement to ensure our children have a safe and rewarding experience. As it takes around 80-90 volunteers every week to run an efficient program, each club is responsible for providing parent volunteers on a roster basis. Parent help is a compulsory element of little athletics, so it is mandatory for one parent/ guardian to fulfil a roster on a fortnightly basis.

Please note that there are no special skills required to complete your roster, just a willingness to help the children have a fun and rewarding experience, a good attitude and a smile. The Centre will assist with the education of all parent helpers where possible.

Rosters can vary from Site Officials, Parent helpers on site, Equipment Set-Up and Pack Away, Canteen assistance, Track helpers etc. There will always be a qualified Official to help you to fulfil your role.

Roster sites and numbers are based on the number of families representing each club. All clubs have a Roster Co-Ordinator, who will organise a roster for all parents. Please liaise with your Club Co-Ordinator to arrange your suitable rosters.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **Why do parents have to do a roster?**

As noted above, Little Athletics is a volunteer run organisation that requires substantial parent involvement to ensure our children have a safe and rewarding experience. It takes around 80-90 volunteers every week to run an efficient program. Parents should expect to be required to assist with roster fortnightly. Your clubs will arrange your rosters. Please remember under Health and Safety Laws you must wear enclosed shoes and a hat for canteen roster.

#### **What happens if parents do not attend their roster?**

Firstly, you let down the children and slow down the program. In addition you place unfair pressure on others to fulfil your commitments. We have many parents including Centre Committee members, Club Committee members, and Senior Officials who volunteer every week and never get to see their children compete. Every parent wishes to watch their children, it is unfair to expect another parent to fulfil your commitment.

Many other centres have a policy of excluding athletes from competition if their parent/guardian does not fulfil their roster obligations. Some even de-register the child. Whilst we do not intend to go to this extreme measure at present we do have some penalties for parents who fail to honour their commitments.

The Ridgewood Little Athletics Committee as well as the Executive Committee of all Clubs have agreed that if parents do not fulfil a minimum of **5 Rosters** within the Season (including 1 Canteen Roster) than their child/ children will be ineligible for any end of season awards, including Athlete Scholarships and Sponsorships. This includes all trophies presented by either Ridgewood LAC or your individual club.

Fulfilling a role of Arena Manager, Track/Field Referees, All Key Site Officials, Canteen Manager and Centre Committee Members will automatically qualify for achievement of the minimum roster requirement.