



## 2018 ACT TARGETED TALENT PROGRAM INFORMATION SHEET

### Program Description

The Targeted Talent Program (TTP) is Athletics Australia's (AA's) early talent identification strand of their High Performance (HP) strategy.

The purpose of the TTP is to:

- To be the early identification element of AA's High-Performance Department
- Motivate and improve the best young athletes in each State through coach led training and education sessions by inviting them to be part of a State level squad and
- Create meaningful contacts in the off-season between the best young athletes in each State (or Territory) and their personal and State coaches.

By identifying and engaging ACT's best junior athletes and coaches through development and education opportunities, TTP aims to encourage athletes and coaches to achieve their potential and strive to represent Australia at youth, junior and senior levels.

### Athlete Expression of Interest

Athletes (and their personal coaches) that meet the selection criteria outlined below and wish to be considered for selection in the 2018 AACT TTP are requested to complete and submit an athlete Expression of Interest form by 9:00pm on Friday 30 March 2018.

Athletes will be selected based on performances within the following event groups.

- Sprints and Hurdles;
- Endurance;
- Walks;
- Jumps (including pole vault), and;
- Throws.

Notwithstanding anything set out in this document, Athletics ACT (AACT) will aim to select a minimum of four (4) athletes within each event group and have an overriding discretion to name any athlete in the squad if they believe it is in the best interests of the athlete and based on advice from Athletics Australia National Junior Event Coaches and AA Junior High Performance.

Any athlete who did not compete during the 2017/18 season due to injury, illness or extenuating circumstances can be considered under this discretionary clause and upon submitting a written expression of interest. The application must include evidence for their absence (i.e. medical certificate), the event name they wish to be considered for, and supporting information by 9:00pm on Friday 30 March 2018. Completed forms are to be sent to;

Sarah Taylor - ACT Performance Coordinator

[sarah.taylor@athletics.org.au](mailto:sarah.taylor@athletics.org.au)

## **Athlete Selection Criteria**

Athletes that have met the following criteria will be considered for selection into the 2018 AACT TTP;

- Eligible athletes must have been born in either 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003
- Have finished in the top eight (8) within their event at the following competitions;
  - Australian National Junior Championships
  - Australian Junior Combined Events Championships; or

Have finished in the top three (3) at the 2017 Australian All Schools Championships

- Be a registered financial member of Athletics ACT for the 2017/2018 season
- Remain in good standing with your club, AACT and AA

AACT TTP is an all-inclusive program and we identify Para athletes in events that will feature in the 2019 World Para Athletics (Junior and Senior) Championships based on their performance at the competitions outlined above. Note: Age is calculated as at 31 December 2018.

AACT will introduce a new selection process for the 2019 Targeted Talent Program. Additional information will be made available to AACT members once finalised.

## **Program Activities**

TTP Squad Days will be scheduled from June 2018 – November 2018 with additional training and education opportunities available throughout the program. Each day will consist of a technical focused training session under the direction of a State TTP Coach and education sessions (theoretical and practical) delivered by an industry specialist and pertinent to the athlete's development.

A Physiotherapist will be present at all squad days. Powerhouse will provide feedback to the ACT TTP network (athlete, parents, personal and TTP coach) via email regarding any athlete that presents to Powerhouse. This feedback will entail assessment findings and any training restrictions.

## **Personal Coaches**

Targeted education, professional development and networking opportunities will be provided for Personal Coaches of athletes selected in the 2018 TTP program. Personal Coaches are considered an important and integral part to the athlete's development and performance and are requested to attend the first session of the TTP program - attendance is highly encouraged but will be voluntary for all remaining sessions.

All communication regarding TTP activities will be sent to athletes, personal coaches and parents.

Personal coaches that may be interested in attending TTP Squad days and education sessions, but do not have an athlete in the program are invited to attend. Please contact Sarah Taylor – ACT Performance Coordinator via email to receive information.

## **AACT State TTP Coaches**

Expressions of interests will be called for State TTP Coaches following Australian Junior National Championships. One State coach will be appointed for each of the five (5) event groups:

- Sprints & Hurdles;
- Endurance;
- Walks;
- Jumps (including pole vault), and;
- Throws.

## **Role Expectations**

- Provide technical coaching and support at the ACT TTP squad days (minimum six squad days) and other activities (e.g. targeted education sessions) as required;
- Maintain contact with the leading athlete and coaches in your event group
- Maintain contact with the relevant National Junior Coach (NJC)
- Attend ACT State Championships and Australian Junior Championships and assist Team Management and athletes by providing Team Coach support as required;
- Contribute ideas to planning TTP activities;
- Maintain regular contact with ACT performance Coordinator and provide reports to the on athletes within their respective event group as required by Athletics Australia.

## **Requirements**

- Be a current AA accredited athletics coach;
- Be a current financial member of AACT
- Hold a minimum of Level 2 Advanced Coach – Event Group Specific Accreditation (or be in the process of achieving the level of accreditation);
- Be available to attend each squad day (six squad days) and other TTP activities as reasonably requested;
- Possess a current First Aid Certificate (including CPR) and current Working with Vulnerable Peoples (WWVP) registration;
- Completed the Australian Sport and Drug Agency (ASADA) Level 1 and 2 eLearning courses.

All appointed TTP coaches will be required to sign a letter of offer with Athletics ACT, and agreed to abide by its policies, processes and code of conduct.

## **Honorarium**

Each appointed State coach will receive an honorarium (paid per session) for their contribution to the program to assist with costs associated with attending 2019 Australian Junior Championships.

## **Enquiries**

For more information about the 2018 AACT TTP please contact:

Sarah Taylor - ACT Performance Coordinator

[sarah.taylor@athletics.org.au](mailto:sarah.taylor@athletics.org.au)