



**239th World Athletics Council Meeting
02/03 December 2025 – Monaco
Information and Decisions**

The Council of World Athletics, chaired by President Sebastian Coe, met on 2 and 3 December 2025 in Monaco.

1. REPORTS

Council received the following:

- President's Introduction
- Executive Board report including the proposed 2026 priority projects and a financial update
- CEO and Operations report, including a review of the World Athletics Championships Tokyo 25 success KPIs; an update on RUN X™, the first-ever World Treadmill Championship; a global overview of Member Federations based on insights from the 2024 Annual Reports, the 2026 Communications strategy, plans for 2026 onwards for the Female Athlete Category Test and the related proposed amendments to the Eligibility Rule 3.5 and Regulations, and proposed amendments to the Athletic shoe Regulations
- Report from the Athletes' Commission
- Report from the Competition Commission including the timetables for upcoming World Athletics Series (WAS) events, the timetable for the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games, the introduction of a mixed team competition in the mile and 5km events, the discontinuation of the Road Mile from the 2027 World Athletics Road Running Championships and onwards and a revised athlete quota. Other event proposals included World record standards for the half marathon and marathon race walking events, the format for the 400m final at the World Athletics Indoor Championships, the minimum age for participation at World Athletics Series events, the proposed replacement policy for World Athletics Series and Olympic competitions, substitution limits for single gender relay events, and the use of electronic assistance for athlete line-up management in relay events. The report also included proposed amendments to the Disputes & Disciplinary Proceedings Rules and to the Technical Rules.
- Report from the Development Commission
- Report from the Governance Commission
- Reports from the Safeguarding Taskforce including the revised version of the Safeguarding Rules
- Update from the Nationality Review Panel
- Report from the Nominations Panel including the recommendation of the chair and members for the Coaches' Commission for the 2025-2027 period
- World Athletics Series events and Olympic Games updates
- Report from the Athletics Integrity Unit Board, including proposed amendments to the 2026 World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules.

2. INFORMATION AND DECISIONS

2.1 WORLD ATHLETICS SERIES EVENTS



2.1.1 World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships Brasilia 26

Council approved the [timetable for the World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships](#) to be held in Brasilia, Brazil on 12 April 2026.

Sunday 12 April 2026		
7:00 am	Marathon Race Walk	M/W
7:30 am	U20 10k Race Walk	M
8:30 am	U20 10k Race Walk	W
11:05 am	Half Marathon Race Walk	M
12:50 pm	Half Marathon Race Walk	W

2.1.2 World Athletics Relays Gaborone 26

Council approved the [timetable for the World Athletics Relays](#) to be held in Gaborone, Botswana, on 2 and 3 May 2026. The event will follow the successful competition model used for the 2025 edition in Guangzhou, with several key enhancements designed to strengthen competitiveness and streamline event delivery.

DAY 1 - Saturday, 2 May 2026				DAY 2 - Sunday, 3 May 2026			
14:05	4 x 100m Mixed R	X	Round 1	14:02	4 x 100m Mixed R	X	WCH Q2
14:30	4 x 400m Mixed R	X	Round 1	14:20	4 x 400m Mixed R	X	WCH Q2
15:05	4 x 100m R	W	WCH Q1	14:44	4 x 400m R	W	WCH Q2
15:30	4 x 100m R	M	WCH Q1	15:08	4 x 400m R	M	WCH Q2
15:55	4 x 400m R	W	WCH Q1	15:30	4 x 100m R	W	WCH Q2
16:30	4 x 400m R	M	WCH Q1	15:47	4 x 100m R	M	WCH Q2
				16:05	4 x 100m Mixed R	X	WAUC Q
				16:13	4 x 400m Mixed R	X	WAUC Q
				16:24	4 x 100m R	W	F
				16:32	4 x 100m R	M	F
				16:40	4 x 400m R	W	F
				16:51	4 x 400m R	M	F

WCH Q1 = World Championships Qualification Round 1

WCH Q2 = World Championships Qualification Round 2

WAUC Q = World Athletics Ultimate Championship Qualification round

The Championships in Gaborone will serve as an important qualification pathway for the World Athletics Championships Beijing 27. Eight teams in each relay discipline will secure automatic qualification based on their results in Gaborone across two rounds of competition, while the remaining four qualifying teams will be determined through the top world performances achieved in 2027.

