



**233<sup>rd</sup> World Athletics Council Meeting  
7/8 December 2023 – Monaco  
Information and Decisions**

The Council of World Athletics chaired by President Sebastian Coe met on 7 and 8 December 2023 in Monaco.

**1. REPORTS**

Council received the following:

- President's Introduction
- Executive Board report, including the approved 2024 budget and Annual Plan, and the World Athletics Strategic Plan for 2024-2027
- CEO and Operations report, including an update from HQ on the key areas of focus in 2024
- Report from the Athletes' Commission and their proposed terms of reference for 2023-2027
- Report from the Competition Commission including proposals relating to timetables and dates for upcoming World Athletics Series (WAS) events, competition delegate appointments, and amendments to Technical Rules
- Report from the Development Commission including their proposed terms of reference for 2023-2027
- Report from the Governance Commission including the proposed Human Rights Policy and their terms of reference for 2023-2027
- Updates from the Working Group on the status of Russians/ Belarusians in international Competition and Events and the Working Group on Gender Diverse Athletes including their proposed terms of reference
- Report from the Election Oversight Panel covering the 2023 Elections (the report was shared with Member Federations by Circular M/52/23 dated 19 December 2023)
- World Athletics Series and Olympic Games updates including a debrief report from the Local Organising Committee World Athletics Championships Budapest 23
- Athletics Integrity Unit Board Report including proposed amendments to the World Athletics Anti-Doping rules.

**2. INFORMATION AND DECISIONS**

**2.1 WORLD ATHLETICS SERIES EVENTS AND OLYMPIC GAMES**

**2.1.1 World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships Antalya 24**

Council approved the competition timetable for the World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships to be held in Antalya, Turkey, on 21 April 2024, as follows:

TIME	EVENT	AGE GROUP	LAST FINISHER
07.00	10km Race Walk	U20 Men	07.55
08.00	10km Race Walk	U20 Women	09.00
09.10	20km Race Walk	Senior Women	11.00
11.05	20km Race Walk	Senior Men	12.45
12.55	Marathon Race Walk Relay Mixed		16.20



#### 2.1.2 World Athletics U20 Championships Lima 24

Council approved the proposed competition timetable for the World Athletics U20 Championships Lima 24 which will be held from 27 to 31 August 2024.

There will be morning and afternoon sessions on the first four days, then one session on the last day with 13 finals spread throughout the three-hour programme.

The timetable is attached in Appendix A.

#### 2.1.3 World Athletics Road Running Championships San Diego 25

The date for the World Athletics Road Running Championships San Diego 25 has been approved by Council as 26-28 September 2025.

#### 2.1.4 World Athletics Cross Country Championships Tallahassee 26

Council also confirmed that the World Athletics Cross Country Championships Tallahassee 26 will take place on 10 January 2026.

#### 2.1.5 World Athletics Relays Bahamas 24 seeding approach for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games

Council confirmed that the performance of the top eight teams at the World Athletics Relays Bahamas 24 will influence their lane positions in the first round of the Paris Olympic Games, providing them with more advantageous starting points. As previously communicated, the World Athletics Relays in The Bahamas will automatically qualify 14 teams to Paris 24.

#### 2.1.6 Substitution policy for the mixed 4x400m relay

Council approved the proposal to limit the number of substitutions in the 4x400m Mixed Relay to one athlete per team at all WAS Events where it is contested, and at the Olympic Games.

#### 2.1.7 Local Organising Committee (LOC) for the World Athletics Championships Budapest 23

Council received a presentation from the LOC Budapest 23 on the delivery of the World Athletics Championships, highlighting key achievements, its unique features and successes. The presentation covered a detailed review of the results achieved against the targeted objectives including in terms of athlete and spectator experience; fan engagement (over 200,000 people participated in fan zones); marketing and communication; legacy and sustainability; and ticket sales and attendance (the event sold over 404,000 tickets in 120 countries, with an average sales rate of over 95%). A record number of volunteers also participated, emphasising the event's scale and importance. Overall, the event was hailed as a major success, achieving its goals and setting a high standard for future events in terms of innovation, engagement, and sustainability.

