GEELONG GUILD ATHLETIC CLUB INC.

Little Athletics • Senior Athletics

Welcome Booklet

for New Parents & Athletes

2026 / 27 Season

Welcome to Geelong Guild

Welcome to Geelong Guild

Welcome to Geelong Guild Athletic Club, we're delighted you've joined us! Whether your child is trying Little Athletics for the first time, or you're lacing up to compete as a senior athlete, you're now part of a friendly, successful club with a big heart.

This guide is here to help you settle in. It explains who we are, how the athletics season works, what to expect when you arrive, what to bring, how to get registered, and how parents can get involved. Athletics can have its own language and rhythm at first, our aim is to make your first season easy and enjoyable.

You don't need any experience and there's no standard to reach. Our focus is on fun, friendship, learning new skills and improving on your own personal bests. If you ever have a question, just ask any committee member or coach.

About Geelong Guild

Geelong Guild Athletic Club Inc. is a community athletics club based at Landy Field in Geelong, with members from more than 44 suburbs across Geelong, the Surfcoast and the Bellarine. We're proudly supported by our sponsor, Andrews Estate Agents.

Geelong Guild is one of the oldest Athletic Clubs and was established in 1908.

The club has two arms that welcome the whole family:

- **Little Athletics -** our junior program, Geelong Guild Little Athletics; and
- **Senior Athletics -** our senior program, competing through Athletics Victoria.

Our crest is red and gold and carries the club lion, while our athletes compete in Geelong Guild's distinctive green racing singlet. We're a strong club on the track too: in 2025/26 our senior team won AVSL Division 2 and earned promotion to the Premier Division for 2026/27, and our juniors continue to shine at state and national level.

Did you know? Little Athletics was born right here in Geelong. The very first Saturday-morning meet was held on a Geelong oval in October 1964. Your family is part of a proud local tradition.

Two Ways to Be Part of Guild

There's a place at Guild for every age and stage. Here's how our two programs compare at a glance:

	Little Athletics (juniors)	Senior Athletics (AV)
Who it's for	Children aged 5–17 (juniors)	Teens & adults (about 13 through to Masters)
When	Saturday mornings, ~October to March	Saturday afternoons, October to April
What it is	Modified track & field - “Family, Fun & Fitness”	Athletics Victoria Shield League (AVSL) competition
Focus	Fun, skills and personal bests (PBs)	Competing and scoring points for the club
Standard	All abilities welcome - no standard needed	All abilities welcome - no minimum standard

Many families take part in both - children in Little Athletics, with parents (and older siblings) competing or helping on the senior side. “Dual” athletes can even compete in both junior and senior competition.

How the Season Works

Athletics in Victoria is a summer sport, so our main season runs across the warmer months.

Little Athletics (juniors)

- Weekly competition is held on Saturday mornings, generally from October through to March.
- Each week your child takes part in a rotating program of several track and field events.
- It's all about participation, learning and personal bests. Results can be recorded so children can track their progress.
- We offer access to training with a qualified club coach to help athletes build their skills.

Senior Athletics - the AVSL season

- Our senior athletes compete in the Athletics Victoria Shield League (AVSL), often called “Aths Vic” or “shield”.
- The season runs October to April over about 10 rounds, mostly on Saturday afternoons. Our home venue is Landy Field, Geelong.
- Athletes choose which events to enter (usually by the Wednesday before), and more athletes and events means more points for the club.
- For 2026/27 Guild competes in the AVSL Premier Division after winning Division 2 last season.
- Refer to our specific Senior Athletes welcome guide for more information.

Special events through the season

Alongside the weekly meets, look out for highlights like the Victorian Relay Championships, Country and State Track & Field Championships, and, for those who qualify, the Australian Championships in April. Relays are a particular Guild specialty and a wonderful team day out.

The Events

Athletics is made up of running, jumping and throwing events. Athletes don't have to do everything, they can try a range of events and find their favourites. For juniors, equipment is modified to suit each age group for safety and fun.

