



RULES OF CONGRESS

*(Approved by the Council on 13 July 2022 and
effective immediately)*

Specific Definitions

The words and phrases used in these Rules that are defined terms (denoted by initial capital letters) shall have the meanings specified in the Constitution and the General Definitions, or (in respect of the following words and phrases) the following meanings:

“Absolute Majority” has the meaning given to it in the Constitution namely: means a resolution passed by over 50% of the valid votes cast by those present and entitled to vote (Article 86.1).

"Agenda" means the items of business for the Congress meeting as described in Rule 3 of these Rules.

"Congress meeting" means a meeting of Congress including an Ordinary Congress meeting or a Special Congress meeting.

“Elections” in these Rules, means, the elections of the President, Vice-Presidents and Individual Council Members.

“Electronic Voting” has the meaning given to it in the Constitution namely: means voting on a resolution by electronic communication (Article 86.1).

"Electronic Voting System" means the technology by which Electronic Voting is undertaken, usually tabulating software (if at a meeting at which delegates are present in person or virtually) and other appropriate software (if a resolution is being put to the Member Federations pursuant to Rule 16 below).

“Highest Polling Candidate” means the candidate in an Election who receives the highest number of valid votes cast in a round of voting, by those present and entitled to vote.

“Lowest Polling Candidate” means the candidate in an Election who receives the lowest number of valid votes cast in a round of voting, by those present and entitled to vote.

“Open Voting” has the meaning given to it in Rule 7.2, and **“Open Vote”** has the same meaning.

“Scrutineers” means the persons specified in Rule 9.

“Secret Ballot” has the meaning given to it in Rule 7.5.

“Special Majority” has the meaning given to it in the Constitution namely: means a resolution passed by at least two-thirds (2/3rds) of the valid votes cast by those present and entitled to vote and voting (Article 86.1).

"Verifying Company" means the representative of the contracted independent electronic voting system certification company or entity, appointed by the Chief Executive Officer or their nominee, who shall be present at the Congress meeting.

“Virtual Congress” means a meeting of the Congress (whether Ordinary or Special) which is held with delegates attending virtually rather than delegates being present in person or a hybrid meeting where some delegates attend in person and some attend virtually.

"Voting Delegate" means the Delegate or, if more than one Delegate from a Member Federation, then one Delegate who is present at a Congress meeting, who is designated by

their Member Federation to vote on behalf of the Member Federation at that Congress meeting. It shall also include any change to the Voting Delegate as specified in Rule 4.1.

1. Overview

- 1.1 To the extent the Constitution does not provide for the procedure for Congress meetings whether Special, or Ordinary (Election or non-election), these Rules of Congress shall apply.

2. Application of these Rules

- 2.1 These Rules apply to all Member Federations, Area Associations, World Athletics Officials, Delegates and all other persons attending any Congress meeting.

3. Agenda and Running Order

- 3.1 The Agenda for an Ordinary Congress meeting shall contain the items of business specified in Article 31.1.
- 3.2 The order in which items on the Agenda proceed at a Congress meeting shall be decided by the President.

4. Voting Delegates and Attendees

Voting Delegates

- 4.1 Each Member Federation shall designate one of its three (3) Delegates to be the Voting Delegate for that Member Federation at a Congress meeting and shall notify World Athletics of its Voting Delegates by the time specified by World Athletics, prior to the commencement of the Congress meeting. Only the Voting Delegate is permitted to vote. If, due to illness or other extraordinary circumstance, the Voting Delegate cannot be present during any part of the Congress meeting, a Member Federation may designate one of its other Delegates (if it has one) to be the Voting Delegate for the remainder of the Congress meeting, provided that before the Delegate can vote as a Voting Delegate:
- 4.1.1 the Chairperson must be notified in writing of such request and the reason for it, and
- 4.1.2 the new Delegate must be verified as a Voting Delegate (in accordance with Rule 9.3.1);

The Voting Delegate can only be changed once during a Congress meeting and cannot be changed a second time back either to the original Voting Delegate or to any other Delegate of the Member Federation once changed.

