2026 Otago Championship Athletics

Date: Tuesday 17 November 2026
Postponement Thursday 19 November 2026
Venue: Memorial Park, Mosgiel

General Information

Meet Information

1. The Otago Championship Athletics Meet begins at 9:00am Tuesday 17 November 2026.
2. The postponement date is Thursday 19 November 2025 and if required a notice will be posted on the OPSSA website and broadcast over the radio from 6am.
3. Venue is Memorial Park, Mosgiel.

Entry Information

4. Competitor ages are as of 1 October 2026.
5. Competitors must have followed the 2026 OPSSA entry guidelines and bettered the minimum qualifying standards in field events.
6. Competitors may be entered in a maximum of 3 individual events across sprint, hurdle, 800m and field events.
7. Entries open Monday 2 November.
8. Entries close 10pm Wednesday 11 November 2026.
9. $2.50 per competitor entry fee.

Relays

10. Competitors may be entered in 1 relay event, either at or above their age group but not below their age group.
11. Relay team runners' names must be included with entries.
12. Relay races may be timed if entry numbers dictate.

Race Information

13. All running events will take place on the grass running track.
14. Spike shoes and starting blocks are not permitted in any running event.
15. Running shoes are recommended but competitors may also run in bare feet or running socks.
16. Starting for the Sprint and Hurdle Events is a 3-stage operation.
    - On your marks *front foot up to the line, facing forward down the lane, body upright*
    - Set *bend forward at hips and knees, opposite arm to front foot is forward*
    - Go
17. Starting for the 800m Events is a 2-stage operation.
    - Set *front foot up to the line, body ready to push off, must not move*
    - Go
18. 800m races will have a split lane start to accommodate the large fields. (Lanes 1-4 and 5-8)

Sub Base Locations

19. Sprints Carpark end of the inner field
20. Hurdle & Relay Grandstand end of the inner field

Finals Progression

21. 800m races are straight finals.
22. The first 3 finishers (or 2 depending on entry numbers) in each Sprint and Hurdle Heat will progress to the next round.
23. Relays will not have semi finals.
24. All Finals will be held at their Finals event time.

High Jump

25. High Jump Officials may request a competitor use the Scissors technique if they have safety concerns.
26. 3 baulks will be recorded as 1 competition jump.
27. Competitors can elect to enter the competition at a height above the nominated starting height.
28. Competitors can opt to pass the next height once successfully clearing a height.
29. Competitors may jump in spike shoes if they have been checked and passed by the High Jump Official prior to the start of the Event. (Up to 9mm Cone or Pyramid only)
30. Competitors wishing to jump in spike shoes, must carry them to and from the event and have alternative shoes to jump in or be prepared to jump in bare feet if their spike shoes are not authorised by the High Jump Official.

Long Jump

31. 3 baulks will be recorded as 1 competition jump.
32. A metre-board will be used in all long jump events.
33. Spike shoes cannot be worn for this event.

General Information

34. Competitors are to wear correct school sports uniforms in events. ie jeans and coats are not suitable.
35. Schools are to highlight the OPSSA Code of Conduct behaviour expectations with competitors.
36. Schools are to provide a teacher or manager who will be responsible for active supervision of their students throughout the day. They need to have the authority to remove a student from the ground if requested by OPSSA.
37. Only the manager for your school's team can enter the Control Area and/or challenge a result at an OPSSA meet.
38. Competitors must stay within the dedicated areas unless competing.
39. First Aid staff have treated competitors with dehydration symptoms. Ensure all competitors are drinking water throughout the day.
40. Rubbish bags will be provided and schools are responsible for picking up rubbish in their area.
41. Event Officials will have Event Protocols including information on how an event will be run.
42. Please note there will be no canteen in operation at Memorial Park.
43. A bus drop off zone in the Memorial Park car park will be available for schools using buses.

For further information schools should email otagochamps@opssa.org.nz