Event group	What's involved
Track - sprints & middle distance	Short, fast runs through to longer laps of the track (e.g. 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m).
Track - hurdles	Sprint races over barriers, with hurdle heights and distances set by age group.
Track - relays & walks	Team baton races (a season highlight at Guild) and race walking events.
Field - jumps	Long jump, triple jump, high jump and pole vault.
Field - throws	Shot put, discus, javelin and hammer. Junior equipment is lighter and age-appropriate.

Getting Started

Joining is easy, and you're welcome to try before you commit.

- **1. Come and try -** Come along to a “come and try” session at Landy Field to meet the club and give it a go.
- **2. Register -** Register your athlete through Little Athletics (juniors) or Athletics Victoria (seniors), and with the club. Our Team Managers will guide you through the online registration step by step.
- **3. Get your singlet -** Grab a green club singlet from the club's online store so your athlete is ready to compete.
- **4. Turn up -** Note the season dates and your first competition day, and come along, we'll look after you.

Fees

Little Athletics is very reasonably priced and represents great value. The senior club fee is currently $35, in addition to your Athletics Victoria membership. Fees can change season to season, so please confirm the current amounts with the relevant Team Manager or our Registrar.

Useful links

Little Aths: Membership - Little Athletics Victoria

Little Aths Results: Results Hub

Geelong Guild website: Geelong Guild Athletic Club | Landy Field Geelong

Geelong Guild Uniform online store: Geelong Guild Athletic Club – Full Moon Printshop

Senior Aths membership/join: Membership | Aths Vic

Senior Aths Results Results Hub

Uniform & What to Bring

Athletes compete in the Geelong Guild green racing singlet, available through the club's online store. Geelong Guild Athletic Club – Full Moon Printshop

On any competition or training day, it helps to bring:

- Club singlet (or comfortable, weather-appropriate sportswear to start with).
- Suitable footwear - runners are perfect to begin with. Spikes are only for certain older age groups and events, so please check current rules with your Team Manager before buying.
- A labelled drink bottle - staying hydrated is important on warm days.
- Sun protection - hat, sunscreen and sunglasses (we're a SunSmart club).
- Warm layers for cooler mornings or late afternoons, and a small chair or picnic rug for families.
- A positive attitude and your loudest cheer!

Tip: label everything with your athlete's name, singlets, bottles and jackets have a habit of wandering at a busy track.

What to Expect on Competition Day

Your first day can feel busy, but it quickly becomes familiar. Here's the general flow:

- Arrive a little early so there's time to check in, find your group and warm up.
- Juniors move through a set program of events with their age group, guided by age managers and helpers.
- Seniors complete the events they've entered across the afternoon, fitting them around the timetable.
- Encouragement matters more than winning. Every athlete is chasing their own personal best.
- Results are recorded each week so athletes can track their progress and personal bests over the season.
- Stay for a chat afterwards. This is where the club community really comes to life.

Tracking your results

You don't need to write anything down as results are captured for you and made available online. The platform depends on which program your athlete competes in:

Little Athletics - results are published through Results HQ, where you can view your child's weekly performances and follow their personal bests across the season. Results Hub

Senior Athletics - results are available via the Athletics Victoria Results Hub, where senior athletes can check their performances from each AVSL round. Results Hub

If you're not sure how to find your athlete on either platform, just ask your Team Manager and they'll point you in the right direction.

Parents & Volunteering

Our club is run entirely by volunteers, and families are the heart of it. Quite simply, the events can't run without parents lending a hand and it's one of the best ways to be part of your child's athletics and to meet other families.

You don't need any experience. There's a duty roster so jobs are shared fairly, and there's always someone to show you the ropes. Typical ways to help include:

- **Age manager -** acting as a chaperone, guiding an age group around their events.
- **Event helper -** helping run an event. For example measuring, timing, raking the sand pit or recording results.
- **Official -** learning a role and, if you'd like, becoming an accredited official (great for the club).
- **Events & fundraising -** pitching in at our BBQs, season events and fundraisers like the Bunnings BBQ.