2.1.3 World Athletics U20 Championships Oregon 26

Council approved the timetable for the [World Athletics U20 Championships Oregon 26](#), which will take place from 5-9 August 2026. The timetable maintains the traditional structure and event distribution used at previous



World Athletics U20 Championships while incorporating several new features aimed at enhancing both athlete experience and spectator engagement.

Among the key innovations is the introduction of the 4x100m mixed relay, which will be included for the first time at U20 level. This addition reflects World Athletics' continued commitment to gender-balanced team events and aligns the U20 Championships with the evolving programme of senior global competitions.

Another notable feature is the presentation of the hammer throw, which will be staged outside the main stadium. This initiative aims to elevate the visibility of the event, offering improved spectator access and creating a more dynamic and engaging atmosphere around one of the sport's most technically demanding disciplines.

WORLD ATHLETICS U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS
Eugene, USA 5-9 AUGUST 2026

DAY 1 - Wednesday Morning, 5 August	DAY 2 - Thursday Morning, 6 August	DAY 3 - Friday Morning, 7 August	DAY 4 - Saturday Morning, 8 August	DAY 5 - Sunday Afternoon 9 August
10:00 100m H Hep W Heats	10:00 Shot Put W QAB	10:00 Javelin Throw W QA	10:00 110m H Dec M Heats	00:00 200m W MC
10:03 Javelin Throw M QA	10:02 400m H W R1	10:00 100m Dec M Heats	10:05 Triple Jump W QAB	00:00 200m M MC
10:22 4 x 400m Relay X R1	10:25 Long Jump Hep W AB	10:30 100m H W R1	10:25 5,000m R.Walk M F	00:00 Long Jump M MC
10:50 High Jump Hep W AB	11:05 High Jump M AB	10:45 Long Jump Dec M AB	10:45 Discus Throw Dec M A	00:00 High Jump M MC
10:54 100m W R1	10:45 400m H M R1	11:05 High Jump W QAB	11:00 5,000m R.Walk W F	00:00 Javelin Throw W MC
11:20 Javelin Throw M QB	11:37 4 x 100m Relay X R1	11:20 110m H M R1	11:40 4 x 400m Relay W R1	00:00 Discus/MC M MC
11:44 100m M R1	11:50 Triple Jump M QAB	11:37 Javelin Throw W QB	11:55 Discus Throw Dec M B	12:10 Discus Throw M F
12:35 800m M R1	11:55 400m W R1	12:15 200m W R1	12:10 4 x 400m Relay M R1	12:15 Pole Vault M F
12:40 Long Jump W QAB	12:30 Javelin Throw Hep W A+B	12:43 Long Jump M QAB	12:25 Pole Vault Dec M A	12:30 High Jump W F
13:15 Shot Put M QAB	12:40 400m M R1	13:10 200m M R1	12:40 4 x 100m Relay W R1	13:05 4 x 100m Relay W F
13:25 800m W R1	13:32 3000m SC M R1	13:20 Shot Put Dec M AB	12:50 Discus Throw M QA	13:12 Triple Jump W F
External Throwing area		External Throwing area	13:15 Pole Vault Dec M B	13:15 4 x 100m Relay M F
10:45 Hammer Throw M QA		10:05 Hammer Throw W QA	13:10 4 x 100m Relay M R1	14:00 Discus Throw M QB
12:15 Hammer Throw M QB		11:30 Hammer Throw W QB		
DAY 1 - Wednesday Afternoon 5 August	DAY 2 - Thursday Afternoon 6 August	DAY 3 - Friday Afternoon 7 August	DAY 4 - Saturday Afternoon 8 August	
18:00 Pole Vault W AB	00:00 Shot Put M MC	00:00 Long Jump W MC	00:00 5,000m R.Walk W MC	
18:00 Discus Throw W QA	00:00 5000m W MC	00:00 100m W MC	00:00 5,000m R.Walk M MC	
18:05 100m W SF	18:05 Pole Vault M QAB	00:00 100m M MC	00:00 Triple Jump M MC	
18:20 Shot Put Hep W AB	18:05 Discus Throw W F	17:00 High Jump Dec M AB	00:00 400m M MC	
18:28 100m M SF	18:10 800m Hep W F	17:15 100m H W SF	00:00 400m W MC	
19:00 3000m SC W R1	18:30 1500m M R1	17:40 110m H M SF	00:00 3000m M MC	
19:20 Discus Throw W QB	19:05 Shot Put W F	18:05 800m W SF	18:00 Javelin Throw Dec M A	
19:35 200m Hep W Heats	19:08 1500m W R1	18:25 Triple Jump M F	18:05 4 x 100m Relay X F	
19:50 Shot Put M F	19:28 Long Jump W F	18:30 800m M SF	18:05 High Jump M F	
19:55 5000m W F	19:42 400m M SF	18:55 200m W SF	18:15 400m H W SF	
20:22 5000m M F	20:05 400m W SF	19:18 200m M SF	18:15 Pole Vault W F	
20:50 4 x 400m Relay X F	20:35 100m W F	19:45 Javelin Throw M F	18:41 400m H M SF	
00:00 4 x 400m Relay X MC	20:50 100m M F	19:40 3000m SC W F	19:05 Javelin Throw Dec M B	
	00:00 5000m M MC	20:00 400m Dec M Heats	19:08 800m M F	
	00:00 Heptathlon W MC	20:23 3000m M F	19:23 800m W F	
	00:00 Discus Throw W MC	20:45 400m W F	19:10 Long Jump M F	
		20:53 400m M F	19:35 100m H W F	
		00:00 Hammer Throw M MC	19:45 110m H M F	
		00:00 Pole Vault W MC	19:55 3000m W F	
		00:00 Javelin Throw M MC	20:20 200m M F	
		00:00 3000m SC W MC	20:33 1500m Dec M F	
		External Throwing area	20:50 200m W F	
		17:05 Hammer Throw M F	00:00 800m M MC	
			00:00 800m W MC	
			00:00 100m H W MC	
			00:00 110m H M MC	
			00:00 Shot Put W MC	
			00:00 3000m W MC	
			00:00 Pole Vault M MC	
			00:00 Hammer Throw W MC	
			00:00 4 x 400m Relay W MC	
			00:00 4 x 400m Relay M MC	
			External throwing area	
			12:05 Hammer Throw W F	

