

2027
WORLD ATHLETICS
ELECTIONS
CANDIDATE PACK



WORLD
ATHLETICS

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	5
1. INTRODUCTION	6
2. REQUIREMENTS	6
3. COMPOSITION OF COUNCIL	7
3.1. Positions available for election.	7
3.2. Area representation and Minimum Number of Each Sex on the 2027 Council	7
4. MAIN STEPS AND DATES TO ELECTIONS	8

FOREWORD

Leading World Athletics over the last decade has been an immense honour and privilege and one that I have thoroughly enjoyed.

During the widespread reforms in 2015 we asked three fundamental questions:

- How does our sport want to make decisions?
- Who do we want in our sport?
- How do you evolve the sport to remain relevant, generate new revenue, and re-engineer new elements to connect to new audiences?

These were not just questions for that time, they are questions anyone considering running for office today should also be asking.

Running for President, Vice President, or Council member comes with a huge amount of responsibility and accountability. These are not roles for the faint-hearted or those looking for a leisurely path into retirement. The decisions World Athletics needs to make over the next decade are as crucial as those we have made in the last decade, albeit on a much sounder and more stable foundation.

I could not have done the job of overseeing and implementing our reforms and rebuilding athletics without the strong, passionate, knowledgeable and wholly accountable Executive Board and Council Members that chose to throw their hat in the ring and put their hand to the wheel for each of my four-year mandates.

The fact we remain the number one Olympic sport and continue to be quoted and voted as best in class for our integrity, governance, innovation, sustainability and transparency is in large part due to our elected Executive Board and Council. Many of my Council colleagues work through Council, Commission and Working Group papers late into the night, join remote calls before the birds awake and spend many hours in planes and on trains to bring their expertise, skill and voice to the hundreds of decisions we make every year.

No one has the right to an elected position within World Athletics, they must earn it and they must be true to the promises they make. Being part of one of the oldest and most popular sports on the planet is not about right or ownership. As elected members to govern athletics, we are caretakers doing all we can to improve and grow our sport so that we can hand it over to others in the best shape possible so they too can improve and grow athletics around the world.



Sebastian Coe
President of World Athletics

1. INTRODUCTION

This Candidate Pack contains information about the upcoming Council Elections to be held in Beijing at the 56th Congress on 9 September 2027:

- A description of the requirements to be elected, the positions available, and the steps to the election;

This pack should be read together with the following attachments:

- Descriptions of the roles and responsibilities of President, Vice President, and Individual Council Member;
- EOP Directions on conduct requirements, campaigning and expenditures for all Candidates;
- The Candidate Nomination Form (Parts A & B) for all Candidates;
- The Candidate Nomination Forms (Part C) for each position available for election.

2. REQUIREMENTS

Persons interested in becoming Candidates must comply with the following requirements to stand for election:

- Be declared eligible by the World Athletics Vetting Panel;
- Be supported by a Member Federation by a valid resolution of its Board, Executive Committee or equivalent body;
- Comply with the Integrity Code of Conduct and other applicable Rules and Regulations, whether or not they have openly declared their Candidacy;
- Comply with directions issued by the EOP regarding campaigning, expenditure and any other aspects of the elections regulated by the EOP;
- Complete the mandatory online education for Candidates;
- Provide an accurate competency statement which will be verified prior to publication.

3. COMPOSITION OF COUNCIL

3.1. Positions available for election

The elections will take place on 9 September 2027 at the 56th World Athletics Congress due to be held in Beijing, China.

Congress Delegates will elect the following positions on the World Athletics' Council:

- 1 President;
- 4 Vice-Presidents¹;
- 13 Individual Council Members;

These 18 elected members will be joined on the Council by:

- 6 Area Presidents elected by each Area prior to the World Athletics Congress;
- 2 Athletes Commission Representatives.

The World Athletics Council has a total of 26 members each having a 4-year term.

3.2. Area representation and Minimum Number of Each Sex on the 2027 Council

The composition of the 2027 Council must reflect Area diversity, and 50/50 representation of male and female Council Members.

