

# TEAM MANUAL: OAC26

Version 2 (13 May 2026)

## Introduction – Welcome – President Robin Sapong-Eugenio

On behalf of Oceania Athletics, I am delighted to warmly welcome you to the Oceania Athletics Championships here in Darwin.

We begin by acknowledging the Larrakia people, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather today. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across Australia and throughout our region. We thank the Larrakia community for their continued custodianship and for welcoming our Oceania family onto their Country.



It is a privilege to bring our region's flagship athletics event to the Northern Territory, a location that reflects the strength, diversity, and unity of Oceania. Darwin stands as a natural gateway between the Pacific and Australia, making it a fitting host city for athletes and teams from across our island nations and territories to come together in the true spirit of athletics.

These Championships represent the core values of Oceania Athletics, Respect, Inclusion, Excellence, and Integrity. They are more than a competition; they are a celebration of regional solidarity, opportunity, and pathways for our athletes to progress onto the world stage.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the Local Organising Committee, our volunteers, technical officials, and valued partners. Your commitment, professionalism, and tireless efforts have been instrumental in delivering these Championships and creating a safe, welcoming, and high-quality environment for all participants.

To our athletes, coaches, and officials, thank you for representing your nations with pride. We wish you strong performances, fair competition, meaningful connections, and unforgettable experiences.

Welcome to Darwin. Welcome to Larrakia Country. And welcome to the Oceania Athletics Championships.



Robin Sapong-Eugenio  
President, Oceania Athletics Association

## Oceania Athletics Council

President	Robin Sapong-Eugenio	Northern Marianas
Vice President	Cécile Gilroy	Polynesia de Française
Council Member	Peoria Koshiba	Palau
Council Member	Matt Mahon	Australia
Council Member	Albert Miller	Fiji
Council Member	Trevor Spittle	New Zealand
Athlete Commission Chair	Dame Valerie Adams	New Zealand
World Athletics President	Sebastian Coe	Great Britain
World Athletics Council Member	Annette Purvis	New Zealand

## Oceania Athletics Staff

Executive Director	Yvonne Mullins
Member Federations Liaison Manager	Regan Kama
Media and Communications Officer	Casey Sims
Development Coordinator	Anthony Curry
Intern	Sharon Toako
Intern	Maliaki Kiki
Intern	Grace Blanchett
Intern	April Mavè

## Local Organising Committee

Chairperson	Leanne Chin
Event Manager	Andrea Allen

## Oceania Athletics Commission and Advisory Panel Members

<b>Competition Commission</b>	Trevor Spittle	(NZL)	Cécile Gilroy	(PYF)
	Caroline Jackman	(AUS)	Khan Sharp	(AUS)
	Tim Rogers	(NFI)	Samantha Culbert	(AUS)
	Alex Hulley	(AUS)		
<b>Development Commission</b>	Albert Miller	(FIJ)	Peoria Koshiba	(PLW)
	Makelesi Bulikiobo	(FIJ)	Kirsteen Farrance	(AUS)
	Brenda Waidubu	(NRU)	Peter Barrett	(AUS)
	Alex Beddoes	(COK)	Joan Merrilees	(NZL)
	Adam Bishop	(AUS)	Annette Purvis	(NZL)
<b>Athletes Commission</b>	Kirsten Hellier	(NZL)	Susan Krumins	(AUS)
	Dame Valerie Adams	(NZL)	Alex Beddoes	(COK)
	Chloe David	(VAN)	Regine Tugade	(GUM)
<b>Masters Athletes Commission</b>	Alex Hulley	(AUS)	Henry Frayne	(AUS)
	Tim Rogers	(NFI)	Donna Hiscox	(AUS)
	Joan Merrilees	(NZL)	Hazel McDonnell (dec)	(AUS)
<b>Oceania Coaches Advisory Panel</b>	Greg Borja	(NMI)	Andrew Logan	(COK)
	Makelesi Bulikiobo	(FIJ)	Frank Koibu	(PNG)
	Antony Drinkwater-Newman	(AUS)	David Lester	(AUS)
	Leanne Hines-Smith	(AUS)	Donna Hiscox	(AUS)

## OAA Life Members

Arthur Eustace	NZL	1991
Clive Lee	AUS	1991
Peter Andersen	PNG	1995
Margaret Mahony	AUS	2003
Geoff Annear	NZL	2007
Anne Tierney	COK	2007
Bill Bailey	AUS	2010
Fletcher McEwen	AUS	2013
Robert 'Bob' Snow	AUS	2015
Filimoni Vuli Waqa	FIJ	2015
Albert Miller	FIJ	2017
Denis Wilson	AUS	2017
Joseph Tatiano	GUM	2021
Titua Juventin-Maurin	PYF	2023
Trevor Spittle	NZL	2025
Trish Kinnane	AUS	2025

## Contact and Emergency Numbers

Important numbers - Local	Contact
Emergencies	<a href="#">000</a>
Police assistance	<a href="#">131 444</a>
Fire assistance	<a href="#">132 500</a>
NT Emergency Services assistance	<a href="#">08 8999 3473</a>
Crime Stoppers NT (to report suspicious behaviour)	<a href="#">1800 333 000</a>
Victims of Crime NT	<a href="#">1800 672 242</a>

## Oceania Member Federations

American Samoa



Australia



Cook Islands



Federated States of Micronesia



Fiji



Guam



Kiribati



Marshall Islands



Nauru



New Zealand



Northern Marianas



Norfolk Island



Papua New Guinea



Palau



Polynesia de Franciase



Samoa



Solomon Islands



Tonga



Tuvalu



Vanuatu



## Oceania Associate Members and Invitational Teams

Hawaii



New Caledonia



Niue



Regional Australia



Wallis and Futuna



## DRAFT PROGRAMME OF EVENTS BY DAY: DARWIN TIME

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE
Wed, May 13, 2026	5pm-6pm	Technical Officials Meeting	Online
Thu, May 14, 2026	5pm-6pm	Technical Meeting	Online
Sat, May 16, 2026	10am-4pm	Training	Arafura Stadium
		Arrivals	Darwin Airport
Sun, May 17, 2026	10am-4pm	Training	Arafura Stadium
	10am-1pm	TIC Open	Arafura Stadium
	1pm	OAA Congress Meeting	Club Tropical
	All day	Arrivals	Darwin Airport
	5pm-7pm	Welcome Reception (by Invitation Only)	Novotel
	7pm onwards	Team Activity	Club Tropical
Mon, May 18, 2026	7am-8am	Athlete and Coach Space	Club Tropical
	8.30am-12.30pm	OAC Day 1	Arafura Stadium
	12.45pm	Opening Ceremony	Arafura Stadium
	2.30pm-6.15pm	OAC Day 1	Arafura Stadium
	7pm onwards	Team Activity	Club Tropical
Tue, May 19, 2026	7am-8am	Athlete and Coach Space	Club Tropical
	8.45am-12.30pm	OAC Day 2	Arafura Stadium
	12.45pm-1.30pm	Javelin Coach Workshop	Arafura Stadium
	2.30pm-6.30pm	OAC Day 2	Arafura Stadium
	7pm onwards	Team Activity	Club Tropical
Wed, May 20, 2026	7am-8am	Athlete and Coach Space	Club Tropical
	8.15am-12.30pm	OAC Day 3	Arafura Stadium
	12.45pm	Technical Officials Photo	Arafura Stadium
	12.45pm-1.30pm	Coach Connect Session	Arafura Stadium
	1.30pm-6.20pm	OAC Day 3	Arafura Stadium
	7pm onwards	Team Activity	Club Tropical
	7pm-9pm	Athlete Com Meeting	Club Tropical
Thu, May 21, 2026	7am-8am	Athlete and Coach Space	Club Tropical
	10am-12.30pm	OAC Day 4	Arafura Stadium
	12.45pm-1.30pm	Seated Throws Workshop	Arafura Stadium
	1.50pm-6.15pm	OAC Day 4	Arafura Stadium
	7pm onwards	Team Activity	Club Tropical
Fri, May 22, 2026	7am-8am	Athlete and Coach Space	Club Tropical
	8.30am-1pm	OAC Day 5	Arafura Stadium
	12.45pm-1.30pm	High Jump Workshop	Arafura Stadium
	1.50pm-6.20pm	OAC Day 5	Arafura Stadium
	7pm onwards	Closing Ceremony – Cultural Show	Club Tropical
Sat, May 23, 2026	8m-1.15pm	OAC Day 6	Arafura Stadium
	1.15pm	Technical Officials Function	Arafura Stadium
		Departures	Darwin Airport
Sun, May 24, 2026		Departures	Darwin Airport