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2.1.4 World Athletics Road Running Championships (WRRC)

WRRC Copenhagen 26 timetable

The Council approved the competition timetable for the [World Athletics Road Running Championships Copenhagen 26](#) which will take place on 19–20 September 2026.



Saturday 19 September 2026	
Mile	
10:10	Elite Women
10:30	Elite Men
5km	
13:10	Elite Women
13:40	Elite Men
Sunday 20 September 2026	
Half Marathon	
09:10	Elite Women
09:45	Elite Men

The timetable has been developed to showcase both elite and mass-participation racing, reflecting Copenhagen’s strong tradition in hosting large-scale road running events. The programme features Mile races on Saturday morning, followed by a mass-participation race; 5km races on Saturday afternoon, with the mass start scheduled two minutes later; and concludes on Sunday with the Half Marathon followed immediately by the mass race.

In addition to approving the timetable, the Council endorsed the Local Organising Committee’s proposal to introduce a Mixed Team Competition in the Mile and 5km events. Under this new format, teams will comprise two men and two women, with final rankings determined by combined placing points rather than times. Medals (gold, silver, and bronze) will be awarded to the top three teams, although no prize money will be allocated.

WRRC Future Bids: Events & Quota Review

Following a comprehensive review of host city feedback and participation trends, Council approved the discontinuation of the Road Mile from the 2027 World Road Running Championships onwards. In conjunction with this change, Council also approved a revised athlete quota structure, removing the previous quota of one athlete per Member Federation and reducing the quota for the Half Marathon from 2×50 to 2×40 athletes.

Recent editions showed that the Road Mile delivers low participation and limited commercial value, with significantly lower mass-race uptake compared to the Half Marathon and 5km. Discussions with past and upcoming hosts demonstrated that the key factor driving the increase in bidding interest for the WRRC was flexible scheduling. By discontinuing the Road Mile and adjusting the athlete quota, World Athletics aims to reduce hosting costs and financial risk for organising cities, strengthen the sustainability of the Championships, and focus on the most successful and well-supported events: the Half Marathon and 5km.

2.1.5 World Athletics Indoor Championships 400m final format

Council approved a new competition format for the 400m final at the World Athletics Indoor Championships, introducing two final sections, each consisting of four athletes, with combined results determining the final placings. This format will be implemented for the first time at the World Athletics Indoor Championships Kujawy Pomorze 26.

This decision follows the Council’s earlier decision in Tokyo to vacate lanes 1 and 2 for all 400m races at the World Athletics Indoor Championships. This change was made in response to strong athlete feedback



highlighting the significant competitive disadvantage posed by these tighter inside lanes on an indoor track. As a result, the standard six-lane configuration is no longer viable for a single final.

