

224th World Athletics Council Meeting 17-18 March 2021, Video Conference Information and Decisions

The Council of World Athletics chaired by President Sebastian Coe met on 17 and 18 March 2021 by videoconference due to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic.

1. REPORTS

Council received the following:

- President's Introduction
- Executive Board update
- CEO and Operations Report, including the proposed date and approach for the 2021 World Athletics Congress & Convention, the draft Safeguarding Policy, an update on the World Athletics Indoor Tour, and the proposed new dates for two World Athletics Series events and protected National Championships windows for the Indoor and Outdoor seasons
- Report from the Athletes' Commission
- Report from the Competition Commission covering proposals relating to World Athletics Series events and amendments to Competition & Technical Rules
- Report from the Development Commission
- Report from the Governance Commission including proposed amendments to Rules and Regulations
- Report from the World Plan Working Group including an update on the Global Conversation campaign
- World Athletics Series and Olympic Games updates
- Athletics Integrity Unit Board Report
- Russia Taskforce Report.

2. INFORMATION AND DECISIONS

2.1 MEMBER FEDERATIONS

2.1.1 Russia

The Council received a report from the World Athletics Russia Taskforce chaired by Rune Andersen concerning the participation of Russian athletes in international competitions.

Council approved the Russia Taskforce recommendation to reinstate the Authorised Neutral Athlete (ANA) programme for clean athletes from Russia, which will commence in time for the 2021 outdoor competition season.

Council's decision states that for the remainder of 2021, no more than 10 Russian athletes will be granted eligibility to compete as ANA athletes at the Tokyo Olympic Games, the 2021 World Athletics Series events and the 2021 European U23 Championships.

The Russian Athletics Federation (RusAF) may choose which 10 athletes are able to compete from those who have been granted ANA status, but it must prioritise the selection of athletes who are in the International Registered Testing Pool. There is no cap on the number of Russian athletes who may compete at other international competitions, provided they have ANA status. Russian athletes in the under 15 age group may



continue to compete in under 15 international competitions as neutral athletes without applying to the Doping Review Board.

However, these provisions may be revoked at any time if World Athletics' Russia Taskforce advises that satisfactory progress is not being made against the milestones and Key Performance Indicators set out in the Reinstatement Plan approved by Council on 28 February 2021.

The World Athletics Council will review the ANA programme at its final meeting in 2021 to determine if it should be renewed or revised for international competition in 2022.

The Council also agreed that the decision made in July 2020 to propose that Congress expels RusAF from membership of World Athletics, will be reactivated if RusAF does not continue to pay the full costs of the reinstatement process and/or does not make satisfactory progress against the Reinstatement Plan.

A copy of the World Athletics Russia Taskforce's report and the related Press Release are available by clicking <u>here</u>.

2.1.2 53rd World Athletics Congress and Convention

Since the approval of the Council resolution by Member Federations in December 2020 (announced in Circular M/57/20) which allowed the Council to decide on the date and format of the 2021 Congress and Convention as soon as possible but with less than 12 months' notice, work has been undertaken to explore the feasibility and best approach (i.e. in person, virtual or hybrid) for hosting the Congress and Convention in 2021.

While the preference was to stage an in-person Congress and Convention in 2021, this has been challenging to progress from a planning perspective due to the volatile global situation and ongoing uncertainty with regards to travel restrictions and quarantine requirements, social distancing measures, and the variable rates of vaccine roll out and uptake worldwide.

In order to provide sufficient notice and clarity to Member Federations for planning purposes, and because it is believed that there will remain the same level of uncertainty at the end of April as there is now, the Council decided that the 53rd World Athletics Congress meeting and Convention will be held virtually on 16-18 November 2021, between 13:00-16.00 CET to best fit global time zones. Member Federations and Area Associations received notice of the 53rd World Athletics Congress and Convention in Circular M/11/21 dated 19 March 2021.

2.2 RULES

2.2.1 Competition and Technical Rules

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved amendments to the Competition and Technical Rules as proposed by Member Federations and the technical workstream of the Competition Commission, to come into force from 1 November 2021.

