

Coaches are requested to note that:

(a) Eligibility for Brigades/competitors to compete:

- The Brigade must be affiliated with VFBV for its Junior members to participate.
- All Junior competitors must be registered with the CFA prior to competing.
- 16- and 17-year-old competitors must be registered as General members of CFA prior to competing.
- The team's Coach/es must be endorsed as a CFA Junior Leader/s.
- The team's Coach/es must hold a current Working with Children Check card (WWCC) with CFA.
- All Junior competitors must be accompanied by a minimum of **two (2) endorsed CFA Junior Leaders**.
- If you have members who wish to take part in the State Championships who are not yet registered CFA members please ensure that they begin their membership application ASAP via <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/volunteers-careers/volunteer-with-cfa/apply-to-volunteer>

(b) Eligibility for the 2 age sections for junior competitors (Rule 5):

- Juniors competing in the Under 14 years events shall be aged 11 years; and to be under 14 years on the 1st October immediately preceding the Championships. (e.g. born between 2nd October 2011 and 21st March 2015)
- Junior and Brigade Members competing in the under 17 years events shall be aged 11 years and under the age of 17 years on the 1st October immediately preceding the Championships. (e.g. born between 2nd October 2008 and 21st March 2015)
- NOTE: It is expected that brigades/teams will utilise their Under 17 Years competitors before supplementing the team with Under 14 Years competitors.

(c) Borrowing of a competitor (Rule 7):

- Competitors may be borrowed from non-competing brigades for either age section, subject to the written approval of VFBV and their brigade. All team members are to compete in the uniform of the competing team. A non-competing brigade is a brigade that is not competing at competitions or Championships during the current competition season.
- **For Under 14 Years events:** One competitor may be borrowed from competing brigades/teams on the day of a Championship in the Under 14 Years section if insufficient numbers to compete in the 4 competitor events. Borrowed competitor to compete in own brigade uniform.
- **For Under 17 Years events:** An Under 14 Years competitor may be borrowed from another brigade/team on the day of a Championship to compete in Under 17 Years, 4 competitor events, if a brigade/team has no Under 14 Years competitors and only 3

Under 17 Years competitors. Otherwise the brigade/team should utilise one of their Under 14 competitors.

- A borrowed Under 14 Years competitor may compete in the same event in both age sections.

(d) Eligibility to enter more than one team (Rule 3 (e) and Rule 7 (c)):

- A Junior brigade must have a minimum of 7 competitors in the respective age group to enter 2 Teams and a minimum of 11 competitors to enter 3 Teams. Subject to VFBV's prior approval, if the 7th/11th competitor is injured on the weekend (Friday, Saturday or Sunday), a replacement from the brigade's other team can be substituted as well as having a borrowed runner, but only in the event of an injury.
- Where a Brigade enters more than one team, a borrowed competitor cannot be used in Team A where a Brigade has two teams, or in Team A or Team B where a Brigade enters three teams, without the approval of VFBV. The same rationale applies where a Brigade enters more than three teams.

(e) Judges and Officials

- Brigades/teams are required to nominate a **minimum of 2 non-competing members** to act as judges or officials
- Where a brigade has more than one team entered, for every additional team **one additional non-competing** member is required to be nominated as a judge or official
- This rule applies to all competing CFA brigades
- Failure to nominate the required number of judges may result in the Brigade/team being disqualified from competing in a track event
- Judges are required to be nominated separately by completing the Judges and Officials nomination form available from the VFBV website

(f) Entries and scratching

- All entries shall be included in draw for each event in the Program.
- If a brigade/team at the time of the Championship is unable to enter a team in an event, the brigade/team is requested to complete a scratching form prior to the event commencing
- Scratching forms will be available from the VFBV office and are to be completed by the coach of the brigade/team

(g) Trophies

- Brigades entering accept the responsibility to maintain, repair and engrave any perpetual trophy presented as a result of their success in that event.

- Any damage suffered to a perpetual trophy while in the possession of the brigade is to be made good at the Brigade's cost and time for return to VFBV for the following year's State Championship.

Current Rule Book:

A copy of the current rule book (updated in October 2025) is available for download from the VFBV website <https://www.vfbv.com.au/index.php/champs/urban/upcoming>

If you require a printed copy of the rule book please contact the VFBV office on (03) 9886 1141 or championships@vfbv.com.au