

A Visit from LAVic's DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

- The role of the Development Officers
- Centre Visits overview
- Observations & Insights
- Planning for next season

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Development Officer Overview



- Purpose & Responsibilities of the Development Officers
- Summary of the activities/Centre Visits undertaken
- Description of work completed
- Observations & Trends
- Moving forward

Development Officer Role

Established 20/21...
Expanded 21/22 &
23/24

Assist Regions

Support Centres

- *Small, remote, isolated*
- *Undergoing change*
- *New/inexperienced committee*

Liaise with Centres

Advice, Support,
Resources,
Advocacy

Role Overview

Enhance Centre capabilities

Build relationships

Provide support & assistance

Conduct Centre Visits

Observations, advice, recommendations

Report to LAVic

Responsibilities



Undertake visits and provide assistance to Centres on behalf of the Association and Regions

Relationships
Critical observations,
Feedback, Report



Provide support to Regions



Facilitate education opportunities

LAPS
Informal instruction
Formal LAVic education
•ITLAS, Centre Helper Volunteer
Training, ITSC

Centre Visits



Planning:

Liaise with Education Manager & Regions to plan Centre Visits

Create priority list in each Region based on needs



Visits

Attend competition day

Meet with key personnel



Report on Centre Visits:

Detailed report for Education Manager & Region Presidents

Feedback to Centres

Follow-up

Centre Visits

Metropolitan Regions		Country Regions	
EMR	3	GCR	4
NMR	3	NCR	15
SMR	2	WCR	14
WMR	5		
TOTAL	13		33

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
No of Visits	3	4	3	2	14	14	6

Centre Visits

MONTH	CENTRE/ACTIVITY
MAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAPS: Northside Christian College x3 • LAPS: Essex Height PS x2 • LAPS: Christchurch Grammar
JUNE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAPS: St Andrew's Clayton Sth x2
JULY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAPS: Ripponlea PS x2
AUGUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAPS: South Melbourne Park PS x2 • LAPS: Edenhope College • LAPS: St Malachy's Edenhope
SEPTEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yarrowonga/Mulwala (NCR): Season Launch & Skills Clinic- LAA • LAPS: Sunshine Nth PS x2 • LAPS: Middle Park PS x3 • Multiclass Skills Clinic (Green Gully)

Centre Visits

MONTH	CENTRE/ACTIVITY	
OCTOBER 10 Centre Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edenhope (NCR) Horsham (NCR) Stawell (NCR) Port Fairy (NCR) Kew x2(EMR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hamilton (WCR) Lake Bolac (WCR) Portland (WCR) Casterton (WCR)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Joseph's Reservoir LAPS x2 LAPS: Chalcot Lodge PS Endeavour Hills 	
NOVEMBER 5 Centre Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bendigo (NCR) Colac (WCR) Beaufort (WCR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benalla (NCR) Nagambie (NCR)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preston/Reservoir: Starters Clinic LAPS: Sidrah Gardens School Narre Warren Nth 	

Centre Visits

MONTH	CENTRE/ACTIVITY	
DECEMBER 10 Centre Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cobram/Barooga (NCR) • Camperdown (WCR) • Albury (NCR) • Yarrawonga/Mulwala (NCR) • Rutherglen (NCR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rochester (NCR) • Lavington/Jindera (NCR) • Cancelled- extreme weather • Wodonga (NCR) • Mt Beauty (NCR) • Nathalia (NCR)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kew (EMR): SGM • Lucas Trial Night (WCR): New Centre (Cancelled) 	
JANUARY 3 Centre Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Williamstown (WMR) • South Melbourne (WMR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wonthaggi (GCR)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waverley (SMR): Junior Skills Clinic 	

Centre Visits

MONTH	CENTRE/ACTIVITY	
FEBRUARY 14 Centre Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craigieburn (NMR) • Sunbury (NMR) • Buninyong (WCR) • Seymour (NCR) • Kilmore (NMR) • Melton City (WMR) • Echuca/Moama (NCR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kerang (NCR) • Swan Hill (NCR) • Sale (GCR) • Bairnsdale (GCR)-washout • Westernport (SMR) • Sherbrooke (EMR) • Dandenong (SMR)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melton (WMR): Starters Clinic • Croydon (EMR): SGM • LAPS: Trafalgar PS x2 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pakenham (GCR) • Surf Coast (WMR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gisborne (WMR)
MARCH 3 Centre Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAPS: Sunbury Heights PS x2 • LAPS: Cranbourne Sth PS x2 	

New & Recess Centres

New & Returning Centres

- 21/22: Surf Coast
- 22/23: Port Fairy (WCR), Nagambie (NCR), *Hamilton* (WCR) and *Beaufort & District* (WCR)
- 23/24: *Edenhope* (WCR)
- 24/25: Lucas (WCR)

Centres in Recess

- Mt Beauty went into Recess this season
- Hume, Croydon, & Alpine remain in Recess
- *Howlong* affiliated with LANSW this season