A review will be conducted after the Championships, with feedback from athletes, coaches, and broadcast partners to assess the effectiveness of the new structure.

2.1.6 Minimum age participation

Council approved the proposal to adopt World Athletics rules for World Athletics Series qualification regulations, allowing athletes who turn 16 in that calendar year to compete at WAS events for all events and disciplines. This decision follows a review of inconsistencies in the minimum age rules, and aims to create a clear, coherent pathway for athlete progression and eliminate barriers for talented young athletes.

2.1.7 Substitution policy

Council approved the proposed single substitution policy for World Athletics Series and Olympic competitions, covering both track and field events. This harmonised approach aims to improve consistency, reduce confusion for teams, and minimise the occurrence of empty lanes during semifinals and finals at major championships.

- Track events: Two substitute athletes will be designated after Round 1 and again after the semifinals. These substitutes will be selected based on the next fastest times across all heats.
- Field events: Substitutes will continue to be identified by the next best performances, in line with existing procedures.
- Flexibility: When scheduling allows (for example, if the next round is not held on the same day) additional substitutes may be listed to ensure full fields.
- Team responsibilities: Teams must notify withdrawals as early as possible so that substitutes can be activated efficiently.
- Official notation: Substitutes will be marked with a small "S" beside their name on official start lists. Once upgraded to compete, they will appear as "QS" (Qualified by Substitution).

2.1.8 Relays

Substitution limits for 4x400m and 4x100m events

Relay events have played an increasingly important role in elevating the sport's visibility and appeal. While this growth has been welcomed across the athletics community, it has also generated important discussion about the number of reserve athletes needed to support relay participation, particularly due to athlete quota limitations for Olympic Games.

To address concerns around fairness and the equitable use of quotas, Council approved the proposal to limit relay substitutions to a maximum of two athletes between rounds and finals for the single gender relay events. This new rule will apply across all competitions and is intended to promote fairness, consistency, and efficient use of athlete quotas as the global relay programme expands.

The new substitution rule will:

- Limit single-gender relay substitutions to two athletes between the heats/semifinals and the final for the 4x100m and 4x400m events.
- Maintain existing substitution flexibility for mixed relays, which require different rotation patterns and athlete management strategies.
- Reduce the number of non-competing reserve athletes, helping Member Federations manage team size more efficiently.
- Support quota optimisation for Olympic participation while ensuring relay teams retain high performance quality.



Implementation will be closely monitored, with feedback gathered following the 2026 World Athletics Relays and the 2027 World Athletics Championships. This review will inform final adjustments ahead of the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.

Electronic assistance for athlete line-up management

Council approved the proposal to authorise the use of electronic assistance for athlete line-up management in relay events, particularly the 4x400m. The aims are to strengthen accuracy, reduce line-up-related disputes, and support smoother event operations while fully maintaining the responsibility and authority of International Technical Officials.

2.2 WORLD ATHLETICS RULES & REGULATIONS

2.2.1 Anti-Doping Rules

Upon the recommendation of the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) Board, Council approved amendments to the 2026 World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules. The amendments are minor and include the addition of the World Athletics Ultimate Championship as a new International Competition in 2026, removing text in the Transitional Provisions section that is no longer applicable, clarifications arising from the Rule 15 amendments agreed in September, and other amendments of a minor or clarificatory nature.

The amended Rules take effect from 1 January 2026 and are available [here](#) on the World Athletics website (Book D: Integrity & Disciplinary – D3.1 Anti-Doping Rules).

2.2.2 Disputes & Disciplinary Proceedings Rules: Introduction of Table of Sanctions for One-Day Tours

Council approved amendments to the Disputes & Disciplinary Proceedings Rules, effective 12 December 2025, to incorporate a new table of sanctions applicable to One-Day Tour meets and races. This formalises an evaluation-based disciplinary mechanism designed to strengthen compliance, enhance transparency, and ensure proportionality across all Gold-level One-Day Tour events. The table of sanctions establishes clear consequences for persistent breaches of organiser obligations or low evaluation and assessment scores, while ensuring that issues outside athletes' control do not negatively impact their results or participation.

The Competitions & Events Department will administer the process initially, issuing formal notifications to organisers when low evaluation scores or breaches occur, and outlining the required technical or operational actions to remedy the issue. If the issue remains unresolved, the matter will be referred to the Disciplinary Officer, who, after assessment of the rules and facts, may apply sanctions as set out in the table of sanctions to the Disputes & Disciplinary Proceedings Rules. The sanctions table provides a structured and fair escalation pathway, ensuring that organisers have an opportunity to address shortcomings before disciplinary action is taken.

