



## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

### ***“REACH FOR THE STARS”*** **DISABILITY ATHLETICS CARNIVAL** **OLYMPIC PARK, HOMEBUSH** **2 NOVEMBER 2007**

#### **Activity Summary**

A four-hour athletic carnival at the Olympic Park, Homebush. Activities include running races, throwing events and long jump by people with disabilities, some of whom are in wheelchairs. All participating consumers will supervised by trained staff.

#### **Potential Hazards**

1. Athletes falling over
2. Athletes over exerting themselves
3. Injury to staff pushing manual wheelchairs
4. Incidences of challenging behaviors
5. Adverse weather conditions
6. Events involving throwing objects
7. Crowd management

#### **Strategies to Minimize Potential Hazards**

1. The running track is made of a soft synthetic surface that is highly unlikely to cause injury if athletes fall over. An appropriate number of athletes will participate in each race. All sprint distance races will be run within the lanes provided.
2. All athletes must be supported by trained staff who know their health needs, and who will the advise the Race Coordinator if any special conditions need to be taken into account.
3. Under no circumstances are staff allowed to run while pushing the wheelchair of a consumer. Staff who assist consumers in wheelchairs must walk – one foot must be in contact with the ground at all times. Race marshals will enforce this rule in each race with the sanction of immediate disqualification.
4. All athletes must be supervised appropriately by their trained staff from their Service at all times.
5. The Race Coordinator will monitor the weather and decide whether the events can continue. All participating Services are responsible for ensuring that their athletes are provided with appropriate clothing and protection for the conditions on the day.



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6. The throwing events will consist of soft objects, and race marshals will supervise the throwing area.
7. All participants must follow the guidelines set out in the "Risk Management Overview" provided by the Aquatic & Athletics Centres (copy attached). All participants must follow the directions of the Race Coordinator and identified race marshals.

### **Assessment of Risk**

***The likelihood of injury is "very unlikely", and the severity of injury is "First Aid Needed". Hence, the summary of risk is 6, and therefore represents normal community access activities.***

### **Safety procedures to be implemented**

1. All MSSA Care Personnel staff, and many of those from the other services attending, will have current first aid certificates, and first aid equipment will be available at all times.
2. An appropriate staff-consumer ratio must be provided by each service participating.
3. Each service will be responsible for providing the equipment they need to adequately care for their consumers on the day.
4. Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic & Athletics Centre (SOPAC) staff will monitor the carnival.
5. All race marshals will attend a race briefing prior to the carnival taking place.
6. ***All participating services will receive a copy of the Risk Assessment in the event information pack, and a representative must acknowledge in writing an understanding and acceptance of the guidelines. See Below.***
7. All participating services must register a full list of their staff and consumers prior to the event starting (this can be provided on the day)

### **Public Liability**

To hire the venue the MSSA Care Personnel has provided insurance. This does not include liability for the conduct of non MSSA Care Personnel employees, or the care of non MSSA Care Personnel consumers at the event.



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### **Contact Details**

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Completed by:  
Tracey Cumbers  
State Manager – NSW / ACT  
Thursday, September 06, 2007

I hereby accept and understand the conditions and provisions of the Risk Assessment for the Athletics Carnival for the 2 November 2007 at Olympic Park Homebush.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: (pls print) \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation representing: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_