These amendments are clarification, correction, wording reflecting current practice or are consequential (e.g. because of the introduction of the 35km Race Walk) and the main changes concern the following:

- CR32 (RW): To provide for world records for newly approved events and the eventual deletion of a record for a then redundant distance. (The performance to beat to be determined).
- TR6.2 Note (disciplinary sanctions, physical support): To correct a previous oversight in relation to athletes receiving assistance from another athlete.
- TR7.3 (disciplinary sanctions, Relay Events): In the case of serious unsporting behaviour, the offender may not take part in further events.



- TR32.14 Notes (failure in cage throws): To clarify which case is a failure if the implement hits the cage and, bouncing back, lands within the landing sector, and that it is also a failure if the implement does not make a measurable imprint.
- TR54.1 (RW): To provide for the introduction of the 35km / 35,000m Race Walk
- TR54.7.3 (RW): To provide for the introduction of the 35km / 35,000m Race Walk

The table of approved amendments to the Competition and Technical Rules is available <u>here</u> on the World Athletics website (Book C: Competition – C1.1 Competition Rules and C2.1 Technical Rules).

2.2.2 Rules of Congress

Upon the recommendation of the Governance Commission, Council approved the proposed amendments to the Rules of Congress. These amendments:

- provide for Congress to be held virtually and for notice of Congress to be given less than 12 months in advance in exceptional circumstances
- simplify the Rules for Debate
- provide detail on written resolutions to be passed by Member Federations.

The amendments also include provisions in relation to elections in the Rules of Congress rather than the Constitution, with the principles of the elections remaining in the Constitution, and align the process of elections of Vice-Presidents for 2023 and 2027; however, these amendments would be consequential and are subject to approval of the related proposed amendments to the Constitution by the Congress. In addition, any further consequential amendments to the Rules of Congress arising from the Constitutional amendments as proposed by Member Federations and Council following the Congress in November 2021, will need to be reviewed to ensure they are consistent with the revisions approved by the Congress.

2.2.3 Governance Rules

Upon the recommendation of the Governance Commission, Council approved the proposed amendments to the Governance Rules to ensure consistency with other Rules and to deal with the impact on elections to the Athletes' Commission of postponing the 2021 World Athletics Championships to 2022. The postponement means an extension to the terms of the incumbent six Athletes' Commission members whose terms would have ended at the conclusion of the World Athletics Championships in 2021 and covers the impact of the postponement of the elections to the Athletes' Commission until 2022.

The other amendments to the Rules are editorial and remove the references to inaugural panels and reflect the Executive Board now has a Risk Committee separate from the Audit and Finance Committee.

The amended Rules take effect from 1 April 2021 and are available <u>here</u> on the World Athletics website (Book B: Organisation – B3.1 Governance Rules).

2.2.4 Honorary Member and Service Award Rules

These new Rules set out the process underpinning the appointments of Honorary Members and the awarding of Service Awards at Congress, which are referred to in the World Athletics Constitution (Articles 27.1(o) and (p)). The process reflects current practice with the additional involvement of the Nominations Panel to review and support the appointment and award recommendations made to the Council. Subject to Council approval, the names of the recommended candidates will be submitted to the Member Federations for Congress' approval with the agenda for the Congress meeting.

The new Rules take effect from 1 April 2021 and are available <u>here</u> on the World Athletics website (Book B: Organisation – B3.5 Honorary Member and Service Award Rules).



2.3 REGULATIONS

2.3.1 Diamond League Regulations and World Athletics Continental Tour Regulations

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved the proposed amends to the Diamond League Regulations and the World Athletics Continental Tour Regulations to come into force from 1 April 2021.

The amended Regulations can be found <u>here</u> on the World Athletics website (Book C: Competition – C1.3 Diamond League Regulations (2021 Status Requirements) and C1.4 Continental Tour Regulations).

2.4 SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Building on the position statement on Safeguarding athletics by protecting athletes from harassment and abuse adopted by World Athletics in 2018, further work and research have been conducted to implement best practice in protecting athletes and to support Member Federations and Area Associations in the implementation. A new Safeguarding Policy has been developed with input from the Athletes' Commission, the Development Commission and the Governance Commission which will be further reviewed and refined in conjunction with the development of the Safeguarding Rules. The AIU and World Athletics will collaborate on the development of the Rules and minimum standards for Member Federations and Areas with the support of a Council working group. A final proposal will be submitted to Council at the July Council meeting.

