



WORLD RANKINGS COMPETITIONS FRAMEWORK

1. World Rankings Competitions

- 1.1 World Athletics has been mindful since December 2020 to address developing a proposal for the review of the formal definition of “International Competition”, this being the common wording which identifies the correlation to World Athletics Rules and Regulations for competition.
This definition is appropriate for competitions sanctioned by World Athletics or Area Associations but the majority of those conducted at National level would not necessarily be covered by this definition, while the results are, presently, still processed by World Athletics for all its intents and purposes.
The World Rankings Competitions is an over-arching category of competitions which will include all worldwide competitions, and at all levels, capable of delivering events in full compliance with World Athletics Rules and Regulations.
- 1.2 This framework details the key principles which define the World Rankings Competitions and the criteria that must be met for competitions to be eligible for application.
- 1.3 This pilot framework was approved by Council on 1 December 2021 and will apply from 1 January 2022. It is currently envisaged, after reviewing the application of the pilot, that full implementation will start from 1 January 2023.

2. Key principles

- 2.1 World Athletics will only recognise as being rule-compliant, and therefore only process results for, those competitions for which an application is made as per the procedures and timelines set out in this framework.
- 2.2 Applications will be required for all types of competitions (championships and invitational) across all disciplines:
- Stadium Outdoor
 - Stadium Indoor
 - Combined Events
 - Race Walking
 - Road Running
 - Cross-Country
- 2.3 The results of such competitions will be valid for:
- World Rankings
 - Top Performance Lists
 - Entry Standards
 - World Records
 - Qualification to major Championships and Olympic Games
 - Any other World Athletics statistical purpose

- 2.4 The results of any competition, even if conducted in compliance with World Athletics Rules and Regulations, for which an application has not been submitted, will not be recognised by World Athletics.
- 2.5 Applications will open in January 2022, with 2022 being considered a pilot year. During this year, World Athletics will continue to process results even for those competitions which do not apply.
- 2.6 This finite list of competitions which comply with World Athletics Rules and Regulations and are eligible for World Rankings, will be published on the World Athletics Global Calendar.

3. Definition of World Rankings Competitions

Dependent on all World Athletics Rules and Regulations being met, as well as the criteria set out in this framework, the following competitions will be considered as scoring for the World Rankings and therefore be subject to the full application process:

- 3.1 Competitions sanctioned by World Athletics (through current application process, where applicable)
- i) Olympic Games
 - ii) World Athletics Series
 - iii) The athletics programme of Games and other athletics competitions with participants from different Areas
 - iv) One-day meeting circuits / Road Races
 - a. Diamond League
 - b. World Athletics Continental Tour, World Athletics Indoor Tour, Combined Events, Race Walking and Cross-Country Tours (Gold)
 - c. Label Road Races (limited to elite component as defined by race organiser)
 - v) International Matches including teams from different Areas
- 3.2 Competitions sanctioned by an Area Association (through current application process, where applicable)
- i) Area Championships (all types and disciplines)
 - ii) Intra-Area Championships
 - iii) The athletics programmes of Games and other athletics competitions with participants confined to one Area
 - iv) One-day meeting circuits (Silver, Bronze or Area Permit level)
 - v) International matches between teams from same Area (sanctioned by Area Association)
- 3.3 Competitions sanctioned by a Member Federation (new application process below)
- i) National Senior Championships (for all disciplines included within the World Athletics Championships and World Athletics Indoor Championships competition programme)
 - ii) Selected domestic competitions as identified by the Member Federation and subject to appropriate notification to the relevant Area and World Athletics (including matches between teams not sanctioned by the Area Association)

N.B. As long as all World Athletics Rules and Regulations are enforced, these domestic competitions do not need to meet any further specific conditions for being eligible for World Rankings scoring, however Member Federations should consider the following before approval:

- These competitions should be of a level whereby the participation level is significant for an athlete's international career and can include age category competitions where appropriate.
- In the event that organisers wish to allow specific events within the competition (or athletes within an event) not complying with World Athletics Rules and Regulations, then the results of those events (or athletes) should be clearly listed separately as their

performances will not be considered for purposes of World Ranking scoring and statistical / results purposes by World Athletics.