## History of the Championships

### Previous Editions of Oceania Athletics Championships

1990	Suva, Fiji
1994	Auckland, New Zealand
1996	Townsville, Australia
1998	Nuku'alofa, Tonga
2000	Adelaide, Australia
2002	Christchurch, New Zealand
2004	Townsville, Australia
2006	Apia, Samoa
2008	Saipan, Northern Marianas
2010	Cairns, Australia
2013	Papeete, Polynesia de Franciase
2015	Cairns, Australia
2017	Suva, Fiji
2019	Townsville, Australia
2022	Mackay, Australia
2024	Suva, Fiji
2026	Darwin, Australia
2028	<i>To be confirmed</i>

The **Oceania Athletics Championships** is an athletics event organised by the Oceania Athletics Association (OAA) for the World Athletics (WA) Member Federations of the Oceania region. The first Championships was held in 1990 in Suva, attracting 230 athletes from 14 Countries. It was initially conceived as a quadrennial event, however after the second edition in 1994, the Championships changed to a biennial event.

The National Stadium in Suva was the Venue of the first Championships, which was resurfaced for the Championships. The Championships started with a lavish opening ceremony featuring a Meke performed by over 250 students drawn from two high schools, Ratu Kadavuleva School and Queen Victoria School. One of the highlights of the action on the field, was the men's Javelin Competition, between Fiji's James Goulding and Jioji Nadvo, with Goulding winning with a throw of 71.54m. Sprinting has been a highlight of the Oceania Championships since the first edition, with Joseph Onika (SOL) taking the Men's 100m in 10.75 and Bindee Goon-Chew (AUS) taking the Women's 100m & 200m titles. First over the line in the Women's 100m was New Caledonia's Ghislaine Saint-Prix (12.05) running as a guest.

The Championships in 1994, were held at Mt Smart Stadium, in Auckland, New Zealand. Mt Smart was the venue for the Commonwealth Games in 1990, and New Zealand Athletics Great, and current Auckland Mayor at the time, Les Mills hosted a welcome for all athletes and officials. The host team dominated the Championships, winning 27 of the 40 Gold Medals on offer. However, it was the two Fijian sprinters, Jone Dalai and Vaciseva Tavaga who took both the Men's and Women's 100m and 200m Championships.

After the Championships in Auckland in 1994, the Championships headed to Townsville for the first time in 1996. Townsville would become a pivotal location not just for the Championships, but also the Association in later years. 13 Member Federations won medals at the 1996 Championships, including a first medal for the Federated States of Micronesia. Tonga's Siulolo Liku was the most outstanding athlete of the Championships, she won 3 Gold Medals, the 100m, 100m Hurdles and the Triple and was second in the Long Jump.

The 2000 Championships, held in Adelaide, Australia, just prior to the Olympic Games, saw athletes not just from Oceania Federations in attendance. Highlights included Peter Pulu (PNG) winning the sprint double in times of 10.46 and 21.29, James Goulding (FIJ), won another Javelin title and Brentt Jones (NFI) did the same in the Hammer. Mary Estelle Kapalu took both the 400m and 400m Hurdles Championships, only being beaten narrowly by Nigerian athletes. Anna Po'uhila (TGA), began her climb to the top of the throwing ranks, winning the Shot Put and Javelin.

The Championships returned to New Zealand in 2002, this time to Christchurch, and the Championships was welcomed by a traditional Maori greeting. Peter Pulu won the Men's 100m, into a strong headwind in a time of 10.66 seconds. In the Women's events, it was a breakout for Fijian sprinter Makelesi Bulikiobo winning the 100m, 200m and 400m titles. Ana Po'uhila (TGA) continued her winning ways in the shot put, winning in an impressive 15.66m.

2004 saw the first two-time host of the Championships, with Townsville hosting the Championships in December. New Zealand dominated on the track, with the exception of the Women's Sprints, which were won by Mae Koime (PNG) in 12.02 and 24.68. Avel Tanielu (SAM) won the 110m Hurdles breaking the Championship Record. Shaka Sola (SAM) won the Shot Put and Discus Throw double in impressive throws of 17.86 and 53.70m – both Championship Records.

Apia Park in Samoa, hosted the 2006 Championships. PNG once again won both 100m events, with Mae Koime defending her title from 2004, and Henry Ben taking the Men's title. Aunese Curreen (SAM) won a quality 800m and 1500m double. Mowen Boino, won both Hurdles titles, whilst Ana Po'uhila broke her meet record by over 1m in winning the Shot Put. In the Men's Hammer, there was a new Champion, with Guam's Justin Andre taking the title over Norfolk Islands Brentt Jones by less than 1m.

The Championships headed to Micronesia for the first time in 2008, with Saipan, Northern Marianas hosting the Championships. Young Fijian Leslie Copeland would take out the Men's Javelin, whilst Mae Koime would edge out Toea Wisil once again in the Women's 100m. Kiribati's David Birati won the Men's High Jump in 1.92m. Salome Dell (PNG) took out the 400m, 800m, 1500m and 3km Cross Country events, whilst Aunese Curreen (SAM) won gold in the 800m, 1500m and the 6km Cross Country.

Cairns, in North Queensland, would host the Championships for the first time in 2010. Toea Wisil would break through and win her first Oceania Athletics Championships in the 100m. In the Men's 100m, Australian Liam Gander won in a Photo Finish decision over PNG's Nelson Stone. 18-year-old Tahitian Raihau Maiiau would take gold in the Men's Long Jump in a jump of 7.64m only 6cm behind New Caledonian Frederic Erin who was competing as a guest. Leslie Copeland (FIJ) would win the Men's Javelin in 75.09m and break his coach James Goulding's Championships record in the process. A high-quality Women's Hammer throw saw three Australians sweep the medals, with Bronwyn Eagles defeating Gabrielle Neighbour and Karyne Di Marco.

After the 2010 Championships there were significant changes in the format of the competition. Now being held as a regional Championships (in 2011 and 2012), the Federations were divided into two divisions based on their geographical location either east or west. However, the competition was revised back to its original format as an Area Championships in 2013.

The 2013 Championships headed to Polynesia de Franciase for the first time. The Regional Australian Team made its first appearance in the Championships in 2013. Toea Wisil would defeat Patty Taea (COK) in the Women's 100m and would also win the Women's 200m. Sharon Firisua (SOL) would win the Women's 5000m. In a good Championships for the Cook Islands, Tereapii Tapoki would win the Shot Put and finish second in the Discus. In the Men's sprints Banuve Tabakucoro took the 100m & 200m double into headwinds. Australian decathlete Cedric Dubler performed impressively winning the Pole Vault and Long Jump, whilst Samoan Alex Rose took out the Shot and Discus double.

Rarotonga in the Cook Islands hosted the Championships in 2014. Young Tongan Ata Maama Tu'utafaiva won the Women's Shot Put at only 17 years old, whilst in the Men's it was 20-year-old New Zealander Jacko Gill taking the title in a Championships record of 20.70m. Leslie Copeland would win his 5<sup>th</sup> Oceania Championships in a row in the Men's Javelin. Eugene Vollmer (FIJ) broke the Championships record in winning the Triple Jump.

The 2015 Championships returned to Barlow Park in Cairns, Australia. The PNG women dominated on the track, taking out all but 3 Gold Medals. There were record numbers in the Men's sprints, with Banuve Tabakucoro (FIJ) taking the 100m Gold after three rounds, in an impressive 10.22. He was narrowly defeated by Samoan Jeremy Dodson in the 200m 20.57 to 20.68. In the Men's Discus, Alex Rose (SAM) and Marshall Hall (NZL) would both break the Championships Record, in a competition won by Rose in 60.95m.