Observations

Weekly Competition

- “Normal” competition
 - Rainfall, flooding, bushfires: damage & disruptions
- Full programs: 4-6 Events
 - No “On Track” at many Centres
 - No Walks at many Centres
 - No Hurdles at some Centres
 - Multiclass athletes
- Coaching/Training challenges
- Cross Country

Observations

Safety

- High Visibility vests for Volunteers/Officials
- Jump Pits/Runways
 - Unsafe coarse sand
 - 0-2mm triple washed river sand
- Throwing Event safety awareness
 - Cages/barriers
 - Equipment handling/Supervision
- Parents/Spectators on the track

Observations

Atmosphere

- Positive, Supportive & Inclusive
- Community Spirit, Pride & Connection
- Engagement
- Social Interaction
- Participation, Fun & PBs
- Celebration
- Region & State Event Promotion/Interest

Observations

Athletes

- Engaged, Receptive & Happy
- Majority in U6-U11
- Older Athletes Responsibilities
 - Warm-ups
 - Demonstration
 - Set-up/Pack-up
 - Measuring/Recording
 - “On Track” Leaders

Observations

Officials

- Age Group Leaders/Managers
- Low volunteers
- New/Inexperienced parents
 - Hesitant/Unsure
- Starting
 - Inconsistent
 - Untrained/inexperienced
- No Throw/No Jump/False Start
 - Hesitant

Observations

Committee

- Enthusiastic, Hard-working, Invested
- Multi-tasking
- New/Inexperienced
- High turn-over
- Succession Planning
- Grants
- Regional Sports Assemblies

Observations

Promotion

- Social Media
- Weekly Meeting
- Engagement/Connection with schools
- Little Athletics Program for Schools (LAPS)
- Local Sponsors

Observations

Education

- All Centres want more education opportunities
- Most Centres have very few qualified/experienced officials
- Parents very receptive to DO input
- Smaller & Isolated Centres most in need of education

Observations

Equipment & Facilities

- Regular replacement of smaller equipment
- Upgrades
- Starting/Timing equipment
- Timing Solutions issues
 - Equipment failure
 - Service/Repair/Communication delays
- Council/Venue Issues
 - Shared Facilities, Access, Maintenance

Trends

Appetite for Little Athletics

- Enthusiastic return to Competition
- New Families
- Consistent or Increased Registrations

Parent Education

- Knowledge & Experience
- Turnover
- LAVic Education & Resources

Succession Planning

- Key Committee roles
- Reluctance to nominate
- Recruitment & Mentoring

Trends

Smaller Centres

- Parent numbers
- Athlete numbers
- Finances
- Full Program of Events

Remote Centres

- Isolation
- Travel Distances & Times
- Access

Trends

Successful Centre Health Check

1. Fun
2. Pride
3. Strong Culture
4. Active Committee
5. Experienced Volunteers
6. Communication
7. Organisation
8. Balanced Competition
9. Positive Atmosphere
10. Accessibility

Moving Forward

LAVic resources

- Centre Officiating Handbook
- Centre Volunteer Event Cards
- Event/Discipline videos
- Centre Resources: ourcentre.com.au

LAVic education/training

- Seminars/Workshops in each region
- Webinars/Video lessons
- Centre-based workshops
- Accreditation Pathways

Succession Planning

Moving Forward

Centre to Centre Connections

- “Neighbourhood” clusters
- Build relationships- support, competition/training
- Share resources, knowledge, personnel

Officials & Coaches Networks

- Networks, support, mentoring
- Resource/information sharing
- Pathways to Region events

Links with Schools

- LAPS

Regional Sports Assemblies

[Regional Sports Assemblies – Regional Sport Victoria](#)



➤ **GippSport**

Bass Coast, Baw Baw, South Gippsland, Latrobe City, Wellington Shire and East Gippsland Shires

➤ **Leisure Networks**

City of Geelong, Colac Otway, Queenscliff and Surf Coast Shires

➤ **South West Sport**

City of Warrnambool, Southern Grampians, Glenelg, Corangamite and Moyne Shires

➤ **Mallee Sports Assembly Inc**

Mildura, Swan Hill, Gannawarra and Buloke Shires

➤ **Sports Central**

City of Ballarat, Rural City of Ararat, Hepburn, Pyrenees, Moorabool and Golden Plains Shires

➤ **Sports Focus Inc**

City of Greater Bendigo, Shire of Campaspe, Mount Alexander, Central Goldfields, Macedon Ranges and Loddon Shires

➤ **Sport North East**

Alpine, Indigo, Towong, Rural City of Wangaratta, City of Wodonga Shires

➤ **ValleySport**

City of Greater Shepparton, Mitchell, Moira, Murrindindi, Strathbogie, Benalla and Mansfield Shires

➤ **Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly**

Horsham, Yarriambiack, Hindmarsh, West Wimmera and Northern Grampians Shires

Feedback

Older Athletes

Athletes with Disabilities

THANK YOU

Please feel free to join us for a live Q&A on ZOOM via the link below this video.

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