4. Application procedure for competitions sanctioned by a Member Federation (National Permit Competitions)

- 4.1 In the specific case of domestic competitions (see 3.3 above), for each calendar year, Member Federations will be required to indicate, as soon as is practical (and in no case any later than 60 days prior to the date of the competition), the National Permit competitions they intend to propose for World Rankings scoring, together with the list of events planned within that competition.
- 4.2 Applications are submitted individually for each competition on an annual basis and must be renewed annually.
- 4.3 Applications must be submitted by Member Federations, or by competition organisers with the endorsement of the Member Federation of the country in which the event is taking place.
- 4.4 Applications for official National Championships, and including the various age categories, can only be submitted by the relevant Member Federation.
- 4.5 Competition details will be submitted via a dedicated online platform through which Member Federations and, where applicable, individual organisers, will electronically countersign the Application.
- 4.6 The Member Federation will have the authority to confirm the Application and, consequently, the request for publication on the World Athletics Global Calendar.
- 4.7 Once the Application is accepted, a World Rankings Competition label will be issued to the Organiser / Member Federation to confirm the World Rankings Competition status. It will be possible to download the relevant assets and guidelines from the platform.
- 4.8 In all cases, World Athletics will have the ultimate decision on whether to accept Applications and if a competition has not been delivered to the standard indicated in the Application, the label may be withdrawn retrospectively.

5. Undertaking

By applying for competitions to be considered for World Rankings, Member Federations undertake to:

- i) conduct the competition according to World Athletics Rules and Regulations;
- ii) be responsible for any non-compliance with World Athletics Rules and Regulations which could lead to results no longer being considered for World Athletics statistical purposes following investigation;
- iii) send to World Athletics, in a clear, timely and co-ordinate process, the complete results post each competition.

6. Application Fee (limited to competitions sanctioned by a Member Federation as per 3.3)

- 6.1 An application fee of 100 USD per competition will be charged to cover the administration costs.
- 6.2 The fee is to be intended at the charge of the organiser and it is possible for payments to be made individually through the platform. It will also be possible for Member Federations to

make bulk payments for all or part of their domestic competitions and claim the fee from their organisers.

6.3 No fee will be charged for official National Championships.

7. Competition and Technical Rules Compliance

7.1 All competitions which will be recognised as complying with the World Rankings Competitions requirements must be delivered strictly under World Athletics Competition and Technical Rules. Including but not limited to the following elements:

- Where a national competition is registered, it must be sanctioned by the hosting Member Federation, and the relevant rules for competition at that level must be adhered to, including the prescribed permit conditions, number and level of officiating, etc.
- The competition must meet the specific regulations and criteria as required by the level assigned to it.
- All competitions must be held at facilities as outlined in the World Athletics Technical Rule 2 (former Rule 140): The Athletics Facility.
- The appropriate technical equipment as per World Athletics Rules must be used as required (e.g. electronic timing, wind measurement, certified implements, etc.).
- Applications for events held on temporary facilities will only be accepted subject to the appropriate measurement surveys.
- Road events (including Race Walking) must be held on properly measured courses which hold an International Measurement Certificate valid on race day.
- For Race Walking events, a minimum of three International or Area Race Walking Judges must be on duty (except for age group competitions).
- Athletes must wear clothing, shoes and bibs which are compliant with Technical Rule 5 (for road races this is limited to the elite component as defined by the race organiser).
- All events applied for within the Application, must correspond with the specific rules for each age group and be appropriate for the age and ability of the athlete.

7.2 Results may be assessed as part of a “spot check” exercise and Member Federations and Organisers may be contacted to verify details, including use of appropriate equipment, competition conduct and names of technical officials who officiated at the competition.

8. Submitting competition results

8.1 Competition results must be submitted as soon as possible and, ideally, no later than 24 hours after the end of the competition to enable World Rankings, top performance lists and qualification pathways to major Championships to be updated in a timely manner.

8.2 In the course of the pilot year World Athletics will work in close cooperation with the Member Federations to establish a common results format and exchange protocol which will facilitate an even more efficient results processing.

9. Publication on the World Athletics Global Calendar and World Ranking points

The following benefits are granted to National Permit competitions.

- Publication on the World Athletics Global Calendar showing:
 - Competition name
 - Venue
 - Date
 - World Rankings category

- Additional information (link to competition website, contact information, events staged, etc.) subject to IT developments in the course of the pilot year
- Use of World Rankings Competition label for use on official website, documentation and promotional material
- Processing and publication of the full results
- Athletes' profiles created and updated as required
- Awarding of World Ranking points according to the corresponding category
- Opportunity to upgrade a limited number of competitions (based on established quotas per country) to the higher World Rankings category level (from F to E). From 2023, this upgrade will only be possible for competitions held on a World Athletics Class 1, Class 2 or Indoor certified facility.
- Evaluation of the competition through the Competition Performance Rankings

10. Data Exchange Protocols

World Athletics recognises that a number of Member Federations have invested resources into developing their own databases and/or outsourcing to external Service Providers the management of their calendars and results. Such Member Federations are invited to contact World Athletics in order to discuss, together, electronic data exchange protocols to maximise the use and benefits of those resources.