The Championships returned to Suva, Fiji in 2017. Rellie Kaputin (PNG) won three Gold Medals in the field, winning the Long Jump, Triple Jump and High Jump. Jeremy Dodson and Toea Wisil both took out the sprint doubles.

The 2019 Championships returned to Townsville for the third time, and it was the largest edition to date. Australia and New Zealand sent their strongest team ever to the Oceania Championships in 2019. With a change to the qualification to World Championships and Olympic Games, it meant the Area Championships was more valuable to top athletes than ever before. Highlights include Liz Parnova winning the Women's Pole Vault in 4.60m, whilst Rellie Kaputin (PNG) won the Women's Long Jump and Triple Jump. Julia Ratcliffe (NZL) and Kelsey Barber (AUS) were outstanding in the Hammer and Javelin. Edward Osei-Nketia (NZL) won the most hotly contested Men's 100m final. Whilst Jeremy Dodson (SAM) and Banuve Tabakucoro (FIJ) bounced back from disappointing 100m runs to finish 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 200m. Hamish Kerr (NZL) was the best in the field, clearing 2.30m to take the Men's High Jump.

In 2022 Mackay, Queensland hosted the Oceania Championships for the first time. The Championships were pushed back a year due to the Global Pandemic. The highlight of the 5-day Championships was the Area Record in the 100m to Zoe Hobbs of New Zealand running 11.08. The Championships saw for the first time Under 16 athletes competing, with the introduction of a Teams Challenge, won by Queensland Athletics Pathways Team.

The 17th edition of the Oceania Athletics Championships took place in Suva. Fiji hosted the championships for the third time. The Championships included all age groups, Para, Master's alongside the senior competition, making it the largest Championships to date.

44 Athletes used the Championships as preparation and qualification ahead for Paris Olympics, and 6 athletes for the Paralympics in Paris. Several notable older athletes competed in the Masters division, including Fijian Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka (75) winning a bronze medal in the masters Shot Put category.

## Oceania Championships Awards

OAA presents several Awards at the conclusion of the Championships.

### Arthur Eustace Shield

Arthur Eustace won eight New Zealand senior Championships from 1946 to 1951 and set records in both the 120 yards and 220 yards hurdles. Three of these were won within a period of 25 minutes in 1948 in Dunedin.

At the 1950 British Empire Games, he won a bronze medal as part of the men's 4 x 110 yards relay alongside. He lived in Fiji between 1951 and 1954 and represented Fiji at the 1954 British Empire and Commonwealth Games in the 4 x 110 yards relay, and which he was coach and manager.

Eustace was a member of the management committee of the New Zealand Amateur Athletics Association for 28 years and was its President in 1985. He was elected patron of Athletics New Zealand in 2009.

He qualified as a national athletics coach in 1955 and was elected President of the New Zealand Athletics Coaches Association in 1974. He served as the manager of coaching and development of athletics in Oceania from 1974 to 1985. In 2006, Eustace was an inaugural inductee into the New Zealand Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Eustace represented Oceania for 14 years on the World Athletics (IAAF) Council. Eustace was a technical delegate at the 2000 Sydney Olympics. Eustace was the first person awarded Oceania Life Memberships in 1991. He was awarded the World Athletics (IAAF) Veteran Pin in 1986, and the Plaque of Merit in 1995.

The Shield is presented to the Most Outstanding Under 18 Athlete at the Championships. First presented in 1995, to one athlete. From 2019, it has been presented to 1 Male and 1 Female.

1995	Hapo Maliaki (PNG)	2006	Joshua Hall (AUS)
1997	Akeki Sapoi (TGA)	2016	Nash Lowis (AUS)
1999	Lisa Corrigan (AUS)	2017	Stephanie Ratcliffe (AUS)
2000	Eroni Tuivanliavou (FIJ)	2019	Reece Holder (AUS)/Tomysha Clark (AUS)
2002	Rachel Perderson (AUS)	2022	Cameron Myer (AUS)/Tayla Van Rooyen (NZL)
2004	Tumatai Dauphin (PYF)	2024	Daniel Williams (AUS)/Tammin Lampret (AUS)

### Lesley Cantwell Memorial Walks Trophy

Lesley Cantwell was a New Zealand racewalker. Cantwell won the Gold Medal in the women's 5000m race walk at the 2013 Oceania Athletics Championships in Tahiti on 4 June 2013. While waiting for the medal ceremony, she felt unwell and collapsed. She was taken to a local hospital where she passed away.

This Memorial Trophy is presented to the best walker at the Oceania Championships:

2014	Jayde Hill (AUS)	2019	Jemima Montag (AUS)
2015	Zoe Hunt (AUS)	2022	Jemima Montag (AUS)
2017	Connor Frew (AUS)	2024	Bailey Housden (AUS)

## Uniforms

Under 18, Under 20 and Open (and Para Athletes selected by their Member Federation)

All teams will need to submit their uniform prior to the Championships. Athletes will need to wear the approved National Team Uniform to compete. Please submit this to the Technical Delegate by the 26th April via email – [anthony@oceaniaathletics.com](mailto:anthony@oceaniaathletics.com)

For all Uniforms including Member Federation Teams, Masters Athletes and anyone competing, the National Team Kit Guidelines for WAS Events will be applied for this competition.

If Federations wish to display other advertising on clothing or bags, they must ensure that it meets the regulations and has been approved by WA and OAA. Please be aware that any unacceptable advertising will be taped in the Call Room before entering the arena. Advertising rules apply to the whole competition, which includes the medal presentation ceremony and any media interviews.

## Communication

Information will be sent electronically; there is limited printing available. Teams may request for items to be printed, but it's the first preference of the competition for information to be sent electronically.

Updates will also be made on OAA social media and the OAA Website. There will be a live result on the Oceania Athletics website: [www.athletics-oceania.com](http://www.athletics-oceania.com)

One Manager per team should be nominated to liaise with the TIC. This name will need to be provided at the Technical Meeting to the Competition Manager.

Oceania Athletics will set up a WhatsApp Group for Team Management. Information in the first instance will be sent via WhatsApp as well as email.

Team Managers will need to submit their phone number to the Competition Manager to be added to the group.

OAA will have a designated staff member stationed at Club Tropical to provide assistance and address any enquiries from teams throughout their stay.

## Technical Information Centre (TIC)

The main task of the Technical Information Centre (TIC) is to ensure a smooth liaison between Teams, Athletes and the Organising Committee, the Technical Delegate, and the Competition Management of the Championships regarding technical matters.

The Technical Information Centre will be located at Arafura Stadium.

The TIC will be open during competition hours and two hours prior to competition and one hour after competition. When the TIC is not open, please direct all enquiries to the Competition Manager.

The Technical Information Centre will be responsible for:

- Final declaration of team relays,
- Withdrawals and substitutions,
- Protests,
- Appeals to the Jury

- Distribution of information to athletes and Team Management
- Distribution of forms including clash forms
- Issue of forms for claiming records, processing of record claims and Organisation of photo finish print if required for records
- Obtain any additional medical information from Team Management for the Medical Team
- Distribution of communications between Organising Committee and Team Management
- Answering technical questions asked by Team Management.

### **Technical Meeting – Thursday 14th May 5pm – Darwin time**

The Technical Delegate will preside over the meeting.