Consequential editorial amendments will be made to the Indoor Tour, Race Walking Tour, and Cross Country Tour regulations to ensure alignment. The Continental Tour, Diamond League, and Combined Events will undergo review in early 2026 as part of a wider update and for similar measures to be implemented in these regulations.

The amended Rules are effective from 12 December 2025 and are available [here](#) on the World Athletics website (Book D: Integrity & Disciplinary – D5.2 - Disputes and Disciplinary Proceedings Rules).



2.2.3 Eligibility Rule 3.5 and Regulations for the Implementation of Eligibility Rule 3.5 (Male and Female Categories)

Following two Member Federation Information Sessions on 5 November, Council received an update on implementation plans for the regulations concerning eligibility conditions to compete in the female category for world ranking competitions.

The rule regarding eligibility to compete in the female category has not changed. Following the introduction of once-in-a-lifetime testing for the SRY gene ahead of the World Athletics Championships Tokyo 25, the update to the regulations confirms where SRY test results will be requested.

SRY test results will be requested by World Athletics from athletes competing in the female category at the following events during 2026, unless they had a confirmed clear test result at the 2025 World Athletics Championships in Tokyo.

- World Athletics Series events and the World Athletics Ultimate Championship
- Diamond League meetings
- Marathon Major Platinum events

Member Federations were also informed that onsite testing options for the World Athletics U20 Championships Oregon 26 were being explored, paid for by World Athletics. Information on the plans for testing at the World U20 Championships will be developed by the end of March 2026, including detailed information on permission protocols for minors.

Further staggering of events from 2027 to 2030 following a detailed review in Q1 2026 will be proposed to Council at the relevant time. Thereafter the categories of world ranking competitions at which SRY test results will be requested will be reviewed each year by Council. The competitions will be announced by 1 November the previous year for implementation the following year.

The Council approved the proposed amendments to the Eligibility Rule 3.5 and Regulations for the Implementation of Eligibility Rule 3.5 (Male and Female Categories) with immediate effect.

The Council also heard how testing at the World Athletics Championships Tokyo 25 was successfully completed. A total of 1,015 female athletes, including reserve athletes, underwent the SRY test.

The amended Rules took effect from 2 December 2025 and are available [here](#) on the World Athletics website (Book C: Competition – C3.3A - Eligibility Rules and C3.5A - Regulations for the Implementation of Eligibility Rule 3.5 (Male and Female Categories)).

2.2.4 Safeguarding Rules

Council approved the revised version of the Safeguarding Rules to come into force on 1 January 2026. These revisions strengthen the global safeguarding framework, clarify responsibilities between World Athletics, the AIU, Member Federations, and Areas, and ensure cases can be handled more efficiently, transparently, and consistently.

Since the introduction of the Safeguarding Rules two years ago, safeguarding capacity has evolved considerably. The Safeguarding Case Management Group has been established and has already determined several cases, while more than 30 safeguarding referrals - including requests for support from MFs, Areas, athletes, and officials - have been received in 2025 alone. These experiences revealed areas requiring improvement: slow case processing, uncertainty around jurisdiction, inconsistent communication, and gaps in how safeguarding decisions are recognised or enforced internationally.



The revised Rules address these issues by providing clearer procedures, stronger obligations, and improved protection mechanisms. They also reinforce the fundamental principle that MFs hold primary responsibility for handling safeguarding concerns within their territory, while ensuring appropriate escalation routes when MFs or Areas are unable or unwilling to act.

Further details on the approved amendments will be provided in a separate circular to be published in January 2026.

2.2.5 Technical Rules

- TR22.6 – Hurdle displacement

According to the current rules, an athlete shall be disqualified if they directly or indirectly displace a hurdle in another lane in a way that affects any other athlete, regardless of whether the effect is actually material. This could lead to disqualification for minor incidents that may not have caused any real impact on another athlete.

Council approved amendments to Rule 22.6 of the Technical Rules, specifying that an athlete may only be disqualified if the effect on another athlete is significant. Significant impact includes for example actions that force another athlete to alter their rhythm, shorten or lengthen their stride, change direction, or cause a hurdle impact that would not have occurred without the displacement.

- TR44.6 (Conduct of the Races) - Indoor-specific cone requirements

Council approved amendments to Technical Rule 44.6, introducing indoor-specific requirements for cones and physical markers used at the break line during group starts on indoor tracks, with the understanding that the existing ruling on track markings in the absence of a kerb will be adjusted accordingly. The amendment responds to operational issues experienced across recent indoor competitions and aims to improve athlete safety, reduce avoidable infringements, and ensure consistent application of the rules.

