

Central Zone Little Athletics Championships
Santich Park, Munster
On Saturday 17 February, 2018

Kia

Wongu, Wongu, Beeliar Boodjah.

Hello and welcome to the land of the Beeliar People.

I acknowledge the Wadjuk People of the Nyungar Nation, the Custodians of the land on which we are gathered today and I pay my respects to their Elders both past and present and I extend that respect to Indigenous Australians with us today.

I thank the Cockburn Little Athletics Club for their kind invitation to be here today, to welcome you and to fire the starter's gun to mark the opening of the Central Zone Little Athletics Championships to be held over the next two days.

I acknowledge:

The presence of the following Clubs participating in this two day event:

Baldivis,

Cockburn,

Dale,

Kwinana,

Peel

Rockingham – plus athletes from:

Albany,

Broome,

Collie,

Merredin and

Narrogin

Committees, Coaches, Volunteers, parents and guardians, athletes, ladies & gentlemen, girls and boys.

Today' gathering of 550 athletes reflects the on-going interest of communities all over Australia and indeed the world to provide avenues for children and teenagers to pursue their passions – to do the best they can as individuals and in the team events.

I understand that some athletes have registered

for 6 to 14 events. Good luck to each and everyone of you as you strive for your personal bests and for some, to qualify for the WA Little Athletics Championships to be held at the State Athletics Stadium on 2 March, 2018.

Just a snippet of the history of the Cockburn Little Athletics Centre

The Cockburn Centre began in 1972 as the Fremantle Centre made up of five Clubs including Coolbellup and East Hamilton Hill.

The Centre moved several times from its original location at Fremantle Oval and then settled in the Cockburn jurisdiction at Santich Park in 1984 where it has happily prospered as the Cockburn Little Athletics Centre.

The current Centre Clubs:

Phoenix began in 1976,
Yangebup in 1984 and
Jandakot in 1993.

The Centre has produced a number of Western Australian, Australian and Olympic Champions. Former Centre Athletes Brad Hardie and John Worsfold went on to become AFL legends.

I now move to fire the Starter's gun to officially

open the Central Zone Little Athletics
Championships.

May you all enjoy the events you are registered for
this weekend?,

Adrian Chegwidden from Cockburn Little Athletics
Club