#### **Agenda**

- Welcome – OAA President – Mr Robin Sapong -Eugenio
- International Competition Delegates and Officials
  - Technical Delegates
    - Anthony Curry – Oceania Athletics, assisted by Brad Taylor (AUS)
    - Caroline Jackman – World Para
  - World Para International Technical Official
    - Trevor Spittle
  - Competition Director
    - Khan Sharp
  - Referees
    - Richard Lawysz – Track
    - Fiona Brown – Call Room
    - Brian Roe – Start
    - Kirsteen Farrance, Peter Hamilton, Moana Kervella, Greg Peterson, Helen Roberts, Peter Roberts – Field
  - Technical Manager
    - Lauren Curry
- Facilities
  - As per Venue Map on website
  - Warm Up for Track on TIO #2 – access from Main Track
  - Throws – no throws on TIO#2 – circle for turns and basic drills behind hill at the 100m start – if athletes turn up to the Call Room on time, then we get to event site to warm up
- Starting Heights and Progressions
  - As per Technical Regulations
- Warm-up schedule
  - As per Technical Regulations
- Field event trials
  - As per Technical Regulations

#### **General Matters**

- Opening Ceremony
  - A short Opening Ceremony will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May. Flag Bearers to assemble at the driveway at the 80m start line at 12.30pm – one male and one female athlete per team and these names are to be send to Sharon – [intern@oceaniaathletics.com](mailto:intern@oceaniaathletics.com) by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Other team members can assemble under the cover in front of the building.
- Educational Seminars
  - Coaching Workshops for Coaches – Information available in the Team Manual available on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May

- Medical and Doping Control Information
  - First Aid on site provide by LOC including a Doctor and Physio
  - Doping Control may be conducted by Sport Integrity Australia
- Accommodation
  - Club Tropical for those staying at the Village. Regan has sent all relevant information
- Transport
  - Bus schedule will be provided by Regan
- Answers to written questions

Meeting closes 5.30pm Darwin time

## Travel

### Darwin Airport

Darwin International Airport (IATA: DRW, ICAO: YPDN) is a domestic and international airport serving Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia. The airport is in Darwin's northern suburbs, 8km (5.0mi) from Darwin city centre, in the suburb of Eaton.

### Flights – Quota Athletes

Member Federations have received a quota from OAA for Athletes and a Team Official. The Quota has been sent to Federations individually and is based on attendance at previous Oceania Athletics Championships and events.

Athletes will need to meet the Championship Entry Standards (appendix 1 -Circular 08.25) and ensure there is a gender balance to receive financial support. Each Federation will have one (1) Team Official who will receive financial support.

Only athletes in the Senior, Under 20 or Under 18 Championship events who have met the entry standards will be eligible for quota positions.

Where a Member Federation's Athletes do not meet the Championship Entry Standard up to one (1) male and one (1) female athlete and one (1) official will be deemed to be the maximum quota.

All other divisions are self-funded.

Member Federation Quota Team Members will receive the following financial support:

- Airfare from departing international airport (appendix 2 – Circular 08.25)
- Twin or Share Accommodation (calculated according to the least number of days required according to airline schedules) ##
  - Arrivals will be either Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> or Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May
  - Departures will be Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May.
- Meals (calculated according to accommodation)
- Ground Transport in Host City
- Any necessary Overnight Stays to and from Host City\*\*
- Per diems where required
- Competition Levy and entry fees

## OAA will work out based on flight schedules a team's accommodation. If a team or athlete chooses to extend or change their flight schedules, they will be responsible for the extra accommodation costs.

\*\* Member Federation Quota Athletes and Team Officials will only be offered an airfare from their home Federation OR from where they reside whichever is the cheapest possible option as determined by the OAA Office.

Examples:

- Samoan Athlete living in New Zealand will receive an airfare from Auckland or the cost from Samoa - whichever is the cheapest possible option as determined by the OAA Office.
- Guam athlete living in the USA will receive the equivalent cost of travel from Guam or the cost from the USA - whichever is the cheapest possible option as determined by the OAA Office.
- Fiji athlete living in Sydney will receive an airfare from Sydney or the cost from Nadi, Fiji - whichever is the cheapest possible option as determined by the OAA Office.

Airfares will only be funded from the departing international airport (appendix 2) in the Member Federation or from where the participant resides - whichever is the cheapest option as determined by the OAA Office.

The official Championship airport is Darwin Airport. OAA will only fund airfares to Darwin Airport.

Travel tickets of quota athletes will be issued preferably by Oceania Athletics, provided Members send their Preliminary Entries and Final Entries by the respective deadlines.

If a Federation purchases airline tickets for their quota athletes, the price of such tickets must be submitted together with the Preliminary Entries for the prior written approval of Oceania Athletics. Federations acknowledge that the cheapest available price will be taken as a reference. Only approved travel costs will be reimbursed upon the submission to Oceania Athletics of the corresponding invoice(s), and the athlete participating in the Competition.

No travel will be booked by the Oceania Athletics office without confirmation of visas for travelling person.

**Once travel is confirmed, if any athlete/official does not travel/compete, the MF will be charged for all expenses incurred by OAA.**

All under 18 athletes will need to be accompanied by a Team Official of the same gender. Athletes need to be at least 15 years of age to travel to Oceania Athletics Competitions.

#### Federation Funding Obligations

- Visa Applications (if your Federation requires a visa to attend the Area Championships or any transiting countries, please write to the OAA Office for advice)
- Any Government mandated covid isolation periods or testing either on the way to the Championships or return home from the Championships
- Departure taxes
- Medical and travel insurance
- All other domestic airfares are the responsibility of the Member Federation
- Additional accommodation outside of the agreed period according to arrivals and departures
- Once travel bookings are made, they will NOT be able to be changed without financial penalty to the Federation

Any funded/travelling athlete must have reached a minimum age of 15 years by the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2026. Under 18 athletes are not permitted to travel unless they are accompanied by a parent/guardian or Team Official of the same gender.

As stipulated in the Circulars, kindly check the visa and transit visa requirements based on his itinerary. Should they fail to board due to visa (or transit visa) issues, the tickets will be charged to your Federation.

## Oceania Athletics Accommodation

### Novotel Darwin Airport – Officials and Technical Officials

Henry Wrigley Dr, Darwin, 0801, Northern Territory, Australia

08 8920 7800

[Novotel Darwin Airport - AccorHotels - ALL](#)

OAA has arranged a Village for teams. The information below is for Athletes and Teams staying within the Village.

### Club Tropical Resort Darwin – Team Village

622 Lee Point Road, Lee Point, Darwin, 0801, Northern Territory, Australia

Hotel Amenities:

- Wifi
- Laundry Facilities (paid)
- Outdoor Pool
- Free Parking
- Daily housekeeping
- Vending Machines

### OAA Facilities

OAA will have a designated staff member stationed at Club Tropical to provide assistance and address any enquiries from teams throughout their stay.

### Chaplains / Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care services will be available to all participants throughout the Championships. A dedicated room at Club Tropical will be open daily from 7am, providing a welcoming space to pray, reflect, or have a confidential chat with a Chaplain, whether in times of challenge or simply for support.

Chaplains are available to athletes, coaches, officials, and families, offering one-on-one conversations around faith, mental skills, emotional wellbeing, and personal challenges. They can also pray with individuals on request and provide guidance when needed.

Present in athlete areas and working closely with OAA, Chaplains help reduce stress, support wellbeing, and foster a calm, positive environment, ensuring everyone feels cared for and able to perform at their best both on and off the field.

### Rooms

Rooms will be allocated prior to arrival based on Team Numbers and arrival dates. Rooms are either Twin or Triple Share. Teams can request a single room at an additional cost. Rooms will be split into male and female. Athletes or Team Management needing accessible rooms, will need to request to OAA. There are accessible rooms, on ground floor.

Each room has the following:

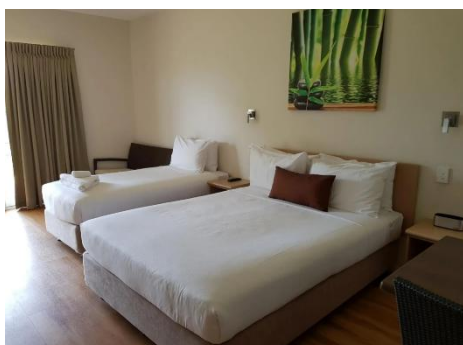
- TV
- Fridge
- Airconditioning
- Desk/Study Area
- Bathroom/Shower/Toilet

### Meeting Rooms/Spaces

There are plenty of open spaces that teams can meet. Alternatively, if a team needs a dedicated space, it can be arranged.

### Pool

Club Tropical Resort has two outdoor pools. Swimming will only be allowed at certain times and should be supervised.



### **Damage to Property**

It will be the Team Manager's responsibility to ensure that the athletes under his/her care do not cause damage to the rooms. Any damage caused by athletes will be paid for before departure by Team Managers or billed to the Federation.

Athletes causing the damage will face disciplinary proceedings and accept the penalties (if any) given.