#### 2.1.8 Competition Delegates appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved the delegate appointments for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

For the Paris 24 appointments, in line with the aspirations of the Paris 2024 Organising Committee, and that of World Athletics, there was a goal to achieve gender equality in key technical roles such as World Athletics



Referees and Race Walking Judges. The formation of new World Athletics Referees and Race Walking Judges panels by the end of the year will help facilitate the achievement of both gender parity and continental balance in future appointments.

The full list of approved delegates can be found in Appendix B.

## 2.2 RULES & REGULATIONS

### 2.2.1 Technical Rules

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved amendments to Technical Rule 54.4.1 which provides that at major competitions, the Chief Race Walking Judge has the power to disqualify an athlete in the last 100m of the race if in breach of Race Walking Rules and regardless of any red cards received.

Council approved the proposal to extend this power to all Race Walking competitions held within the frame of World Athletics Rules (i.e. all World Rankings Competitions) and, therefore, also to those held at national level, by amending the relevant part of the Rule as follows:

54.4.1 In ~~competitions held under paragraphs 1. and 2. of the~~all World Rankings Competitions ~~s definition~~, the Chief Judge has the power to disqualify an athlete in the last 100m, when their mode of progression obviously fails to comply with Rule 54.2 of the Technical Rules regardless of the number of previous Red Cards the Chief Judge has received on that athlete.

The amended Rule will be available in the [technical information section](#) of the World Athletics website.

### 2.2.2 Anti-Doping Rules

Upon the recommendation of the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU), Council approved to strengthen Rule 15 of the World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules specifically as it relates to the minimum testing requirements for athletes from Category A Member Federations prior to major events.

The Council approved amending Rule 15.5.1(c) to the following:

1. That the first out-of-competition test of the required three occurs at least 12 weeks prior to the event; and
2. That all required testing for the purposes of the Rule be completed just prior to final entries – at the deadline for refusal of quota places – rather than right up to the start of the event.

The AIU Board considered that the right balance is for the minimum starting point for testing under Rule 15.5.1(c) be 12 weeks, with the matter kept under review. The Athletes' Commission was consulted on the proposal and shared the view of the AIU Board.

The amended Rules took effect from 8 December 2023 and are available [here](#) on the World Athletics website (Book D: Integrity & Disciplinary – D3.1 Anti-Doping Rules).

### 2.2.3 Track & Field Facilities Manual

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved the proposed amendments to the Track & Field Facilities Manual regarding difference in composition in high stress areas of the competition infield.

The *Track & Field Facilities Manual's* Construction of the Track section stipulates track thickness requirements. However, recent experience has shown that synthetic surfaces can undergo very different stress levels depending on the events conducted (track, jumps, throws). An approach to implement surfaces of different tensile strength



but of the same brand and model between track and field areas of the field of play is being explored with manufacturers and tested with some of the athletes concerned, with the aim to avoid the recently experienced issues.

As a result of the amendment, high stress areas on the infield will now be able to have slightly different tensile strength properties in comparison to the running oval, in recognition of this difference in composition.

### 2.3 HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

As part of World Athletics' Human Rights Strategy, Council approved the Human Rights Policy presented by the Governance Commission.

The Human Rights Policy, which reiterates World Athletics' commitment to respecting all internationally proclaimed human rights, will be disseminated to all Member Federations and Area Associations, and contains principles such as:

- Recognising the dignity and worth of every person participating in Athletics
- Using the power of sport to engage and drive change for a better world
- Promoting equity, in particular equity of opportunity between the sexes, dignity, and fairness in sport competitions and sport governance.

The policy sits alongside World Athletics' [Sustainability Policy](#) and its [Safeguarding Policy](#), and forms part of World Athletics' entire suite of Rules and Regulations relating to good governance.

The Policy has been published in the [World Athletics Library](#).

### 2.4 SAFEGUARDING TASKFORCE

Council received a detailed update on progress made and future plans in relation to safeguarding. This included plans to update the World Athletics Safeguarding Policy, the safeguarding materials World Athletics will be producing for Area Associations, safeguarding plans for World Athletics Series events and the roll out of the World Athletics Safeguarding Essentials eLearning course.

Council also approved the appointment of Jean Gracia to the Safeguarding Taskforce in place of Karin Grute-Movin. In addition, two members of the Athletes' Commission will also join the Taskforce.