2.5 WORLD ATHLETICS SERIES COMPETITIONS

2.5.1 World Athletics U20 Championships Cali 22

Council approved the dates for the 2022 World Athletics U20 Championships which will be held in Cali, Colombia from 2 to 7 August 2022.

2.5.2 World Athletics Indoor Championships Nanjing 23

Council approved new dates for the World Athletics Indoor Championships Nanjing 23 as 17 to 19 March 2023.

2.5.3 World Athletics Half Marathon Championships Yangzhou 22

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved the timetable and the Qualification System for the World Athletics Half Marathon Championships Yangzhou 22, as set out below.

<u>Timetable</u>

Sunday, 27 March 2022			
09:30	Women's race		
10:00	Men's race (followed by mass race)		

Entries

As with previous editions, there are no entry standards for the competition. Members may enter one team in each race. A maximum of seven athletes may be entered; no more than five will be allowed to start, with three to score. Individual entries are admitted in any of the two races and the finishing athletes shall be eligible for the corresponding individual awards.



2.5.4 World Athletics Indoor Championships Belgrade 22

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved the Timetable and the Qualification System & Entry Standards for the World Athletics Indoor Championships Belgrade 22, as set out in Appendix A and B respectively.

2.5.5 World Athletics Cross Country Championships Bathurst 22

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved the timetable for the World Athletics Cross Country Championships Bathurst 22 as set out below:

Saturday 19 February 2022

•	•				
14.00	Opening Ceremony				
14.35	Women's U20 race 6km				
15.15	Men's U20 race 8km				
15.55	Medal Ceremony Women's U20 – individual				
16.00	Medal Ceremony Women's U20 – teams				
16.05	Medal Ceremony Men's U20 – individual				
16.10	Medal Ceremony Men's U20 – teams				
16.25	Mixed Relay race 8km				
17.05	Women's race 10km				
18.05	Men's race 10km				
18.55	Medal Ceremony Mixed Relay				
19.00	Medal Ceremony Women's – individual				
19.05	Medal Ceremony Women's – teams				
19.10	Medal Ceremony Men's – individual				
19.15	Medal Ceremony Men's – teams				

The LOC, World Masters Association and World Athletics have collaborated and agreed to include masters races in the competition programme of Bathurst 22. A Mixed relay event (2 men + 2 women) will be included on Saturday 19 February before the Opening Ceremony (starting time around 12.30) and other master races (by age group) will be included on Sunday 20 February.

2.5.6 World Athletics Championships Oregon 22

Council received a detailed presentation on the legacy initiatives in the USA planned around the World Athletics Championships Oregon 22. The planned projects will focus on youth engagement, growing membership and engagement through events, celebrating the world's best athletes, growing attendance and increasing participation and engagement in athletics. The aim is that the World Athletics Championships Oregon 22 will serve as a catalyst for sustainable changes in the USA through significant partnerships with national organisations to deliver education programmes to increase the youth community outreach and popular engagement in the sport/athletics community.

2.5.7 Delegates' Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Development Commission, Council approved a change to the existing mandate periods for the International Technical Officials, International Starters, International Photo Finish Judges and International Race Walking Judges Panels, and a consequential adjustment in the timing of the evaluation and appointment process, as follows:



Panels	Current mandate	Proposal
International Technical Officials (ITOs)	2018 to 2021	2018 to 2022
International Starters*	2017 to 2021	2017 to 2022
International Photo Finish Judges*	2017 to 2021	2017 to 2022
International Race-Walking Judges	2019 to 2022	2019 to 2023

* The tenure of these two panels was extended by one year in 2019 so that their mandates would be the same as for the ITOs

The rationale for the extension is that with the pandemic and current situation worldwide, it has not been possible to train Technical Official Education Certification System (TOECS) Level II lecturers and therefore for the Areas to run their TOECS Level II courses to appoint Area (ITOs); and as a result, enable the selected officials to attend the World Athletics ITOs Evaluation which is a face-to-face assessment The postponement of the 2020 Olympic Games and some of our WAS events has also meant that existing panel members are appointed to events in 2022, which would be after their mandate has expired.