- Take-off camera standards for Long Jump and Triple Jump

At present, World Athletics and Olympic events use different timing and measurement providers (Seiko and Omega/Swiss Timing) whose camera systems operate with differing frame rates and resolutions. This lack of standardisation has resulted in inconsistencies in officiating, where similar take-off situations may be judged differently depending on the equipment used. Following concerns raised regarding fairness, transparency, and the credibility of field event officiating, it approved to harmonise take-off camera standards for long jump and triple jump. For the World Athletics Series events, The Ultimate Championship, and the Olympic Games, video technology providing images at 120 frames per second and a minimum resolution of 4K will be used.

- Inaugural world record standards set

Following the announcement that the half marathon and marathon will become the official senior road distances for race walking events, the Council approved the following inaugural world record standards for those events:

- Men's half marathon race walk: 1:21:30
- Women's half marathon race walk: 1:30:30
- Men's marathon race walk: 2:56:30
- Women's marathon race walk: 3:17:00

These inaugural standards must be surpassed to set a world record. Performances will be recognised from 1 January 2026.



- TR54.6 (Red Cards) and 54.11.1 (Road Courses)

Council approved amendments to the Race Walking Technical Rules 54.6 (Red Cards) and 54.11.1 (Road Courses).

The revisions respond to practical issues observed in recent international events, where inconsistencies in the timing of red card application and rigid course-length requirements created operational difficulties. The amendments ensure clearer officiating standards and improved adaptability for host cities, without compromising the integrity of race walking competitions.

The amended rules come into force with immediate effect and can be found in the [Book of Rules](#) section of the World Athletics website.

2.2.6 Athletic Shoe Regulations

With more than 50 manufacturers and 800+ approved shoes, there has been a sharp increase in annual applications along with an increase in resources required to manage the increase in volume. As a result, there was an identified need to clarify requirements for the approvals process, introduce stronger methods to identify shoes, and update the technical requirements of the soles of shoes. Council therefore approved the proposed amendments to the Athletic Shoe Regulations to ensure the sport keeps pace with technological developments in footwear and to strengthen the fairness, consistency, and enforceability of shoe-related rules across all major competitions. The revisions reflect extensive consultation with the World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry (WFSGI) and align with technical agreements reached at the annual industry conference.

The updates aim to:

- Clarify and modernise regulatory requirements, including sole thickness measurement, rigid structure definitions, and development shoe usage.
- Improve shoe identification and control including updated declaration processes and post-competition checks.
- Streamline application and approval procedures (e.g., removing the one-month market availability rule, improving the online approvals portal, and introducing a clearer fee structure).
- Allow approvals for customisations for medical reasons including personal approval system for orthotics.
- Introduce deregulation for Cross-Country shoes and clarifications for prototype usage.
- Strengthen operational capacity, with the appointment of an independent laboratory (AISTS) to manage shoe approvals and control.

Overall, the changes approved by Council aim to ensure that shoe regulation remains credible, up to date, enforceable, and technically robust, while balancing innovation, athlete welfare, and competitive integrity across all disciplines.

The amended Regulations take effect from 1 January 2026 and are available [here](#) on the World Athletics website (Book C: Competition – C2.1A – Athletic Shoe Regulations).

2.3 DAKAR 2026 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

The timetable and qualification approach for the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games as proposed by the IOC was discussed by Council. The proposed model prioritises universality and broad global representation, and is built around the following principles:

- 416 athletes in total (208 men, 208 women).
- One athlete per NOC per event.



- Guaranteed participation of all 54 African NOCs.
- Minimum of two male and two female athletes per African NOC.
- Equal gender balance across disciplines.
- No qualification events, reducing travel and cost burdens.
- NOCs hold full authority over athlete selection.