The following requirements will apply in 2027:

- Each of the four Vice-Presidents must be from a different Area;
- Two Vice Presidents must be male, and two must be female;
- One Athletes' Commission Representative must be male, and one must be female;
- In total, 13 Council Members must be male and 13 must be female.

¹ The Senior Vice-President will be elected at the first Council meeting after the elections from among the 4 Vice-Presidents.

4. MAIN STEPS AND DATES TO ELECTIONS

The table below presents the steps and deadlines² applicable to the 2027 Council Elections:

STEPS	START DATE	END DATE	DETAILS/CONTACT
Start of Campaign Period	1 March 2026	9 September 2027	
Persons seeking to become Candidates apply to the Vetting Panel to confirm their eligibility	1 March 2026	31 March 2027 midnight CET – deadline for Vetting Panel to receive eligibility applications	compliance@worldathletics.org
Persons seeking to become Candidates complete mandatory education (ethical compliance course for Officials)	1 March 2026	31 March 2027 midnight CET	https://elearning.worldathletics.org/classes
Quarterly Campaign Expenditure report #1 for period: 1 March 2026 – 31 May 2026		1 June 2026 midnight CET	Persons seeking to become Candidates must contact compliance@worldathletics.org to receive access to the reporting platform to submit their expenditure report
Quarterly Campaign Expenditure report #2 for period: 1 June 2026 – 31 August 2026		1 September 2026 midnight CET	compliance@worldathletics.org
Quarterly Campaign Expenditure report #3 for period: 1 September 2026 – 30 November 2026		1 December 2026 midnight CET	compliance@worldathletics.org
Online Campaign Forums – Candidates for Individual Council Member		February – March 2027 – dates TBC	
Online Campaign Forum – Candidates for Vice-President		March 2027 – Dates TBC	

² 'Deadline' means that World Athletics, the Vetting Panel and the Election Oversight Panel will do nothing about applications received after a specified deadline. There is no option to extend deadlines out of fairness for Candidates who meet these deadlines.

STEPS	START DATE	END DATE	DETAILS/CONTACT
Quarterly Campaign Expenditure report #4 for period: 1 December 2026 – 28 February 2027		1 March 2027 midnight CET	compliance@worldathletics.org
Candidates for President forum – hosted by European Athletics		24 April 2027 Firenze, Italy	
Candidates for President forum – hosted by Oceania Athletics		12 May 2027 Norfolk Island	
Candidates for President forum – hosted by Asian Athletics		24 May 2027 Xiamen, China	
Candidates provide a copy of their draft Competency Statement for the EOP to review its content and accuracy	From date of Vetting Panel's decision confirming eligibility	31 May 2027 midnight CET	compliance@worldathletics.org
Candidates submit their 2min campaign video to be posted on the WA webpage		31 May 2027 midnight CET	compliance@worldathletics.org
Quarterly Campaign Expenditure report #5 for period: 1 March 2027 – 31 May 2027		1 June 2027 midnight CET	compliance@worldathletics.org
Candidates are nominated by a valid decision of their Member Federations' Board, executive committee or equivalent body	From date of Vetting Panel's decision confirming eligibility	1 June 2027 midnight CET – deadline to send Nomination Form and final Competency Statement	compliance@worldathletics.org
EOP validates Nominations Form and final Competency Statement and publishes names of Candidates		9 July 2027	World Athletics' website and Member Federation circular
Candidates for President forum hosted by NACAC		July 2027 , date and location TBC	
Candidates for President forum hosted by CAA		July 2027 , date and location TBC	

STEPS	START DATE	END DATE	DETAILS/CONTACT
Candidates for President forums – hosted by Atletismo Sudamericano		Dates & locations TBC	
Quarterly Campaign Expenditure report #6 for period 1 June 2027 – 8 September 2027		8 September 2027 midnight CET	compliance@worldathletics.org
Candidates for President and Vice-President make on-stage address to Congress Delegates in Beijing		8 September 2027 - each Candidate will address the Congress once, for a maximum of 8 minutes	
Elections held at the Congress in Beijing, China		9 September 2027	Congress elects 1 President, 4 Vice-Presidents and 13 Council Members.