If you'd like to get more involved, the club committee always welcomes new helpers, just speak to a Team Manager.

Staying Connected

The best way to keep up with weekly information, results, reminders and club news is to stay connected:

- Follow the club's Facebook and Instagram pages for updates and athlete celebrations (including our “athlete of the week”).
- Keep an eye on the club website for season information and registration links.
- Watch for club emails and messages from your Team Manager - the club is rolling out a central club email to make communication even easier.

Geelong Guild website: Geelong Guild Athletic Club | Landy Field Geelong
Geelong Guild Athletics Facebook page: Geelong Guild | Facebook
Geelong Guild Little Athletics specific Facebook page Geelong Guild Little Athletics | Facebook
Geelong Guild Athletics Instagram: Geelong Guild Athletic Club (@geelongguildathleticclub)

Safety, Inclusion & Fair Play

Every athlete and family should feel safe, welcome and included at Guild.

- We are a child-safe club and follow Little Athletics and Athletics Victoria child-safety standards. Adults in certain roles hold a current Working With Children Check.
- We're SunSmart - hats, sunscreen and water are encouraged at every session.
- All abilities are welcome. Athletics caters for every shape, size and ability, and the focus is always on personal bests, not comparison.
- We ask everyone, athletes, parents and supporters, to play fair, be respectful and be a positive role model in line with the club's codes of conduct.

If you ever have a concern, please speak with a Team Manager, the Secretary or the President, we're here to help.

Where Athletics Can Take You

One of the special things about Guild is that there's a pathway for every athlete to grow:

- **Start -** Start in Little Athletics, building skills and confidence in a fun, supportive setting.
- **Progress -** Move into senior competition with Athletics Victoria as athletes get older (many compete in both).
- **Aim higher -** Take on relays, Country and State Championships, and even the Australian Championships for those who qualify.

Wherever your athletics journey leads, Guild is a club that celebrates effort and improvement at every level.

Key Contacts

Have a question? These are your go-to people. For general enquiries, the relevant Team Manager is the best place to start.

Role	Name
President	Harvey Murrant
Vice President	Justin Clark
Little Athletics Team Manager	Sarah Evans
Senior (AV) Team Manager	Ben Calnin
Secretary	Sue Clark
Registrar	Currently vacant — please contact the President

Contact email:

Little Aths: geelongguild1@gmail.com

Senior Aths: registrarggac@yahoo.com.au

Frequently Asked Questions

How old does my child need to be?
Little Athletics is for children aged 5 to 17. Our senior program caters for athletes from around 13 years through to Open and Masters age groups, so there's a place for the whole family.

Does my child need to be fast or experienced?
Not at all. There is no standard or trial to join. Every ability is welcome and the focus is on fun, learning skills and beating your own personal bests.

How do we get started?
Come along to a “come and try” session at Landy Field, then register through Little Athletics or Athletics Victoria and with the club. Our Team Managers will happily guide you through it.

What does it cost?
Little Athletics is very reasonably priced; the senior club fee is currently $35 plus your Athletics Victoria membership. Please check current fees with the relevant Team Manager or Registrar.

What should we bring?
Comfortable clothing or the green club singlet, suitable footwear, a drink bottle, sun protection (hat, sunscreen) and plenty of encouragement. A full checklist is on the “Uniform & what to bring” page.

Do parents have to help?
Yes please, the club runs on parent volunteers. You don't need experience; there's a duty roster and plenty of friendly guidance. Helping is also a great way to be part of the action.

What if it's raining or very hot?
The club follows SunSmart and weather safety guidelines. If a session is affected, the committee will let families know through our communication channels.

Welcome to the team - we can't wait to see you at the track!