Reflecting this streamlined format, the athletics programme will be held over three days, with one session per day, as follows:

DAY 1 - Sunday Afternoon, 8 November			
14:30	Hammer Throw	M	F
14:35	100m H	W	SF
14:40	Triple Jump	W	F
14:53	800m	W	SF
15:12	100m	W	SF
15:30	100m	M	SF
15:40	Pole Vault	W	F
15:48	400m	W	SF
16:06	400m	M	SF
16:10	Discus Throw	W	F
16:20	Long Jump	M	F
16:25	3000m	M	F
16:48	2000m SC	W	F
17:07	100m H	W	F
17:16	100m	W	F
17:25	100m	M	F

DAY 2 - Monday Morning, 9 November			
10:00	Javelin Throw	W	F
10:05	2000m SC	M	F
10:25	3000m	W	F
10:35	Shot Put	M	F
10:50	800m	M	SF
11:10	400m H	M	SF
11:25	High Jump	M	F
11:30	400m H	W	SF
11:35	Discus Throw	M	F
11:40	Long Jump	W	F
11:48	1500m	M	F
12:00	110m H	M	SF
12:15	400m	W	F
12:25	400m	M	F
12:35	800m	W	F
12:45	110m H	M	F

DAY 3 - Tuesday Morning, 10 November			
10:00	Hammer Throw	W	F
10:03	5,000m R.Walk	M	F
10:10	Shot Put	W	F
10:15	Pole Vault	M	F
10:35	5,000m R.Walk	W	F
11:15	200m	M	SF
11:20	High Jump	W	F
11:35	200m	W	SF
11:45	Triple Jump	M	F
11:50	Javelin Throw	M	F
11:55	400m H	M	F
12:05	400m H	W	F
12:15	800m	M	F
12:25	200m	M	F
12:35	200m	W	F
12:45	1500m	W	F

Council approved the proposed timetable for the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games and took note of the IOC's final structure and participation system for the event.

2.4 APPOINTMENT TO THE WORLD ATHLETICS COACHES' COMMISSION

Council approved the Nominations Panel's proposed Chair and Members for the Coaches' Commission for the 2025-2027 period, as follows:

- Frank Dick (GBR), Chairperson
- Tonja Buford-Bailey (USA), Member
- Natalia Dobrynska (UKR), Council Member
- Rita Engelbrecht (RSA), Member
- Oscar Gadea (URU), Member
- Aaron Gadson (DMA), Member
- Kirsten Hellier (NZL), Member
- Susan Krumins (AUS), Member
- Laurent Meuwly (NED), Member
- Barbara Petrahn (HUN), Member



- Donna Raynor (BER), Council Member
- David Riley (JAM), Member
- Patrick Sang (KEN), Member
- Bingtian Su (CHN), Athletes' Commission representative

2.5 UPDATES FROM COMMISSIONS

The Athletes', Competition, Development and Governance Commissions all met in the lead up to the Council Meeting and each reported to Council on their key activities and areas of focus since the last Council meeting. Their approved recommendations are set out in this Circular and updates are outlined below.

2.5.1 Athletes' Commission

Since the last Council meeting in September 2025, the Athletes' Commission has concentrated its work on strengthening athlete representation, wellbeing, and engagement across World Athletics. A major milestone was the successful delivery of the 2025 Athletes' Commission elections, which introduced online voting and an extended voting window for the first time. The Commission also focused on supporting athlete wellbeing through the expansion of the Athlete Zone initiative, first piloted in Lima and significantly scaled at the Tokyo World Athletics Championships. Its success has prompted wider adoption by Area Associations, reinforcing its value as an accessible and supportive space for athletes at major events.

The Commission also continued to advance its Four-Year Plan, reviewing progress against key objectives and identifying areas requiring further development. Central to recent discussions were improvements to consultation processes to ensure athlete input is integrated earlier and more consistently into decision-making.

The Commission also engaged deeply on several policy matters, including competition formats, and qualification pathways, highlighting implications for athlete fairness and wellbeing.

2.5.2 Development Commission

Since the previous Council meeting, the Development Commission has focused on strengthening Member Federation engagement, modernising coach and referee education systems, and advancing data-driven tools to support MF growth.

A major focus was the review of development and education activities delivered at the World Athletics Championships Tokyo 25, where initiatives such as MF info sessions, the Gender Leadership Conference, the Development Stand, and the Coaches' Club were widely praised for improving visibility, interaction, and learning opportunities for MFs. The Commission identified areas for improvement - particularly communication, scheduling, and accessibility - to ensure stronger and broader participation at future events.

Additionally, the Commission reported on its continued work on the World Athletics Referee Education & Certification System (WARECS), reviewing recent exam cycles, strengthening mentoring pathways, and addressing barriers such as language and technology to improve candidate success.

A central priority has also been the review of the Coach Education & Certification System (CECS), guided by Leeds Beckett University, which recommends a shift from a linear coaching pathway toward a lifelong, modular learning framework, supported by a new Coach Developer model. Consultation will be undertaken on the proposals in early January to shape the future framework.