Observers and Attendees

- 4.2 Persons who are candidates for the position of President, Vice-President and Council Member, and who are not otherwise entitled to attend an Election Congress in another capacity may attend Election Congress meetings as Observers. However, no candidate may speak about himself as a candidate, or request or permit any other person to speak in support of or against a person who is a candidate, during an Election Congress meeting.

- 4.3 There shall be no persons other than those specified in the Constitution and these Rules permitted to attend a Congress meeting, including the media.

5. Chairperson

- 5.1 The President is the Chairperson who has control of the Congress meeting and shall:
- 5.1.1 preserve the order of the meeting, which may include removing any person from the meeting who is in breach of these Rules or the Constitution;
 - 5.1.2 ensure the Constitution and these Rules are adhered to, including the rules of debate as set out in Rule 9 of these Rules;
 - 5.1.3 decide on any points of order or any other procedural matters in accordance with the Constitution and these Rules; and,
 - 5.1.4 decide on any matter of procedure during a Congress meeting where the Constitution or these Rules make no provision or insufficient provision.
- 5.2 The decision of the Chairperson on procedural matters at a Congress meeting is final and is not open to debate at the Congress meeting nor is it subject to any right of appeal.
- 5.3 In an Election Congress, the Chairperson of the Congress meeting shall vacate the chair for the period of any election of a position for which they are seeking election. For the period of such vacation, the Senior Vice-President shall assume the chair, unless they are also seeking election for the same position, in which case a Vice-President designated by the President who is not seeking election for the same position shall assume the chair. If all the Vice-Presidents are seeking election for the same position as the President, the longest serving Council Member shall assume the chair and if there are more than one, the longest serving Council Member designated by the President shall assume the chair.

6. Rules of Debate

- 6.1 The following rules of debate shall apply to all Congress meetings.
- 6.2 For the avoidance of doubt, Member Federations may only propose amendments to the Constitution in accordance with Article 30.2(d) and amendments may not be proposed by Member Federations at the Congress meeting itself. A Member Federation is entitled to withdraw that Member Federation's proposed amendment to the Constitution at or before the Congress meeting which is due to consider it. Further amendments to an amendment properly proposed in accordance with Article 30.2(d) shall only be permitted to be put before the Congress meeting in exceptional circumstances if the Chairperson agrees pursuant to Rule 6.3.2(c) below.
- 6.3 Motions
- 6.3.1 Overview of Process

Except for Elections, for any decision to be made on any matter at a Congress meeting the following process shall be followed:

 - a. a motion is moved (as described in Rule 6.3.2 of these Rules);

- b. the motion is seconded (as described in Rule 6.3.3 of these Rules);
- c. the motion is discussed (as described in Rule 6.3.4 of these Rules);
- d. there is a right of reply to the discussion on the motion (as described in Rule 6.3.5 of these Rules); and,
- e. there is a vote on the motion (as described in Rule 6.3.6 of these Rules).

6.3.2 Moving a Motion

- a. Except for Elections, for any decision to be made on a matter included within the agenda for a Congress meeting, a Delegate of the Member Federation or (for proposals of Council) a Council Member appointed for that purpose, must **move a motion** proposing that decision.
- b. A Delegate or Council Member who wishes to move a motion shall do so by informing the Chairperson by show of hands or notifying him via the technology provided.
- c. The Chairperson may reject a motion for a matter not included on the agenda for the Congress meeting, or for an amendment to a matter on the agenda, being put if it:
 - i. has not been properly notified to the Chairperson in writing by a Member Federation; or
 - ii. is an amendment which is not minor in nature and which changes the substance or intent of a matter which has been properly notified; or
 - iii. covers the same or substantially similar matters which either have already been dealt with, or which will be dealt with later, in the Congress meeting; or
 - iv. is unclear or ambiguous.

6.3.3 Seconding the Motion

- a. Once a motion is "moved", it must be "**seconded**" by a Delegate from another Member Federation before it can proceed.
- b. Seconding a motion shall be done by informing the Chairperson by show of hands or notifying him via the technology provided.
- c. If the motion is not seconded, the motion lapses and cannot be proposed again at the same Congress meeting.