### **Noise**

Any excessive noise, or disturbance in the OAA Village after 9:00pm at night, will be reported to Team Management and OAA. Breaches may result in an athlete facing the disciplinary proceedings and sanctions could be possible.

### **Medical**

The closest hospital to the Village, is the Royal Darwin Hospital, which is 3.4km away from Club Tropical.

### **Meals**

All athletes staying in the OAA Village will have breakfast and dinner provided to them at Club Tropical. Lunch will be packed and made available at the track. Times and schedule of meals will be made available in the final version of the team manual.

For those Team Members with any special Dietary requirements, they will need to be submitted to OAA with the final accommodation details by Friday 1 May 2026.

### **Other Dining Options**

Club Tropical features an onsite restaurant offering meals (please check with the restaurant for current hours of operation), as well as a convenient vending machine stocked with a variety of snacks for quick bites.

There are other dining options available, at your own cost, in and around Darwin, or at number of other waterfront establishments. Full list can be seen under dining.

### **Alcohol**

Teams are prohibited to consume Alcohol in the Oceania Athletics Village. A breach of this rule could mean immediate eviction from accommodation.

### **Smoking/Vaping/Betel Nut**

The Oceania Championships is a smoke, vape, betel nut free Championships. A breach of this rule could mean immediate eviction from accommodation.

### **Check In/Out Times**

Teams will be able to check in from 2:00pm on the day they arrive at Darwin. Check out is 10:00am.

**Security**

Every individual needs to take responsibility for their own personal belongings. Always lock room door when you leave, even if visiting the bathroom or nearby room and DO NOT leave shoes or clothes outside when you are not around to keep an eye on it OR valuable possessions in view of those passing by the room.

**Supermarket**

To support teams with local access to essential services, a van will be available for Team Managers to book for transport to nearby supermarkets. Booking details and operating times will be provided during the initial briefing.

These arrangements are designed to ensure teams have convenient and reliable transport options throughout their stay.

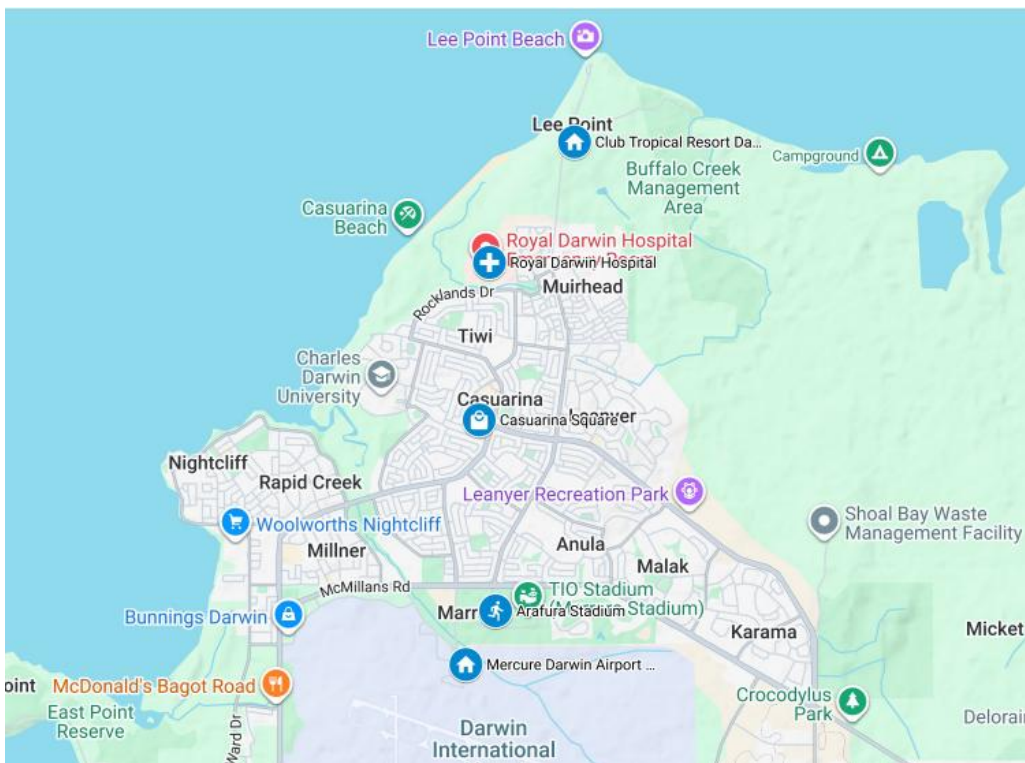
Alternatively, you can do online orders via Woolworths or Coles to be delivered to Club Tropical. In addition, there is a vending machine with snacks and drinks available.

**Other Club Tropical Information:**

There are some amenities at Club Tropical however, if you are planning to go off site, here are some approximate distances and times.

*Distance by car to:*

Arafura Stadium	7.7km	15 mins
Airport	7.9km	15 mins
Darwin Waterfront Precinct	18.1km	25 mins
Royal Darwin Hospital	3.4km	5 mins
Casuarina Square Shopping Centre	5.6km	10 mins
East Point Reserve	13.4km	20 mins



## Ground Transport

Transport between the Village and the venue will be provided by Oceania Athletics. Transport will begin on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> of May.

Only Accredited athletes and team officials will be allowed to use official transport. You will be required to produce your accreditation to gain access to transport. Detailed timetables will be published and distributed by team management. From the Village to the venue, the travel time is approximately 10 to 15 minutes by bus.

A van will be available for Team Managers to book for transport to nearby supermarkets. Booking details and operating times will be provided during the initial briefing.

Novotel is offering a complimentary shuttle service for Technical Officials to and from the track. Please note that bookings must be made at the Novotel reception at least one day in advance.

## Airport Transfers

For teams and athletes staying at the Athlete's Village, there will be transportation from the Airport to the Village.

Athlete and Team Officials will need to confirm flight details no later than two weeks prior to arrival.

Teams and athletes will be notified of their departure time in the days before their departure.



**Local Public Transport available**

Darwin bus network operates throughout the city and surrounds.

Taxis & rideshares are available in Darwin 24/7; book via apps or phone.

Below is a Darwin Public Bus with an up-to-date timetable –  
[Darwin and Palmerston public bus timetables and maps | NT.GOV.AU](https://www.nt.gov.au/transport/public-transport/darwin-and-palmerston-public-bus-timetables-and-maps)  
[Darwin | CDC Northern Territory](https://www.cdc.nt.gov.au/)

For your information we have provided a timetable that was available at time of publication of this manual below.

Route 4 / Route 10 – Weekdays Only (Monday–Friday) Travel Time: Approximately 10–15 minutes

From Club Tropical Area → Casuarina (Supermarkets)	From Casuarina → Club Tropical Area
6:30 am	6:45 am
7:10 am	7:25 am
8:00 am	8:15 am
9:00 am	9:15 am
11:30 am	11:45 am
1:30 pm	1:45 pm
3:30 pm	3:45 pm
4:30 pm	4:45 pm
5:30 pm	5:45 pm
6.30pm	6:45pm

**Car hire**

If Federations are looking to hire their own car whilst in Darwin, the Local Organising Committee has arranged a discount of 15 percent through Thrifty. To get access to the discount, please book through the following link.

<https://www.thrifty.com.au/deals/15-percent-off-nothern-territory>



## Passports and Visa Requirements

To visit Australia, you need a valid passport and a visa or Electronic Travel Authority (ETA), with requirements varying by your nationality, purpose, and length of stay, generally involving proving sufficient funds, good health, and character. Please see below.

- A passport that is valid for at least 6 months from date of entry into Australia
- Return or Outbound tickets
- Invitation Letter
- Re-entry/entry visa to a country other than their own (for example: permanent residents of New Zealand must produce a valid re-entry visa for New Zealand)
- Financial Means: Proof of Sufficient funds for your stay
- Health and Character: Meeting health and character criteria

On arrival into Australia, you will be required to complete an arrival card. This card should include your accommodation address and departure date and departure flight number.

The Department of Home Affairs website offers a "visa finder" to determine your specific needs, but generally, all non-citizens require permission to enter, but there are some options below.

