



Queensland Athletics

Season 2017/18

QA Target Talent Program

David Gynther

CEO, Queensland Athletics

Tessa Storey

State Performance Coordinator, Queensland Athletics/Queensland Academy of Sport

Ben Groth

Coaching & Performance Pathways Coordinator, Queensland Athletics



Contents

1. QA Vision..... pg3
2. QA Target Talent Program Overview..... pg4
3. Athlete Inclusion Criteria..... pg5
4. State Coaches..... pg6



Queensland Athletics Vision:

“ONE SPORT, ONE STATE, A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES”

Queensland Athletics Mission:

1. *“Provide the opportunity for all Queenslanders to participate in athletic pursuits and enrich the lives of Queenslanders through athletics”*
2. *“Support, foster and embrace all affiliated bodies and stakeholders in athletics into a stronger Queensland athletic community”*
3. *“Consistently improve Queensland’s performance at an elite level to achieve international success”*
4. *“Maintain a stable and robust organisation that is financially sustainable”*



Queensland Athletics Target Talent Program Overview

The Queensland Athletics Target Talent Program (QA TTP) is a high performance pathway program funded and regulated in partnership with Athletics Australia. It is strongly aligned with activities of the Athletics Australia High Performance Department and has been established to:

- Act as the early talent identification component of Athletics Australia's AIS Winning Edge strategy.
- Encourage the best young athletes in the State by inviting them to be part of a State level squad and participate in development opportunities.
- Encourage and develop the best local coaches through recognising them as State Coaches.
- Create meaningful contact in the off-season between State Coaches and the best young athletes in the State and their personal coaches.
- Create a National pool of identified coaches in each event group (i.e. State Coaches for Sprints & Hurdles, Endurance & Walks, Jumps, and Throws) who model best practice at the local level.

By identifying and engaging Queensland's best junior athletes and coaches through development opportunities, the QA TTP aims to encourage them to achieve their potential and go on to represent Australia at youth, junior and senior levels.

The QA TTP program will focus on athletes born in 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002.

State Coaches will be appointed within four event groups (Sprints & Hurdles, Endurance, Jumps, and Throws) and will act as points of contact for TTP squad athletes and their personal coaches.

Throughout 2017/18 athletes who meet inclusion criteria and their personal coaches will be invited to attend QA TTP Squad Days which will incorporate a combination of relevant event group training clinics and both general and event-specific education workshops.



Athlete Inclusion Criteria

Squad Period

The 2017/18 TTP Squad term will be 1st June 2017 – 30th June 2018.

Eligibility

To be eligible for inclusion athletes must be a current registered member of Queensland Athletics or Athletics North Queensland and born in 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 or 2002.

Criteria

All Queensland individual medallists from the 2016 Australian Junior Championships and/or 2016 All Schools Championships and/or 2017 Australian Junior Championships will be invited to attend QA TTP Squad Days. Additionally, Athletes invited to Under 17 and Under 19 National Development Squads will be eligible for the TTP Squad.

Notes

QA may also invite additional eligible athletes and their personal coaches based on competition results and advice from State TTP Coaches and Athletics Australia National Youth Event Coaches and High Performance Management.

Age is calculated as at 31 December 2017. **Age groups** are outlined below accordingly.

- **Under 18** - athletes must not have their eighteenth birthday on or before 31 December 2017 and must be born in 2000, 2001 or 2002.
- **Under 20** - athletes must not have their twentieth birthday on or before 31st December 2017 and must be born in 1998 or 1999



State Coaches

Queensland Athletics will appoint at least one State Coach for each of the following four event groups:

1. Sprints and hurdles
2. Endurance
3. Jumps
4. Throws

Role of State Coaches

State Coach responsibilities include:

- Contribute ideas to planning for QA TTP Squad Days
- Provide coaching input at QA TTP Squad Days
- Attend one relevant National Championship event
- Attend State Championship events
- Regular communication within their event group with the leading Queensland U18 and U20 athletes (and their personal coaches) with a focus on those included in the QA TTP Squad.
- Provide update to Queensland Athletics and the Athletics Australia High Performance Department regarding QA TTP Squad athletes, in their event group after each squad day / camp. Key areas of intelligence to be included in the update are training and competition status and any issues identified, personal coach name, and any relevant and age-appropriate "life issues".

Incentives for State Coaches

QA will subsidise the cost of travel to one relevant National Championship event for each officially appointed State Coach.

Eligibility

To be eligible for a State Coach position coaches must:

- Be a currently registered Athletics Australia Accredited Athletics Coach
- Preferable to hold a minimum of Level 3 Event Group Coach accreditation
- Possess a current First Aid Certificate (including CPR)
- Possess a current Blue Card