6.3.4 Discussing the Motion

- a. Once the motion has been moved and seconded, the Chairperson shall first give the proposer and seconder of the motion an opportunity to speak in favour of the motion before opening the matter up for debate. The Chairperson shall determine the order of debate and may terminate the debate if they consider the debate has run its course.

6.3.5 Right of Reply

- a. Once the discussion on the motion is completed, the Chairperson shall give the proposer of the motion the right to reply to the discussion.
- b. The right of reply must be strictly limited to the speaking on matters raised by the previous speakers on the motion and may not introduce any new matters.
- c. The mover of the motion may withdraw the motion at this time.

6.3.6 Vote

- a. Following the right of reply, the motion shall be voted on in accordance with the Constitution and these Rules.

6.4 Motions which Propose Amendments to the Constitution

6.4.1 Where a Member Federation or Council has properly notified proposed amendments to the Constitution in accordance with Article 30.2(d), the Chairperson will ask a Delegate of the Member Federation or, for Council proposals, the appointed Council Member (as applicable) to move the proposal as a motion.

6.4.2 Motions to amend Articles of the Constitution shall usually be dealt with in the order in which the applicable Article appears in the Constitution. However, the Chairperson may propose motions to amend Articles to be dealt with together in blocks if, for example, the motions are about the same subject matter, or they are technical, clerical or minor in nature.

6.4.3 If there is more than one amendment proposed to the same Article of the Constitution the Chairperson shall proceed with the motions as they consider appropriate including (but not limited to):

- a. proceeding with the motions to be proposed, seconded, discussed and voted on in the order in which they were received by World Athletics; or,
- b. proceeding with the motions in such order as he considers appropriate for purposes of allowing them to be moved, seconded and discussed together, followed by a vote on each of the motions (or as they may be amended), in such order as the Chairperson decides; or,
- c. proceeding with them in any other order proposed by him and approved by a majority of the Delegates,

provided that if a motion to amend an Article is voted on by the Delegates, then no further motion dealing with the same subject can be voted on at that Congress meeting.

6.5 Amending all other Motions

6.5.1 A motion can be amended by a Delegate (or as applicable a Council Member appointed by Council to propose that motion) after the original motion has been moved, seconded and discussed but before it is voted on.

- 6.5.2 A motion to amend a motion shall be in writing and notified to the Chairperson before the original motion is voted on, unless the Chairperson allows otherwise.
- 6.5.3 The Chairperson may decline an amending motion for any of the reasons set out in Rule 9.3.2(c).
- 6.5.4 An amending motion cannot itself be amended, and must be voted on, before another amending motion can be moved. This does not prevent a Delegate (or as applicable a Council Member) from notifying the Chairperson of an intention to move a further amendment, once the first amending motion is resolved.
- 6.5.5 An amending motion shall be moved, seconded, discussed and voted on, in the same manner as the original motion. If the amending motion is successful, the original motion is then amended accordingly, and the original motion (as amended) will then be discussed and voted on.
- 6.6 Speaking to Motions
- 6.6.1 In order to allow a fair debate, no one should speak to the motion for more than three (3) minutes.
- 6.6.2 In speaking to any motion, speakers are to limit their comments strictly to the motion and shall not speak to irrelevant or unrelated matters, as decided by the Chairperson.
- 6.6.3 The Chairperson may stop a speaker from speaking if they are disrespectful, or make statements which are offensive to any person or contain offensive language. (See also Rule 11 where Chairperson may order a person to leave the meeting.)
- 6.6.4 Persons entitled to speak at a Congress meeting may speak in any language of the following languages for which simultaneous translations will be available:
- a. Arabic;
 - b. Russian;
 - c. Spanish;
 - d. English; and/ or
 - e. French.
- Simultaneous translations may be made from and into any other language required, provided this is notified to World Athletics well in advance of the meeting, and the costs of this are met by, or on behalf of the Member Federation requesting the additional language.
- 6.6.5 For avoidance of doubt, there is no right for a person who is a candidate for Election at a Congress meeting, to speak about themselves as a candidate, or for any other person to speak in support of or against a person who is a

candidate, during a Congress meeting unless the Election Oversight Panel decides otherwise.