## Medical and Travel Insurance

We remind you that all Member Federations/Individuals are responsible for subscribing to an insurance policy that covers illness and/or injury to any member of their team travelling to and from competitions and during the event itself.

## Darwin Time Zone – GMT +9:30

If it was 9am in Darwin, please see the times below at your home, as always please double check.

<b>7.30</b>	<b>8:30</b>	<b>9:00</b>	<b>9:30</b>	<b>10.30</b>	<b>11.30</b>	<b>12.30</b>	<b>13.30</b>
Perth	PLW	<b>Darwin</b>	Brisbane	FSM	FIJ	SAM	
		Adelaide	Sydney	SOL	KIR	TGA	
			Melbourne	VAN	MHL		
			GUM		NRU		
			NMI		NFI		
			PNG		NZL		
					TUV		
						<b>Day Before</b>	
						ASA	COK
							PYF

## Accreditation

All personnel will need to be accredited. Accreditation will be needed for transport, meals and access to the stadium. Accreditation will be personal to each individual.

All accredited personnel will need to have completed the World Athletics Safeguarding certificate to collect their accreditation.

## Collection of Accreditation

For athletes and teams staying at the village, collection will be on arrival at Club Tropical.

All other personnel can collect their accreditation and bibs from the Technical Information Centre at the stadium. Collection will be available on Sunday 17 May from 10:00am to 1:00pm, and from 8:00am on the following days.

### Wearing of Accreditation

It is important that any individual attending or working at the Oceania Championships always has their accreditation with them. The accreditation must be worn at all times and must be presented upon request.

Accreditations are strictly personal and non-transferable.

### Loss of Accreditation

The loss or theft of an accreditation must be reported immediately to the Technical Information Centre or Oceania Athletics. In order to obtain a new one, the person must pay the replacement cost of AUD20.

### Incorrect use

If any person is found to have misused their accreditation, they will lose their accreditation and be unable to take any further part in the Championships.

### Venue

The Championships will be conducted at Arafura Stadium. The Arafura Athletics Stadium is located within the Marrara Sporting Complex and plays host to a number of events, from training, event bookings, school carnivals, state championships and international events.

Arafura Stadium is the only synthetic track in the Northern Territory and is Australia's most isolated synthetic track.

### Technical Information:

	8 Lanes circular and 10 on the straight
2 SP Circles	Main SP circle at Finish line, with secondary at 100m start
Southern D	Finish line end of Stadium. High Jump to be conducted in this D
Northern D	100m start end of stadium. Javelin to be conducted from this end of stadium
Main Cage	Located at 1500m start
Secondary Cage	Located at 200m start, primarily for weight throw, masters' events



<https://youtu.be/p9ajzfKjuE>

## Training

Training will be available at the Stadium from Saturday 16 May. When the stadium is not in use during the Championships or other events or bookings, athletes will have access to the stadium. A training timetable will be sent to all Federations prior to the Championships and posted at the Athlete Village.

Implements, equipment (hurdles, starting blocks) and relay batons will be available to athletes and coaches during training times. These can be obtained from the equipment room at the stadium and athletes/coaches using the equipment will be asked to leave their accreditation with the LOC personnel in charge.

## Throwing Cage Available

There will be access to the throwing cage at certain times during the competition. This schedule will be available in the final edition of the team manual.

## Gym/Weights

There are two gyms available for the athletes to use before and during the competition.

Gym 1 – is located above the Athletics NT office and bookings are managed through the Northern Territory Sports Academy (NTSA). The facility can accommodate approximately 20 people at a time, including coaches. It operates from 5:30am to 8:00pm, but it has a high number of regular users, so advance bookings are essential to secure access.

Gym 2 – is located at the TIO Stadium and bookings are managed through the TIO reception. This gym will be available from Tuesday 19 May. The gym has a maximum capacity of approximately 32 people, including coaches, at any one time. There is a fee of \$10 per person which includes the gym and recovery pool.

## Warm Up During Competition

Warm-up will be permitted on the AFL grass field behind the main stadium backstraight. There will be no throwing allowed on the field. Times as of date of this publication:

- Monday 18: 8:00am – 6:00pm
- Tuesday 19: 8:00am – 6:00pm
- Wednesday 20: 8:00am – 6:00pm
- Thursday 21: 8:00am – 6:00pm
- Friday 22: 8:00am – 6:00pm

For Throws athletes there are a couple of circles behind the Athlete zone. Supervision is required by Team Manager or Coaches. Athletes will get warm up throws at the event site (assuming all athletes report to the call room on time).

Under no circumstances should athletes be throwing implements of any sort in any other specific warmup area. If any athlete is found to be doing so, they will have their accreditation removed and withdrawn from the competition.

## Team Management Supervision

Duty of Care during Training and Warm Up days remains with Team Managers/Coaches.

Team Managers and Coaches will not be permitted onto the Field of Play during competition.

## Anti-Doping

Oceania Athletics may conduct Anti-Doping Testing at the Oceania Area Championships. The Local Organising Committee has provided an adequate facility in which the sampling and secure storage of samples can be conducted.

Please ensure that your athletes understand the procedures. Make sure that someone responsible who knows the procedures attends the process with them. It is a very personal experience and if it is the first time that they are required to complete the procedure, they may find it very embarrassing. They have no choice in the matter, once asked by a member of the Drug Testing Agency.

The selection of athletes for testing is randomly made and any athlete regardless of their age and sex and the type of event in which they are participating may be chosen. The Procedural Guidelines established by WADA are strictly adhered to in the testing of all athletes.

If you are selected for a test, you will be advised of this fact by a drug testing official (Chaperone) who will be clearly identified and accredited as part of the testing team. You will be informed of your selection to undergo a doping test, and the drug testing official will then escort you to the testing control area. All competitors should be aware that the refusal of a test will be deemed the same as a positive doping test.

The testing procedure will be fully explained to you by the Control Team, and you may request information on any matter about the drug testing procedure, during or after completing the required forms. And queries or complaints should be noted before finally signing the forms.

If you have been granted a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) you should provide details on the drug testing form.

An athlete is normally advised of their selection for a drug test immediately after they have completed an event. The drug testing official (Chaperone) who advises you of the selection will then remain with you until such time as you are presented at the testing control area.

You may nominate another person (one only) to accompany you to the drug testing process. With the consent of your drug testing official, and at all times in full view of the official, you may:

- Attend a victory ceremony
- Compete in future events
- Receive necessary medical attention
- Fulfill media commitments
- Cool down (cool off) or recuperate

## Athlete Responsibilities

It is the athlete's responsibility to ensure that the following is done during the sample collection process:

- You are aware of and comply with the WA/WMA/WADA doping control regulations
- You comply with the drug testing procedure
- You control the urine sample until it is sealed in the sample collection kit
- The sealed sample collection kit is secured and identified
- All appropriate documentation is accurate, complete and signed

**Note:** If any part of the drug testing procedure concerns you it is recommended that you record your concern on the drug testing form and notify your Team Manager or Federation.

## Ceremonies

### Opening Ceremony

There will be an Opening Ceremony and speeches during the break of competition on Monday 18 May at 12.45pm at the Arafura Stadium.

### Closing Ceremony

Date: Friday 22 May 2026  
Time: 7pm  
Venue: Club Tropical

## Athletes' Activities and Seminars

Oceania Athletics in conjunction with the OAA Athlete Commission, Oceania Athletics Coaches Advisory Panel, Australian Athletics and Athletics New Zealand will have a number of activities and promotions happening across the week whilst the Championships is on. Please refer to the day-to-day schedule for more information.

The *Darwin Airport Resorts Athletes Zone*, similar to Oceania Cup in Tonga, is a resource centre dedicated to help you thrive, on and off the field of play. Whether you are aiming for a personal best, navigating the business of sport, or planning your life beyond competition, this hub is built to support your journey at every stage, the Athlete Zone will be located at the competition venue.

## Oceania Athletics Congress Meeting

Date: Sunday 17 May 2026  
Time: 1pm to 3pm  
Venue: Club Tropical, Equatorial Room  
Attendance: One delegate from each MF must attend the OAA Congress

For those delegates not staying at Club Tropical, transport will be available from Novotel at 12.15pm. Please inform OAA if you require this transport.

