



**BELMONT LITTLE ATHLETICS CENTRE INC.**  
Affiliated with Athletics West  
**BLAC TRACK FINALS POLICY**

**The Belmont Little Athletics Centre Inc. seeks to endorse policies and rules that provide a “fair go” for each individual athlete.**

### **Purpose**

To describe the method for allocating athletes to timed heats for Belmont Little Athletics Centre track events. This policy excludes any races with a group start and the Christmas Gift event.

### **Identification**

Any track event conducted at the Belmont Little Athletics Centre that requires races to be conducted in more than one timed heat must implement this policy for the allocation of athletes to heats.

### **Process**

Athletes will be ranked within the Centre based on their personal bests attained in the current season. The number of heats required to allow all qualifying athletes to participate in the event will depend upon the number of lanes available. Wherever possible the maximum number of lanes should be used to reduce the number of heats, and therefore time taken to conduct the event.

The top ranked athletes will be in heat 1, with the next set of ranked athletes in heat 2, etc. All heat times are then combined to determine the winner. The following chart should be used as a guide for the allocation of athletes in timed heats.

Laned track events up to and including 400m (Random lane draws in each heat is recommended.)			
Lanes	Heats	Proposed Selection	Max. Athletes
6, 8 or 10	1	Straight final (or first 6, 8 or 10 ranked athletes).	6/8/10
6, 8, 10	2	Next 6, 8, 10 ranked athletes.	12/16/20
6, 8, 10	3	Next 6, 8, 10 ranked athletes.	18/24/30
6, 8, 10	4	Next 6, 8, 10 ranked athletes.	24/32/40
6, 8, 10	5	Next 6, 8, 10 ranked athletes.	30/40/50

The process for allocating athletes to lanes in the 800m event is;

1. Marshal the athletes and check their names off.
2. Divide the total number of athletes by twice the number of lanes and round up to the nearest whole number to determine the number of heats.
3. Then divide the total number of athletes by the number of heats to determine how many athletes are in each heat.
4. Write numbers starting from 1 through to the total number of athletes in each heat (as determined in step 3) next to each marshalled athlete going down the page in PB order. This allocates the athlete to a position.
5. Athletes can be broken into groups with the first set of names in heat 1, the next set of names in heat 2, repeating for each subsequent heat. The following tables can be used as a guide for positioning the athletes in lanes.

For 800m using 6 lanes;

Allocation for lanes, up to 6 lanes.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Heat / straight final	1 & 7	2 & 8	3 & 9	4 & 10	5 & 11	6 & 12

For 800m using 8 lanes;

Allocation for lanes, up to 8 lanes.

Lane	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Heat / straight final	1 & 9	2 & 10	3 & 11	4 & 12	5 & 13	6 & 14	7 & 15	8 & 16