7. Voting

7.1 The only persons who may vote at a Congress meeting are the Voting Delegates. Each Voting Delegate is entitled to vote on each motion and for Elections.

7.2 Open Voting

7.2.1 All decisions of Congress, shall be decided by Open Voting except for:

- a. Elections, which shall be undertaken by Secret Ballot in accordance with Article 36.1 of the Constitution;
- b. Voting undertaken by show of hands, by voice or acclamation, if permitted by the Constitution or these Rules of Congress (see Rule 7.3); or,
- c. Voting on any other motion where the Voting Delegates call for a Secret Ballot, in accordance with Rule 7.4.

7.2.2 “**Open Voting**” means the vote is undertaken using the Electronic Voting System and after the vote has closed on each motion the following will be available at the Congress meeting to all persons present at the Congress meeting:

- a. the names of the Member Federations which voted in favour, against or abstained from voting on the motion; and,
- b. the required majority, and the outcome of the vote, including total number of votes in favour, against and abstentions;
- c. if having taken a vote using the Electronic Voting System, there is a malfunction or problem with the Electronic Voting System (as advised by the Verifying Company), the vote shall be undertaken manually using voting papers (the results of which shall be made available at the Congress meeting in the same manner as described in Rule 7.2.2(a) and (b) or Rule 7.5 of these Rules, as applicable).

7.3 Voting by Show of Hands, Voice or Acclamation:

7.3.1 The Chairperson shall decide if a motion shall be voted on by a show of hands, voice or acclamation unless:

- a. prior to the vote, there is an objection made by at least ten (10) Voting Delegates to request Open Voting using the Electronic Voting System; or,
- b. having taken the vote, the voting outcome is uncertain or inconclusive, in which case, the Chairperson shall hold the vote on the motion a second time by Open Vote using the Electronic Voting System.

- 7.4 **Voting by Secret Ballot:** In addition to voting in Elections, a motion may be voted on by Secret Ballot only if:
- 7.4.1 25% of the Voting Delegates present in the Congress meeting call for a vote to be held by Secret Ballot.
 - 7.4.2 If the threshold in Rule 7.4.1 is met, the motion to vote by Secret Ballot is then voted on by Open Voting; and,
 - 7.4.3 the motion to hold the vote by Secret Ballot is then carried by an Absolute Majority, and if carried,
- the original motion is then voted on by Secret Ballot.
- 7.5 **“Secret Ballot”** means voting will be undertaken in the same way as other motions using the Electronic Voting Technology, however after each vote, the votes of the Voting Delegates shall not be disclosed, and only the following will be available after each vote (including rounds of a vote) at the Congress meeting:
- 7.5.1 The outcome of the vote;
 - 7.5.2 In an Election, the total number of votes for each candidate in the Election and the order of votes from the highest to the lowest for all candidates in each vote (including any rounds of vote);
 - 7.5.3 For any other motions voted by Secret Ballot, the total number of votes in favour, against and abstentions;
 - 7.5.4 The number of any votes that were not valid votes.
- 7.6 **Open and Closing Votes:** When using the Electronic Voting System, the Chairperson shall announce when voting is open with respect to a motion or the Election of a position, and when it is closed (which shall not usually be longer than three (3) minutes), including giving a warning before voting is closed.
- 7.7 **Abstentions:** A Voting Delegate may abstain from voting on any motion or in an Election. Such an abstention does not count in favour or against the motion in determining the requisite majority for the resolution to be passed.

8. Elections

- 8.1 Election of President:
- 8.1.1 Each Voting Delegate shall vote for only one (1) candidate for President, otherwise the vote will be invalid. An election for the position of President is required even if there is only one candidate.
 - 8.1.2 If in any round, there is a tie in votes between two or more of the Highest Polling Candidates, then a further round of voting shall be undertaken between the tied candidates only, and the Highest Polling Candidate shall either:
 - a. be declared elected (if the tied candidates were the only candidates on the list of candidates) or,

- b. if there are three or more candidates on the list, remain on the list for a further round or rounds of voting between the remaining candidates until there is a Highest Polling Candidate who shall be declared elected.

