

Coaches are requested to note that:

(a) Eligibility for Brigades/competitors to compete (Rule 1 and Rule 2):

- The Brigade must be affiliated with VFBV in order to be eligible to compete
- All competitors must be registered with the CFA prior to competing.
- Competitors must be aged 16 years or over and have been elected as a General member of their brigade
- Any competitor borrowed from a non-competing brigade must be a registered member of that brigade
- A senior brigade must have a minimum of 10 competitors in order to enter two Teams in the State Championship (6 competitors to form Team A, with remaining competitors to form Team B)
- 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) Combined teams (Rule 6)

- Where a brigade does not have sufficient competitors in its own right to compete at the State Championship it may combine with another brigade for that particular year
- Permission must be obtained from the Association each year and a list of competitor names and their brigade to be supplied with the request
- Competitors should compete in their own brigade uniforms unless the team has a combined team shirt

(c) Female Section Events (Rule 7 (g) and Rule 10A)

- Teams should familiarise themselves with the new rules inserted in the Rule Book in October 2025 if they are intending on entering the Female Section events.

(d) Borrowing a Competitor (Rule 7 – Senior State Championships)

- Competitors may be borrowed from non-competing brigades for the season, subject to written approval of the Association and their both brigades. Borrowed competitors from non-competing brigades are to compete in the uniform of the team they are competing with and can compete in any position.
- When a team has less than the required number of competitors to compete, competitors can be borrowed from competing teams as set out below:
 - Five competitor events: teams can borrow ONE competitor, but not in the following positions:

Hose & Ladder Fives:	Ladder Competitor
Pumper & Ladder:	Pump Operator or Ladder Competitor

- Six competitor events: teams can borrow TWO competitors, but not in the following positions:

Hose & Reel Sixes:	Hydrant or Second Coupling
Y Coupling 6 Competitors:	First Branch or Second Coupler
- Female Section Events: teams can borrow ONE competitor for the four person events, subject to the following conditions as listed in Rule 7(g)

Y Coupling Four Competitors	can compete in any position <u>except</u> First Branch
Hose, Hydrant & Pumper:	can compete in any position <u>except</u> Pump Operator
Hydrant & Tanker:	can compete in any position <u>except</u> Pump Operator
Wet Hose Striking First Disc Twice	can <u>only</u> compete as the First Branch competitor
- The rules for borrowing also apply where a Brigade enters Two teams. 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 has three teams, without the written approval of the Association. Brigades should attempt to borrow from their own brigade in the first instance
- A borrowed competitor from must be lodged with the Association office at the Championship prior to the start of the relevant event

(e) Number of entries in each event

- There are two entries per Team for: Ladder Race, Hydrant Race (open), Marshall One Competitor (A and B Sections), Marshall Two Competitors (A and B Sections)
- All other events are limited to one entry per team, including the Female Section events

(f) 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
- Where a brigade also enters the Female Section, they are required to nominate **one additional non-competing** member as a judge and 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
- Each team will be requested to assist with making up hoses for all Marshall and Appliance events. It is anticipated that each team will be rostered for one event over the weekend, with the roster to be circulated prior to the Championship.

(g) 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

(h) 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.

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