

Nominations to the State Championships via Medicals

To elevate confusion and disappointments at the Zone InterCentre Games the following details have been produced to assist Zone Competition Coordinators and Centre Committees explain the rule regarding nominations to the State Championships via Medicals.

To assist us 'see the rule' changes from the 2004 Conference which are indicated by the marks in the side margin and key terms have been set in bold and underlined.

The Rule:

Only competitors who have marshalled for competition and who sustain/suffer an injury or illness on the day of competition (anyone unable to start or unable to complete an event {or Multi event?}) at the Zone InterCentre Games, may offer medical certificates in lieu of competition (i.e. in lieu of qualifying through these competitions) to advance to the State Championships. Athletes/guardians must submit an 'on the day injury report', official *medical certificate (which must be obtained within 48 hrs of the injury) and supporting statement to their Centre Management Committee.

All applications whether supported or not must subsequently be forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer along with the recommendation of the Centre Management Committee.

Applicants must provide a report of the injury sustained on the day of competition, supplied by the competitions' attending first aide personnel.

*Medical certificates shall be specific, stipulating the exact type of injury or illness and stating that the injury or illness would have impaired performance in each event for which the exemption is sought. Those events must be listed on the medical certificate.

In addition to the medical certificate, evidence of performance must be provided and must indicate the child could have finished in one of the first two (2) places, or equal or better the qualifying standard before favourable consideration can be given to the application. Current year performances at Centre level and at all Association competition days, with the exception of Relay days shall be recognised when selecting athletes to compete at State Championships. This information should be in the form of a photocopy of the relevant Centre records and verified by the Centre Records Officer.

The Explanation:

The intent of the rule was to only allow athletes who have genuinely marshalled with the intent to participate, but who suffer an injury or become sick on the day of competition, to put in a nomination for consideration under a medical certificate. For example, an athlete may marshal and commence an 800m race and suffer an asthma attack or fall and injure an ankle. Both sustained on the day of competition, one or both may preclude the athlete from finishing that 800m and / or participating in any remaining nominated events.

Therefore athletes who have a broken arm or who are suffering from a stomach virus or chicken pox prior to the competition and in truth unfit and / or not genuinely intending to participate in the competition, are not subject to lodge a nomination for consideration under a medical certificate.

Athletes who sustain an injury at any Association competition should report to the first aide officer. The injury and a full record of treatment should be recorded - this is a requirement for insurance purposes. At Zone InterCentre Games as per the rule, it is also a requirement if the athlete intends to lodge nomination(s) for consideration under a medical certificate.