8.1.3 If in any round, there are three or more candidates on the list and there is a tie in votes between two or more of the Lowest Polling Candidates, then a further round of voting shall be undertaken between the tied candidates only, and the Lowest Polling Candidate shall be removed.

8.2 Election of Four Vice-Presidents:

Election Congress in 2023

8.2.1 At the 2023 Election Congress, the Member Federations through their Voting Delegates shall cast a vote for only four (4) candidates for the position of Vice-President of whom:

- i. at least one (1) is of each sex; and
- ii. each are from different Areas.

8.2.2 The votes for each candidate shall be counted and the candidates then ranked in order from the Highest Polling Candidate to the Lowest Polling Candidate. If any candidates are tied, they shall have the same ranking.

8.2.3 The Highest Polling Candidate ranked pursuant to Rule 8.2.2 shall be declared elected. If there is a tie between the Highest Polling Candidates, the provisions of Rule 8.2.12 below shall apply. The candidate(s) declared elected, as well as all other candidates from the same Area as any candidate declared elected shall be removed from the list of candidates for the remaining positions on the ballot.

8.2.4 If only one (1) candidate was declared elected pursuant to Rule 8.2.3, the next Highest Polling Candidate of the remaining candidates who is of a different sex to the candidate declared elected pursuant to Rule 8.2.3 shall be declared elected. Any other candidates from the same Area as that second candidate declared elected shall be removed from the list of candidates for the remaining positions on the ballot.

8.2.5 If at least one (1) candidate of each sex was declared elected pursuant to Rule 8.2.3 as a result of a tie, then the next Highest Polling Candidate whether male or female shall be declared elected. If there is a tie between the next Highest Polling Candidates, the provisions of Rule 8.2.12 below shall apply. Any other candidates from the same Area as any candidate declared elected shall be removed from the list of candidates for the remaining positions on the ballot.

8.2.6 This process shall continue until such time as there are four Vice-Presidents each from a different Area and at least one of whom is female and one of whom is male.

Election Congress in 2027

- 8.2.7 At the 2027 Election Congress and for all subsequent Election Congresses, the Member Federations through their Voting Delegates shall cast a vote for four (4) candidates for the positions of Vice-President of whom:
- i. two are female and two are male; and
 - ii. each are from different Areas.
- 8.2.8 The votes for each candidate shall be counted and the candidates then ranked in order from the Highest Polling Candidate to the Lowest Polling Candidate. If any candidates are tied, they shall have the same ranking.
- 8.2.9 The Highest Polling Candidate from the election held pursuant to Rule 8.2.8 shall be declared elected. If there is a tie between the Highest Polling Candidates, the provisions of Rule 8.2.12 below shall apply. Any other candidates from the same Area as any candidate declared elected shall be removed from the list of candidates for the remaining positions on the ballot.
- 8.2.10 The process set out in Rule 8.2.8 shall continue until such time as there are two candidates of the same sex declared elected. At that point any other candidates of that same sex shall be removed from the list of candidates for the remaining positions on the ballot along with those from the same Areas as any candidate declared elected.
- 8.2.11 The process set out in Rule 8.2.8 shall continue until such time as there are four Vice-Presidents each from a different Area and two of whom are female and two of whom are male.
- 8.2.12 In the event there is a tie in the votes for the Highest Polling Candidate in this Rule 8.2, then a further round of voting shall be undertaken between the tied candidates only, and the Highest Polling Candidate between them shall be declared elected and the rankings adjusted accordingly. The only exception to the need for a further round of voting being if:
- a. the tied candidates are all from different Areas; and
 - b. there are sufficient vacancies for all the tied candidates to be declared elected; and
 - c. the requirement for:
 - i. in the case of the 2023 Election Congress there to be at least one (1) Vice-President of each sex elected; and
 - ii. in the case of the 2027 Election Congress, and thereafter, there to be two (2) female Vice-Presidents and two (2) male Vice-Presidents elected;

has already been or will be met by all the tied candidates being declared elected.
- 8.2.13 For the purposes of these Rules “from the same Area” means the Area to which the Member Federation that nominated the candidate (under Article 36.2) is assigned in accordance with the Constitution (Annexure to the Constitution).