## Safeguarding

All Accredited persons for the Oceania Athletics Championships, will need to complete the World Athletics Safeguarding Essentials Course on the [World Athletics eLearning Platform](#). If a person is unable to complete prior to arrival, OAA will have computers available for persons to use.

All Member Federations will have their own safeguarding policy (covering topics such as travel, supervision, communication, training etc.) and a code of conduct with a reporting procedure to cover all athletes and Team Officials attending an OAA Event.

Oceania Athletics and Member Federations will ensure such safeguarding risk assessment is kept under review and that specific measures are taken where U18 athletes are attending an OAA Event. For example, consideration of rooming arrangements where the athletes' parents / legal guardians are not in attendance and are under the custody and care of Team Officials.

All Federations will identify a Team Official to act as a Safeguarding Officer who will be responsible for safeguarding risk assessment and safeguarding matters generally. Information on how to conduct risk assessment, develop a code of conduct and templates can be found here:

<https://www.worldathletics.org/aboutiaaf/documents/member-federation-resource-centre>

As part of Oceania Athletics safeguarding measures, all athletes will need to complete the Oceania Athletics Athlete Declaration and Consent Form. These forms will be sent to all Member Federations and Teams.

The OAA event Safeguarding plan will be made available to all Team Managers.

### **Medical Procedures**

Oceania Athletics has created a specific Health and Safety Plan for the Championships.

Medical services will be available throughout the Championships, including support from physiotherapists, doctors, and St John's Medical personnel. These teams will be on site to assist with injury management, first aid, and general athlete care.

Shirley Wright, whom some athletes may remember from Tonga, will be positioned near the post event area. She will be available for immediate assistance such as ice, basic treatment, and post-event taping.

If an athlete requires taping *before* their event, they must provide their own tape for the medical staff to use. This ensures supplies remain available for all athletes across the Championships.

### **Duty of Care**

The Duty of Care will remain with Team Management for the entire period of their stay in Darwin.

### **Pre-Existing Conditions**

Any team members who enter the Village with a pre-existing condition will be charged for medical, dental or physiotherapy costs incurred.

## General Information: Darwin, Australia

Darwin is the capital and largest city of the Northern Territory, Australia. The city had a population of 139,902 at the 2021 census, which is nearly 53% of the Territory's population. It is the smallest, wettest, and most northerly of the Australian capital cities and serves as the Top End's regional centre.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of the Larrakia language group are the traditional custodians and earliest known inhabitants of the greater Darwin area. Their name for the area is Garramilla, and meaning "white stone", referring to the colour of rock and sea cliffs found in the area. They had trading routes with Southeast Asia and imported goods from as far afield as South and Western Australia. Established songlines penetrated throughout the country, allowing stories and histories to be told and retold along the routes.

Darwin's proximity to Southeast Asia makes it a key link between Australia and countries such as Indonesia and Timor-Leste. The Stuart Highway begins in Darwin and extends to Darwin's eastern satellite city of Palmerston and its suburbs and southerly across central Australia through Tennant Creek and Alice Springs, concluding in Port Augusta, South Australia. The city is built upon a low bluff overlooking Darwin Harbour. Darwin's suburbs extend to Lee Point in the north and to Berrimah in the east. The Stuart Highway extends to Darwin's

The Darwin region, like much of the Top End, has a tropical climate, with a wet and dry season. A period known locally as "the build-up" leading up to Darwin's wet season sees temperature and humidity increase. Darwin's wet season typically arrives in late November to early December and brings with it heavy monsoonal downpours, spectacular lightning displays, and increased cyclone activity. During the dry season, the city has clear skies and mild sea breezes from the harbour.

On 9 September 1839, HMS *Beagle* sailed into Darwin Harbour during its survey of the area. John Clements Wickham named the region "Port Darwin" in honour of Charles Darwin, who had sailed with them on the ship's previous voyage. The settlement there became the town of Palmerston in 1869 but was renamed Darwin in 1911. The city has been almost entirely rebuilt four times, following devastation caused by a cyclone in 1897, another one in 1937, Japanese air raids during World War II, and Cyclone Tracy in 1974.

### Local Traditions

#### *Clapping at sunset*

Clapping at sunset in Darwin is a fun, unofficial tradition, especially at Mindil Beach during the famous Sunset Markets (April-Oct), where crowds often clap, cheer, and sometimes wolf-whistle as the sun dips below the horizon. It's a spontaneous way to celebrate the stunning tropical sunsets at spots like Mindil Beach, Dudley Point, or the Nightcliff Foreshore, showcasing appreciation for nature's display.

In essence, clapping at sunset in Darwin, particularly at Mindil Beach, is a delightful, shared moment of appreciation for the tropical sky's vibrant display.

### **Security and Safety**

Darwin is generally safe, but usual city precautions apply. Your personal safety should always be a priority - check out all of the information below to help keep yourself safe.

### **Practice Situational Awareness**

Situational awareness is the process of being aware of your surroundings and being alert to any potential safety threats.

You can enhance your situational awareness by:

- Avoiding use of your mobile phone whilst walking
- Removing headphones or lowering the volume on music when out
- Scanning your environment for exits, suspicious people or objects or any unique elements that may impact your safety
- Following your gut - if something feels out of place, react!

### **Keep your Items close**

Avoid leaving your valuables unattended when you are out and ensure you keep your backpack and bags closed.

### **Carrying Cash**

Try to avoid carrying large amounts of cash and do not publicise how much cash you are carrying.

### **Be a Hard Target**

Make yourself a hard target by being alert, walking with confidence and keeping to well-lit and populated areas. Let someone know where you are going and the time you will return. Be aware of your surroundings and avoid walking with earphones in or whilst on your phone.

### **Swimming Safety Considerations**

While swimming in Darwin can be enjoyable, it's essential to be aware of potential hazards such as crocodiles and box jellyfish. Always swim in patrolled areas, check local advisories, and adhere to safety guidelines provided by authorities. During the dry season, jellyfish numbers decrease, making it a more favourable time for swimming.

### **Language**

English is the primary language. However, Darwin also features many languages from its multicultural and Indigenous communities.

### **Driving**

In Australia, you must drive on the left side of the road.

### **Communication**

Australia has several major telecommunication providers, which can provide SIM cards for use in Darwin.

Airport shops or local service stations often sell SIM cards if you need one on arrival.

Free public Wi-Fi is available in parts of the CBD.

### Electricity

The standard plug and outlet are Type I – features three flat pins in a V-shape

Standard voltage is 240V at a frequency of 50Hz

If from Australia or New Zealand, you don't need a power plug adapter – as it is the same socket



### Currency

Australian Dollar (AUD)

### ATMs

ATMs are widely available across Darwin and inside Darwin International Airport. Travelex also offers foreign currency ATMs at the airport terminal.

### Money Exchange

- Airport exchange kiosks (e.g., Travelex) are convenient but may offer less favourable rates.
- Banks and dedicated forex providers in the city often provide better rates.

### Cash and Credit Cards

- Cards (*Visa, Mastercard, Amex*) are widely accepted.
- Carry a little cash for markets, buses or small vendors, though cards usually suffice.

### Tipping

Tipping is not obligatory in Australia, however small tips for excellent service are appreciated but not expected.

### Climate

Darwin has a tropical climate with two main seasons:

- Dry Season (May–October): Warm days, sunny skies, low humidity, ideal for travel.
- Wet Season (November–April): Hot, humid, lots of rain and possible cyclones; outdoor plans may be disrupted.

Expect temperatures in the high 20s–30s °C year-round.

		May	
Mean maximum temperature (°C)	32.1	Mean 9am temperature (°C)	25.6
Mean minimum temperature (°C)	22.2	Mean 9am relative humidity (%)	65
Mean rainfall (mm)	20.2	Mean 3pm temperature (°C)	31.2
Decile 5 (median) rainfall (mm)	4	Mean 3pm relative humidity (%)	43
Mean number of days of rain $\geq$ 1 mm	1.6	Mean 3pm wind speed (km/h)	17
Mean daily sunshine (hours)	9.6	Mean number of cloudy days	6.5
Mean number of clear days	12.1		

### **Dress**

Dress is casual and informal throughout the islands. Light tropical attire such as short sleeve shirts, summer dresses, T-shirts, shorts and slacks for evenings. Ensure you pack lightweight, breathable clothing: it's warm year-round. You should bring a rain jacket and waterproof footwear.