2.5.8 Was Event Bid Evaluation Panel

In accordance with Rule 4 of the Bidding Rules, a Bid Evaluation Panel was established by Council to oversee the bid process, evaluate bids and recommend to Council a Host for each WAS Event. Council approved the appointment of the following three Council Members to the Bid Evaluation Panel for a 3-year term:

- Antti Pihlakoski (Competition Commission representative)
- Nawal El Moutawakel
- Ximena Restrepo

The World Athletics Director of Competition & Events and the Ethical Compliance Officer are both ex-officio members of the Panel. The Terms of Reference of the Bid Evaluation Panel are set out in Appendix 2 to the Bidding Rules (Book C: Competition – C6.1 Event Bidding Rules).

2.5.9 National Championships Windows 2021-2024

The protected National Championships windows for both the indoor and outdoor seasons were confirmed for the period 2021-2024, as set out below.

OUTDOORS	2021	2022	2023	2024
Major Event #1	Olympics - Tokyo	WCH Oregon	WCH Budapest	Olympics - Paris
Dates	30 July – 8 August	15-24 July	19-27 August	2-11 August
Major Event #1		Area Championships 15-21 August		
Protected National Championships (NC) Window #1	5-6 June	25-26 June	8-9 July	8-9 June
Protected NC Window #2	26-27 June		29-30 July	29-30 June



INDOOR	2021	2022	2023	2024
Protected NC Window	20-21 February	26-27 February	18-19 February	2-3 March

2.5.10 World Athletics Relays

As part of an overall review of the prize money structure, a revised proposal for the World Athletics Relays prize money was approved by the Council on 15 February 2021. The revised proposal is to align the prize money for the World Athletics Relays with other WAS events and to ensure a more sustainable financial model for future local organising committees with the ultimate goal to attract more host cities for the World Athletics Relays. Further details were set out in Circular M/10/21 regarding the World Athletics Relays Silesia 21. The bid process for the World Athletics Relays in 2023 was opened for bids in December 2020.

2.6 OLYMPIC GAMES

2.6.1 Race Walk in the 2024 Olympic Programme

As set out in Circular M/53/20, there have been ongoing discussions with the IOC regarding the Athletics programme for the 2024 Olympic Games and the proposal to include cross country and an additional race walk event. The IOC's position to not include any additional events in the 2024 Olympic Games was confirmed in December 2020 (detail available in the following <u>Press Release</u>); and as requested by the IOC, to ensure gender equity. As a result, instead of the men's long race walk event, World Athletics has worked to develop a race walk event that is able to feature both men and women. Following consultation with different stakeholders including the Athletes' Commission, the Competition Commission, and the race walk community, a proposal has been developed for a mixed gender race walk event which will be discussed with the IOC. Following these discussions and subject to their approval the event will be confirmed to Member Federations and the athletics community.

2.7 COMMISSIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

2.7.1 Commissions

The four Commissions (Athletes' Commission, Competition Commission, Development Commission and Governance Commission) reported on their respective ongoing work and priority projects, and their approved recommendations are set out in this Circular.

2.7.2 World Plan Working Group

The World Plan Working Group provided a progress report on the World Plan project, specifically in relation to the project timeline and current consultation phase which aims to obtain the views of key stakeholders in the sport, including all Member Federations and the wider global Athletics community.

The Global Conversation, which is the public-facing consultation phase in the development of the World Plan, was launched on 22 March 2021 and provides the opportunity for all in the sport to complete the global survey and have their say to help shape the sport's future growth and direction. The related Press Release can be found <u>here</u> and the link to complete the global survey is: <u>https://surveyhub.deloitte.co.uk/wix/8/p402654971948.aspx</u>.

Following the consultation phase there will be a process of review and analysis of the consultation findings which will inform the development of the draft World Plan. The aim is to have a draft Plan for review in June for Council sign off ahead of being presented to the Congress for approval in November 2021.



