

What is a Finish Line Helper?

A Finish Line Helper plays a vital role in ensuring track events run smoothly and efficiently at either the straight or circular tracks. Positioned at the finish lines, they assist timekeepers by managing athletes as they complete their races. This includes keeping athletes in their lanes, making sure their bib numbers are visible to the timekeepers, and helping to escort them off the track. In addition to assisting with athletes, Finish Line Helpers are responsible for crowd control, ensuring that parents and spectators do not interfere with the races. This includes preventing people from crossing tracks or going through timing gates while a race is in progress, except for athletes finishing their race. This role is especially well-suited for families with children under 6 who are not registered athletes and are sole parents attending on the night, as it allows for participation in a stationary and manageable position

What are the requirements to being a Finish Line Helper?

To be an effective Finish Line Helper, you'll need to be available during track events and remain stationed at either the straight or circular track, depending on which you have volunteered for. While the role doesn't require heavy physical work, it does involve standing for extended periods and staying alert. Key requirements include:

- Assisting timekeepers by ensuring athletes stay in their lanes and making their bib numbers visible.
- Helping athletes exit the track efficiently after their race.
- Managing crowd control to prevent parents or spectators from interfering with the finish line or crossing tracks during active races.
- Ensuring that no one crosses through timing gates unless they are finishing a race.
- A positive and attentive attitude, with the ability to stay calm and focused under pressure.
- Commitment to staying at the finish line for the duration of track events.

This role is ideal for volunteers who are organised, attentive, and want to ensure a smooth, safe experience for athletes, officials, and spectators alike.

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We hope this guide has provided valuable insights that all volunteers can apply when supporting young athletes at Baldivis Little Athletics Centre. Most importantly, remember to enjoy the experience and help ensure the athletes have fun while participating.