The Commission has also advanced tools to improve MF capacity-building, including a pilot "well-functioning MF" assessment framework, a prototype MF Data Dashboard designed to support evidence-based planning and benchmarking across Areas, and



redesigning of MF info sessions under a new World Athletics Connect concept to deliver more interactive, practical development content.

These initiatives collectively aim to strengthen global development structures, modernise coaching and officiating systems, and provide MFs with clearer, more effective support mechanisms going into 2026.

2.5.3 Governance Commission

The Governance Commission finalised the Fit & Proper Persons Questionnaire template (appendix 1) and User Guide (appendix 2) as supporting guidance and annexes to the Better Governance Guidelines. Given the requirement in the Guidelines on candidates to official office in all MFs and Areas to undertake integrity commitments, the template is available for those who do not currently have any vetting requirements in place so that they may adapt it to their local jurisdiction and realities.



Fit & Proper Persons Questionnaire template

1. Personal Information

Please provide the following details:

- Full Name:
- Date of Birth:
- Nationality:
- Current Position:
- Contact Email / Phone:
- Position applying / running for:
- Date of proposed appointment / election:



2. Declaration of Integrity and Character

Please answer by ticking the appropriate box and providing details (if relevant):

Question	Yes	No
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Have you ever been convicted of any criminal offence (excluding minor traffic offences)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If Yes, please provide details:

- Are you currently subject to any criminal proceedings or investigations?

If Yes, please provide details:

- Have you ever been subject of an adverse ethics or disciplinary decision and / or are you currently under investigation?

If Yes, please provide details:

- Are you currently subject of a bankruptcy or insolvency order?



Question

Yes No

If Yes, please provide details:

- Are you currently or have you ever been under sanction from a sporting body (e.g., World Athletics, WADA, CAS)?

If Yes, please provide details:

- Please disclose your current significant interests (commercial, public office, directorships, appointments)

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-

3. Independence & Objectivity

- Are you currently involved with any organisation (commercial or otherwise) that may influence your decision-making within the Federation/ Area Association?

Yes No



If **Yes** to any potential conflict of interest, please provide a mitigation plan or disclosure statement.

4. Declaration and Undertaking

I, the undersigned, declare that:

- The information provided above is complete and true to the best of my knowledge.
- I commit to upholding the highest standards of conduct and transparency.
- I agree to comply with the applicable code of conduct or ethics of my Member Federation/ Area Association
- I understand that knowingly providing false or misleading information may result in disqualification from my position.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____



How to use the Fit & Proper Persons Questionnaire template

Introduction

The Fit & Proper Persons Questionnaire template is made available to the athletics community in the context of the Guidelines for Member Federations & Area Associations on alignment to better-governance principles (the Guidelines). Member Federations that currently do not have any type of vetting in place are invited to use this template and adapt it to reflect their local reality, considering national laws, rules and regulations. The Fit & Proper Persons Questionnaire needs to be implemented together with an amendment to their Constitution, rules or regulations that specifies that individuals that are not deemed fit and proper or have provided incomplete, inaccurate or false information, cannot either be appointed or be a candidate to an elected position.

Why it is important?

The integrity and reputation of the sport of athletics is at stake. Only persons who demonstrate high standards of integrity and honesty should have the privilege to hold senior positions within our sport. World Athletics may, from time to time, request evidence of these tests being performed.

Who is subject to this test?

The integrity principle of the Guidelines requires that all stakeholders in athletics include integrity commitments in their own Constitution, rules and regulations and that “Fit and Proper Persons” requirements be met by applicants to appointed positions and candidates to elected positions. This includes the President, General Secretary, and Council Members of all Area Associations and Member Federations (in addition to World Athletics itself having vetting processes).

How to conduct the test?

The right stage to conduct a Fit & Proper Persons assessment is before elections, appointment or recruitment. Individuals who fail the Fit & Proper person test may not be allowed to stand for election, appointment or recruitment.

The assessments would be reviewed by the body or persons in charge of conducting and supervising the electoral process (e.g. the electoral commission) or appointments/ recruitment and it would also determine if an individual passes or fails.

The questionnaire is valid for the period of the mandate that the person is running / applying for. However, it is the duty of all appointed or elected Officials, even after being appointed or elected, to report any change of situation to what was initially declared over that period.

Any questions?

The World Athletics Compliance & Risk Officer is available to assist and provide advice on the practical implementation of this mechanism and is available at compliance@worldathletics.org