Related Press Releases

https://worldathletics.org/news/press-releases/competition-updates-224th-world-athletics-councilmeeting

https://worldathletics.org/news/press-releases/rusaf-authorised-neutral-athletes-2021

https://worldathletics.org/news/press-releases/2022-world-indoor-championships-timetablequalification-system



APPENDIX A

WORLD ATHLETICS INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS BELGRADE, SRB - 18/20 MARCH 2022

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10:15	60m	W	R1	10:35	Pole Vault Hep	M		10:50	Triple Jump	W	F 1-
10:25	Long Jump Hep	M		10:45	60m	M	R1	11:10	4 x 400m Relay	W	R1
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11:05	High Jump Pen	W		11:40	800m	W	R1	11:52	Pole Vault	W	MC
11:45	400m	W	R1	12:05	3000m	W	MC	12:18	Triple Jump	W	Fé
11:55	Shot Put Hep	M		12:15	1500m	M	R1	12:35	3000m	M	F
12:28	Triple Jump	M	F 1-5	12:55	Shot Put	W	MC	12:48	60m H	W	MC
12:30	1500m	W	R1	13:00	Long Jump	М	MC	12:54	60m	M	MC
13:00	800m	M	R1								
13:15	Shot Put Pen	W									
13:30	3000m	M	R1								
13:54	Triple Jump	M	F 6								
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18:05	Long Jump Pen	W		18:05	Pole Vault	W	F	16:52	3000m	M	MC
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19:00	400m	M	SF	19:10	800m	M	F	17:25	Pole Vault	M	F
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APPENDIX B

World Athletics Indoor Championships Belgrade 22 Qualification System & Entry Standards

Entry rules					
Individual Events ¹ :	 Each Member will be allowed to participate with a maximum of two qualified athletes (three in case of a Wild Card) in each event, subject to the below. A third (fourth in case of a Wild Card) qualified athlete can be entered as a reserve. 				
Relays:	 There is no entry standard and each Member Federation will be able to enter one team of up to eight athletes in each event. 				
Unqualified Athletes:	• Members who have no male and/or no female qualified athletes (eligible by Entry Standard) in any event may enter one unqualified male athlete OR one unqualified female athlete in a running event (except the 800m).				
	 In exceptional cases, and as agreed by the Technical Delegates, entry of unqualified athletes in the 800m, Long Jump, Triple Jump or Shot Put may be accepted. Applications for such entries must be submitted to World Athletics (teamservices@worldathletics.org) by no later than 1 March 2022. 				
	 If the host country does not have a qualified athlete in an event, it may enter one athlete in this event regardless of any Entry Standard (except for the Combined Events). For the Field Events and 800m, the entry is at the discretion of the Technical Delegates and must be submitted to World Athletics (teamservices@worldathletics.org) by no later than 1 March 2022. 				
Age Requirements:	U20 Athletes: Any athlete aged 18 or 19 years on 31 December 2022 (born in 2004 or 2003) may compete in any event.				
	U18 athletes: Any athlete aged 16 or 17 years on 31 December 2022 (born in 2006 or 2005) may compete in any event except the Shot Put.				
	Athletes younger than 16 years on 31 December 2022 (born in 2007 or later) may not compete in any event. •				
Qualification system					
Individual athletes ² :	Can qualify in one of three ways:				
	• By achieving the Entry Standard within the qualification period in accordance with the conditions detailed below.				

¹ Except Combined events, which is addressed under *Qualification system*.