Respectful attire is required for visits to cultural sites.

### **Water Quality**

Yes, you can drink tap water in Darwin as it's generally safe, meets Australian standards, and is monitored by health authorities, but the taste can vary due to natural minerals or wet season runoff, so many locals use filters for better flavour and to reduce limescale.

### **Allergies**

It is important that all food allergies are reported to Oceania Athletics before athletes arrive at the Village by Friday 1 May 2026. This will ensure that all procedures are in place to cater for the athletes' needs.

Common tropical allergens include pollen and insect bites.

Sunscreen and insect repellent are recommended.

## Things to do / see

### Crocosaurus Cove

Located in the heart of Darwin City, Crocosaurus Cove is home to the world’s largest display of Australian reptiles, including the iconic saltwater crocodile.

Discover each of Crocosaurus Cove's 10 interactive shows daily and learn all about Australia's incredible wildlife. Watch a huge saltie (crocodile) dine on his lunch during the Big Croc Feed Show, cuddle a snake or lizard during the Meet the Reptiles Show, and feed a feisty juvenile croc from the Fishing for Crocs platform. Then, capture a family photo with Fluffy the baby croc, or go for a dip in the Swim with the Crocs pool.

Crocosaurus Cove is also home to the famous Cage of Death, Australia’s only crocodile dive. Swim with one of the largest saltwater crocs in the world and marvel at his prehistoric features and mesmerising gaze. This is a truly up close and personal experience that must be done.

### Markets

Mindil Beach Sunset Markets	4pm to 9pm	Thursday and Sunday
Parap Village Markets	8am to 2pm	Saturdays
Malak Market Place	4pm to 9pm	Saturdays
Nightcliff Market	8am to 2pm	Sundays

<https://northernterritory.com/articles/markets-in-the-nt>

### Darwin Waterfront Precinct

The Darwin Waterfront is in the heart of Darwin's CBD just walking distance from Smith Street Mall and the Esplanade.

Experience the best of Darwin's tropical lifestyle with lush parklands, a man-made beach along the saltwater recreation lagoon, and Darwin's most popular attraction, the Wave Lagoon.

Dine on around the world cuisine as you refuel after a morning swim, linger over a luxurious lunch, or stop for a sundowner. Choose from high-end Mediterranean and Mexican restaurants to more casual cafes and bars - you'll never be too far from an ice cream or a cocktail!

Experience Darwin's multicultural and vibrant community with a year-round program of activities, festivals and events.

Explore Stokes Hill Wharf, a favourite fishing and fish-and-chip spot and popular starting point for harbour cruises where you can experience the best of Darwin Harbour aboard sunset cruises, fishing tours or 00Seven Jet Ski Adventures.

<https://northernterritory.com/darwin-and-surrounds/see-and-do/darwin-waterfront>

### Museum

The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory's principal site, MAGNT Darwin, is home to internationally renowned artistic, cultural and scientific collections and research programs such as [Cyclone Tracy: 50 Years On - Experience the Story at MAGNT](#)

Address: 19 Conacher Street, The Gardens, Darwin

Times: Open daily: 10am – 4pm

### **East Point Reserve**

East Point Reserve is a special place for the people of Darwin and is one of the most popular recreation areas for both locals and visitors. Rich in history and biodiversity, East Point is easy to access and has an abundance of facilities and attractions for everyone.

East Point Reserve is one of the largest reserves in the Darwin municipality boasting 200 hectares of green space and recreation spaces.

East Point Reserve is home to over 200 Wallabies. Over 30 hectares of East Point Reserve remains native vegetation. Within this area the total number of vertebrate species recorded is 254 – that’s a lot of different animals in such a small space.

With two playgrounds, a lake, exercise stations, a cricket wicket, walking trails and more, East Point Reserve has always been a popular place for gatherings, events and recreational activities.

The reserve is host to a range of landscaped barbecue and picnic facilities, a military history that goes back to 1932 and a range of community and tourist facilities including the Darwin Military Museum and the gun turret precinct

The East Point Interactive Science Trail is a great way to explore more of the unique biodiversity of East Point. Why not get your walking shoes and head out to East Point for a fun and interactive experience.

Dudley Point look out is a particularly popular area boasting uninterrupted views and a rich military history. If you haven't yet, soaking up the views at sunset is a must. Picnic facilities are available here for your comfort.

### **Casuarina Square Shopping Centre**

<https://www.casuarinasquare.com.au/>

Casuarina Square is in the heart of Darwin’s northern suburbs and the largest shopping centre in the Northern Territory.

Its home to over 180 stores, including major national retailers and beloved local businesses and has led the way in bringing first-to-market stores and experiences to the Territory.

It offers a vibrant food court, outdoor dining precinct, and services tailored to everyday needs all in one convenient location. Whether you’re updating your wardrobe, enjoying a meal, catching a film, or just spending quality time, you’ll find everything you need here.

### **Lee Point Beach**

Swimming is **NOT** recommended at Lee Point due to the risk of saltwater crocodiles, box and Irukandji jellyfish. Surf Life-Saving Australia does not provide any active lifeguard services at this beach.

## Restaurants/Dining

Darwin's food scene is diverse, from Southeast Asian fusion and Greek tavernas to seafood by the waterfront. Many places around Mitchell St and the Waterfront Precinct are good for dinner and drinks. Prices vary quite a bit; casual meals often start around AUD20, while fine dining and specialties can be much higher.

### Fine Dining & Full-Service Restaurants

#### *Hanuman Restaurant*

93 Mitchell St, Darwin City NT 0800

Cuisine: Southeast Asian (Thai/Indian/Nonya fusion)  
– famed for chilli crab, oysters, curries.

#### *PepperBerry Restaurant*

Ground Floor, 32 Mitchell St, Darwin City

Cuisine: Modern Australian fine dining (steaks, market fish, local ingredients).

#### *Beef & Bar Restaurant*

19 Kitchener Dr, Darwin City

Cuisine: Steakhouse and grill, great for beef and meat-centric meals.

### International & Casual Dining

#### *MERAKI Greek Taverna*

17/56 Smith St, Darwin City

Cuisine: Greek (mezes, grilled meats, classics).

#### *Moorish Cafe*

37 Knuckey St, Darwin City

Cuisine: North African & Mediterranean fusion (tapas, grills).

#### *The Tap*

58 Mitchell St, Darwin City

Cuisine: Pub-style meals, burgers, mains.

### Casual & Budget Options

#### *The Last Supper Pizzarella*

1/35 Cavenagh St, Darwin City

Cuisine: Pizza & Italian casual meals.

#### *D Bar & Restaurant*

81 Smith St, Darwin City

Cuisine: Café + all-day dining (breakfast to dinner).

### Seafood & Waterfront

#### *Snapper Rocks*

B2/7 Kitchener Dr, Darwin City (Waterfront)

Cuisine: Seafood (fresh fish, local catch).

#### *Wharf One*

19 Kitchener Dr, Darwin Waterfront Precinct

Cuisine: Modern Australian with seafood and grill options.

#### *Junoon*

33 Knuckey St, Darwin City

Cuisine: Modern Australian with seasonal & creative dishes.

#### *Ella by Minoli*

20 West Ln, Darwin City

Cuisine: Sri Lankan (curries, hoppers, spicy fare).

#### *Makan Stop*

1/59 Smith St, Darwin City

Cuisine: Singaporean (noodle and rice dishes).

#### *BUB & SOOL Korean*

28 Mitchell St, Darwin City

Cuisine: Korean barbecue & dishes.

#### *Alfonsino's*

20/69 Mitchell St, Darwin City

Cuisine: Italian (pastas, pizzas).

#### *Stokes Hill Wharf*

45 Stokes Hill Rd, Darwin City

Cuisine: Mixed restaurants & food stalls along the wharf; water views.