

# SA Masters Athletics Competition Protocols 2021-22 Summer Season

*As at 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2021*

The purpose of this document is to outline the protocols that SA Masters Athletics will conduct at our Track and Field events for the upcoming summer season. This document is intended for State and Local Government authorities, as well as SA Masters Athletics committee, staff, and officials, to demonstrate how SA Masters Athletics can conduct our summer season events safely and in a manner that abides by current COVID-19 restrictions.

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## **COVID Obligations & Safety Measures**

The following information highlights the framework that SA Masters Athletics are following to ensure that our events are conducted safely and in a manner that abide by current COVID-19 restrictions. All SA Masters Athletics volunteers, officials, athletes, coaches and spectators are required to adhere to the following obligations as a requirement of our COVID Safe Plan.

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## **COVID Safe Obligations**

- All athletes, officials and spectators will be required to provide contact details on arrival at the SA Athletics Stadium using the COVID-Safe Check-In .
- Adhere to density requirements of 1 person per 2 square metres.
- Physical distancing measures must still be followed (i.e. 1 person per 2 square metres and 1.5 metres between people).
  - Note this does not apply to those who have attended our events as a group such as family members or those who live together.
- Stay home if you are unwell.
- Wash or sanitise hands and common surfaces regularly.
- All participants will be required to register to ensure we can keep a record of participants.
- All officials will be required to sign in when attending a SA Masters Athletics event.
- Adhere to the SAMA Policy on Mask Wearing.
- Adhere to all capacity limits within the SA Athletics Stadium (*please see **Spectators** section below*)

## **COVID Marshal**

SA Masters Athletics will be utilising a COVID Marshal at all Track and Field events as required by SA Government.

- The role of the COVID Marshal is to ensure that the procedures and requirements outlined in this document are followed by everyone in attendance at the event.
- COVID Marshal will be identifiable by wearing an orange high-vis vest.
- The COVID Marshall will roam throughout the event site and will have the right to instruct event attendees to move or change what they are currently doing if it is in breach of any of the COVID safe requirements.
- COVID Assistants will also be in use at SA Masters Athletics Track and Field events to assist the COVID Marshal with their duties.
- A COVID Assistant has the same right and responsibility as a COVID Marshal to instruct attendees to move or change what they are currently doing if it is in breach of any of the COVID safe requirements.

## **Spectators**

Due to density restrictions at SA Athletics Stadiums, the following restrictions will be in place for spectators:

- A restriction of 250 people within the main grandstand and 95 people in the small grandstand seating area at one time.
- At any time, SA Masters Athletics staff and COVID Marshal can request that spectators move to another area within the stadium.

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## **Venue Setup**

### **Bib Collection and Administration**

- Bib Collection for new members will be at the check in area at the finish line.
- Administration & General Enquiries will be at the check in area at the finish line.

### **Competition Area** (within the trackside fence)

- SA Masters Athletics will provide hand sanitiser at the check in area at the finish line and at all field event sites.
- Athletes are encouraged to only use this entry point and to sanitise hands prior to entering the track.

## **Managing Illness at Events**

As part of the Conditions of Entry at the SA Athletics Stadium, any person who has flu like symptoms can be refused entry regardless of whether they are an athlete, spectator, coach or official.

- COVID Protocols will be shared regularly through SA Masters Athletics communications, reiterating that person/s should not attend the event if they are unwell.
- If an attendee is sick and still attended an event, the SA Masters Athletics committee and COVID Marshal can ask the attendee to leave the event area immediately.

## **Cleaning**

To ensure our event venue is safe for all participants, spectators, volunteers and officials, SA Masters Athletics will introduce the following cleaning protocols:

- Regular cleaning of shared surfaces.
- Clean all equipment before and after the event.
- Encourage all volunteers and officials to wear gloves where possible.
- Encourage volunteers and officials to not share equipment. If equipment is shared, clean prior to exchanging to a new user.
- Provide cleaning equipment (wipes, disinfectant, sanitiser etc.) for spectators and athletes if they wish to clean personal equipment or areas.
- Please read COMPETITION FORMAT (below) for details of how individual Track and Field events will be conducted in a COVID safe environment.

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### **Competition Format**

All track and field events, unless specified otherwise in event specific information, will be conducted as per SA Masters Athletics Competition Rules. The below rules and guidelines will be enforced for track events during the 2020-21 Summer Season.

#### **Track Events**

- Athletes will be required to Check In for track events at the usual Check In table. The computer tablet will be operated by one person.
- All athletes will be required to sanitise/clean hands prior to entering and leaving the competition area (within track fencing).
- Athletes will need to remain physically distanced during pre-race marshalling. For all laned sprints events, there will be designated lines for athletes to line up on once allocated their appropriate heat and lane.
- Hand sanitiser will be available on starting block trolley for athletes to use prior to setting up blocks.
- All blocks will be cleaned after each event distance has finished.
- No finish order sticks will be issued. An official will record the finish order directly on the result sheet.

#### **Field Events**

- Athletes will be required to Check In for field events at the usual Check In table. The computer tablet will be operated by one person.
- All athletes will be required to sanitise/clean hands prior to starting warmups at the competition site.
- All athletes will need to adhere to physical distancing during field event competitions.
- Hand sanitiser will be available at every event site for athletes to use.
- Athletes are encouraged to use hand sanitiser in between each attempt where possible. (We acknowledge this may not be possible for some events depending on implement being used)
- All shared implements will be cleaned prior to and after each field event competition.

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## **Athlete Participation**

### **Check-In**

- Athletes are required to Check In on the day of competition.
- Athlete attendance will be checked prior to the start of each track and field event by SA Masters Athletics officials.

### **Warm Up**

- Athlete warm ups are to be conducted as per usual with physical distancing.
- Athletes are encouraged to complete as much of their warmup as possible outside of the event area. (Back warm up area)
- Athletes are encouraged to warm up in small groups.

### **Pre-Event Athlete Marshalling**

- All athletes are required to report to event officials prior to starting their event. This is a requirement of COVID tracing.
- Athletes will be able to report to event officials no earlier than 15 minutes before scheduled event start time.
- Once an athlete has reported to the official and sanitised their hands, they will be able to begin event warm ups for field events and line up for their heat for track events.

### **Finished competing**

- Once an athlete has finished their last event of the competition, they are required to leave the venue as quickly as possible.
- All warm downs that can be completed outside of the competition area are to be done elsewhere.

### **Refreshments**

- All athletes, volunteers and spectators are to provide their **OWN** refreshments. For distance events athletes will be allowed to place a named drink bottle on the drinks table for their use during the event.