Individual Council Members

8.3 Election of Individual Council Members:

- 8.3.1 Following the election of the President and the Vice-Presidents, the Individual Council Member Number of Each Sex (as described in Article 36.6(c)) shall be calculated and declared to Congress by the President.
- 8.3.2 Any candidates for the positions of Individual Council Member who were successfully elected to the positions of President or Vice-Presidents, shall be removed from the list of candidates for Individual Council Members.
- 8.3.3 Any candidates for the positions of Individual Council Members who are from the same Member Federation Country or Territory as the President, any Vice-Presidents, or any Area Presidents shall be removed from the list of candidates for Individual Council Members.
- 8.3.4 Voting Delegates shall cast one vote for thirteen (13) candidates only, from the list of Individual Council Members. This vote must include at least the minimum number of candidates of each sex to meet the declared Individual Council Member Number of Each Sex. Any vote which does not comply with this Rule will be invalid.
- 8.3.5 The thirteen (13) Highest Polling Candidates for the Individual Council Number of Each Sex will be declared elected. The thirteen (13) Highest Polling Candidates shall be determined as follows:
- a. After the vote, all the candidates (male and female) shall be ranked in order of the number of votes they each received.
 - b. The female Highest Polling Candidates, in order of ranking, of such number as are required to meet the Individual Council Member Sex Number for females, shall be declared elected.
 - c. The male Highest Polling Candidates, in order of ranking, of such number as are required to meet the Individual Council Member Sex Number for males, shall be declared elected.
 - d. The remaining number of the 13 Individual Council Member positions, shall be filled by the Highest Polling Candidates on the ranking list (whether male or female), excluding those elected in (b) and (c) above.
- 8.3.6 If there is a tie in votes between two or more candidates for the thirteenth position as an Individual Council Member, there shall be a further round of voting between those tied candidates only, and the Highest Polling Candidate between them shall be declared elected.
- 8.3.7 If there are insufficient candidates to fill the Individual Council Number of Each Sex, the position/s for that sex shall be left vacant until the next Ordinary Congress meeting.

9. Scrutineers

- 9.1 There shall be six (6) Scrutineers (one from each Area) who shall not be World Athletics Officials, candidates in any election or appointment occurring at the Congress meeting,

persons employed or contracted to World Athletics (other than as independent professional advisors), or Voting Delegates of Member Federation present at the Congress meeting. For the avoidance of doubt, observers, attendees and Delegates who are not Voting Delegates and who are not otherwise excluded by this Rule and attending the Congress meeting, may be nominated to be Scrutineers.

- 9.2 The Voting Delegates shall approve the Scrutineers (including a Chief Scrutineer) upon the recommendation of the Election Oversight Panel. The Chief Executive Officer shall call for nominations for Scrutineers from the Member Federations at the same time as the Agenda is sent to the Member Federations and Area Associations under Article 31.1 of the Constitution. The nominations received shall be referred to the Election Oversight Panel for assessment and recommendation of the Scrutineers to the Voting Delegates.
- 9.3 The Scrutineers are responsible for:
- 9.3.1 allocating the voting equipment for the Electronic Voting System to each Voting Delegate including verifying them as the Voting Delegate;
 - 9.3.2 overseeing the voting where Electronic Voting System is used to ensure all Voting Delegates have voted, and confirming that it is functioning adequately;
 - 9.3.3 if voting is undertaken by show of hands, confirming the identity of the person voting to ensure they are the Voting Delegates, and counting the votes;
 - 9.3.4 if voting is taken using manual voting papers, distributing the voting papers, overseeing the voting, collecting the voting papers and counting the votes;
 - 9.3.5 if voting is undertaken by acclamation or voices, deciding the outcome of the vote. If the Chief Scrutineer considers the outcome is inconclusive or unclear, he will order a revote either by show of hands or voting using the Electronic Voting System; and
 - 9.3.6 confirming the outcome of each vote and, the Chief Scrutineer informing the Chairperson.
- 9.4 If voting is undertaken using manual voting papers, each voting paper shall have the name of the Member Federation recorded on it, unless it is a Secret Ballot. If it is an Open Vote, after the voting papers have been collected, the votes will then be manually entered into the Electronic Voting System to display the results of the vote at Congress in accordance with Rule 7.2.2 or 7.5 of these Rules, as applicable.
- 9.5 In addition to the Scrutineers, the Chief Executive Officer may request an independent third party with a professional qualification to be present at Congress meetings to witness and verify the voting procedure and outcomes of the votes.