² Except for the Combined events



	 By World Indoor Tour Wild Card The individual overall winner of each event of the World Indoor Tour 2021 and 2022 will automatically qualify for the World Athletics Indoor Championships by Wild Card. The Member Federation of the World Indoor Tour winner will have the ultimate authority to enter the athlete or not, based on its own criteria or qualification system. If a Member Federation has three athletes qualified as a result, all three will be permitted to compete.
	 By virtue of their position in the World Rankings published on 9 March 2022 to complete, where necessary, the target number of athletes in each event and once places have been allocated to the accepted unqualified athletes.
Qualification in Combined Events:	 12 athletes will be invited in the Heptathlon and in the Pentathlon as follows: the winner of the 2021 Combined Events Challenge the five best athletes from the 2021 Outdoor Lists (as at 31 December 2021), limited to a maximum of one per country the five best athletes from the 2022 Indoor Lists (as at 1 March 2022) one athlete which may be invited at the discretion of World Athletics In total no more than two male and two female athletes from any one Member will be invited. Upon refusals or cancellations, the invitations will be extended to the next ranked athletes in the same lists respecting the above conditions.
Athletes qualified by World Rankings:	 Following the end of the qualification period and the submission of Final Entries, World Athletics shall, for each event (except relays and combined events), assess the number of athletes entered based on: Qualification by entry standard Qualification by Wild Card Accepted unqualified entries (including host country) In those events where the target number of entries (see below) has not been reached, World Athletics shall invite the athletes with the next best World Rankings position (based on list issued on 9 March) in order to reach the established target number while respecting the maximum quota by Member Federation by event.
	 NB: In order to pro-actively identify those athletes who would be available to compete at the WIC and therefore help with the invitation process, MFs are asked to inform World Athletics of any athletes in the World Rankings as at 31 December 2021 who would not be competing at the WIC even if qualified. Upon refusals or cancellations, invitations shall be extended to the next eligible athlete at the sole and exclusive discretion of World Athletics. In case of ties, these will be broken in favour of the athlete with the best Performance score. Invitations shall be sent by email to the official email address of the Member Federation (xxx@mf.worldathletics.org) and replies shall be expected within 24 hours, otherwise the invitation shall be understood as declined and the next ranked athlete shall be invited. Where required, amendments to the Final Entries will be made directly by World Athletics



TARGET NUMBER OF ATHLETES/TEAMS BY EVENT

The target number of athletes/teams by event will be as follows:

Events	Target Number
60m	56
400m	30
800m	18
1500m	18
3000m (Men's)	24
3000m (Women's) – straight final	15
60m hurdles	48
High Jump, Pole Vault	12
Long Jump, Triple Jump, Shot Put	16
Combined Events	12
Relays	n/a

ENTRY STANDARDS AND CONDITIONS

The Entry Standards approved by the Council are as follows:

Wa	omen		Men		
Indoor	Outdoor	Event	Indoor	Outdoor	
7.30	11.15 ¹	60m	6.63	10.10 ¹	
52.90	51.00	400m	46.50	45.00	
2:01.50	1:58.00	800m	1:46.70	1:44.00	
4:09.00 / 4:28.50 ²	4:02.00	1500m	3:39.00 / 3:55.00 ²	3:33.00	
8:49.00	8:30.00 / 14:50.00 ³	3000m	7:50.00	7:40.00 / 13:10.00 ³	
8.16	12.85 ⁴	60m H	7.72	13.40 ⁵	
No St	tandard	4x400 R	No Standard		
1	.97	HJ	2.34		
4	.75	PV	5.81		
6	.80	LJ	8.22		
14	4.30	TJ	17.10		
18	3.30	SP	2:	1.10	
1: 100 m			·		
2: 1 mile					
3: 5,000 m					
4: 100 m hurdles					
5: 110 m hurdles					



CONDITIONS FOR THE VALIDITY OF PERFORMANCES:

- Performances must be achieved during the qualification period of 1 January 2021 to 7 March 2022, except for the Combined Events
- Performances must be achieved during competitions organised or authorised by World Athletics, its Area Associations, or its National Member Federations. Thus, results achieved at university or school competitions must be certified by the National Federation of the country in which the competition was organised.
- Performances must be achieved during an official competition organised in **conformity with World Athletics Rules.**
- Performances achieved in **mixed competitions in track events** will not be accepted. Exceptionally, in accordance with Rule 9 of the Technical Rules, performances achieved in the 5000m event may be accepted in circumstances where there were insufficient athletes of one or both genders competing to justify the conduct of separate races and there was no pacing or assistance given by an athlete(s) of one gender to an athlete(s) of the other gender under specific circumstances and conditions (see TR9).
- Wind-assisted performances will not be accepted.
- Hand-timed performances in 60m, 100m, 400m, 800m, 60m Hurdles, and 100m/110m Hurdles will not be accepted.
- For the running events of 400m and over, performances achieved on **oversized tracks** will NOT be accepted.