10. Media

- 10.1 Congress meetings shall not be open to the public or any representatives of the media. However, in the interests of transparency, live proceedings of the Congress meeting (or parts of it) may be viewed by the public (including representatives of the media) in an adjacent room to the Congress meeting or online, if the facilities and costs reasonably permit such proceedings, as decided by the Chief Executive Officer.

11. Call to Order and Disorder

- 11.1 If the Congress meeting is called to order by the Chairperson, all persons are to resume their seats and /or stop speaking as the case may be. Should any person refuse to obey the Chairperson they may be directed by the Chairperson to leave the meeting. If such direction is made, the person shall leave the meeting and will not be permitted to return during the meeting, or any period of that meeting that the Chairperson may determine.
- 11.2 The Chairperson may, at any time, require any person to leave the Congress meeting if they are disorderly, disrespectful, is breaching any of these Rules, is making statements which are offensive to any person or contain offensive language, or is otherwise acting in a manner which is disruptive or inappropriate.
- 11.3 If a person is directed to leave the meeting and he is a Voting Delegate, the Member Federation which the Delegate represents, shall lose the right to vote at that meeting, even if it has another Delegate present at the meeting.

12. Virtual Congress

- 12.1 The Council may decide in exceptional circumstances that an Ordinary or a Special Congress is held virtually rather than delegates attending in person or that it is held with some delegates attending in person and some delegates attending virtually.
- 12.2 For a Virtual Congress, the provisions of these Rules, and in particular Rules 6 and 7, may be varied by the Council and new processes shall be implemented and notified to Member Federations to reflect the practicalities of holding a Virtual Congress.
- 12.3 At a Virtual Congress, there shall be no requirement to appoint six (6) Scrutineers from each Area pursuant to Rule 9 above. The verification of the voting procedure and the outcome of the votes shall be conducted by the independent third party with a professional qualification appointed by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 9.5 above.

13. Written Resolutions passed by Member Federations

- 13.1 Pursuant to Article 26.4, Congress may make urgent decisions by written resolution on extraordinary matters (as decided by the Council) by Electronic Voting.
- 13.2 When exercising its power pursuant to Rule 13.1 above, Council shall determine:
- 13.2.1 whether a Special Majority or an Absolute Majority is required to pass any resolution proposed pursuant to Rule 13.1 above; and
- 13.2.2 the time period within which Member Federations are required to respond to the resolution being proposed.
- 13.3 At least one third of the Member Federations must respond to the resolution to achieve a quorum.
- 13.4 There shall be no requirement to appoint six (6) Scrutineers from each Area pursuant to Rule 9 above when a written resolution is put to the Member Federations. The verification of the voting procedure and determination as to whether the resolution is passed or not, shall be conducted by the independent third party with a professional qualification appointed by the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 9.5 above.

14. Proceedings not Invalidated

14.1 Any irregularity, error, omission in notices, agendas and relevant papers for a Congress meeting and any other error in the organisation of the Congress meeting, shall not invalidate the meeting nor prevent Congress from considering the business of the meeting, provided that:

14.1.1 the Chairperson of the meeting in his discretion decides that it is still appropriate for the meeting to proceed despite the irregularity, error or omission; and

14.1.2 a resolution to proceed is put to the Congress meeting to proceed and is carried by Special Majority.

15. Minutes

15.1 An audio-recording shall be made of each Congress meeting and retained by World Athletics.

15.2 Minutes of each Congress meeting (in English and French) shall be sent to all Member Federations, within six (6) months of the date of the Congress meeting.

15.3 The minutes shall be held at the headquarters of World Athletics.