The World Athletics' Safeguarding Policy requires all Member Federations to have a safeguarding policy and procedures in place by the end of December 2023. There are template documents available to be used in the Member Federation Resource Centre which can be accessed [here](#). ([Member Federation Resource Centre | Official Documents \(worldathletics.org\)](#)). They are available in seven languages and may be used to create and develop the documents needed to comply with this requirement.

### 2.5 WORLD PLAN IMPLEMENTATION TASKFORCE

Council approved the establishment of a World Plan Implementation Taskforce to build on the milestones already achieved in the [World Plan for Athletics 2022-2030](#) and continue to promote and build on this momentum throughout the duration of the plan.

The World Plan Implementation Taskforce will be chaired by Council Member Willie Banks, who was Chair of the World Plan Implementation Working Group. The membership will build on the previous Working Group, with both Council Members and Member Federations represented.



The terms of reference for the World Plan Implementation Taskforce have been approved by Council and once the membership is also agreed will be published in the [World Athletics Library](#).

## 2.6 COMMISSIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

### 2.6.1 Working Group on Gender Diverse Athletes

Following Council approval of the establishment of a Working Group on Gender Diverse Athletes for a period of one year, terms of reference have been set and its membership confirmed.

The Working Group on Gender Diverse Athletes is an expert advisory body appointed by the Council and charged with keeping abreast of developments in law, science, sports and society concerning gender diverse athletes. Its mission is to enable World Athletics to be thorough and considered about the implications of any such developments for its programming, eligibility rules and educational initiatives as the organisation upholds its core commitments to its elite global community.

The members of the Working Group are:

- Doriane Coleman – Independent Chair
- Jimmy Lindberg – Independent Athlete
- Jan Swinhoe – Member Federation Official
- Antoine Bruneau – Member Federation Official
- Aisha Praught-Leer – Athletes' Commission
- Donna Raynor – Council Member
- Sylvia Barlag – Council Member
- Raul Chapado – Vice President
- Ximena Restrepo – Senior Vice President
- Stephane Bermon – World Athletics Health and Science Director (non-voting)

The Working Group will present its final report to World Athletics' Council before December 2024.

### 2.6.2 Working Group on the status of Russians / Belarusians in International Competition and Events

Council confirmed the members of the Working Group on the status of Russians / Belarusians in International Competition and Events.

The members of the Working Group are:

- Francis Doodoo – Chair
- Beatrice Ayikoru – Council Member
- Anna Riccardi – Council Member
- Ami Baran – Member Federation Official
- Lea Sprunger – Athletes' Commission

The Working Group's role is to advise and recommend to Council on matters including the following (among others):

- Whether the sanctions are sufficient or if they should be replaced, added, or varied with other sanctions to be imposed pursuant to Article 13 of the World Athletics Constitution



- Consider the conditions and criteria that would need to be in place to permit at some point in the future participation of Russian and Belarusian Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel, Member Federation Officials and other Officials to participate and/or attend World Athletics Series Events or the Olympic Games

All decisions relating to recommendations from the Working Group still lie with the Council.

Both the Russian Athletics Federation and Belarus Athletic Federation have been informed of the role of the Working Group and its members.

#### 2.6.3 Commissions' Terms of Reference

The Athletes', Competition, Development and Governance Commissions held their first meeting of the 2023-2027 term in the lead up to the Council Meeting and each respectively reported to Council on their key activities and areas of focus for the next four years.

All terms of reference documents for the above-mentioned groups will be published in the [World Athletics Library](#) once available.

#### 2.7 WORLD ATHLETICS STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2027

The World Athletics Strategic Plan framework for 2024-2027 was approved by the Council on the recommendation of the Executive Board. The designed document will be finalised and circulated to Member Federations in Q1 2024.

#### Related Press Release

<https://worldathletics.org/news/press-releases/decisions-made-233rd-world-athletics-council-meeting-monaco>

**World Athletics U20 Championships  
Lima, Peru – 27-31 August 2024**

DAY 1 - Tuesday Morning, 27 August		DAY 2 - Wednesday Morning, 28 August		DAY 3 - Thursday Morning, 29 August		DAY 4 - Friday Morning, 30 August		DAY 5 - Saturday Morning, 31 August															
9:00	Hammer Throw	M	QA	9:00	Javelin Throw	W	QA	9:00	110m H Dec	M	Heats												
9:05	100m H Hep	W	QA	9:10	400m H	W	R1	9:10	Hammer Throw	W	QA	9:20	Shot Put	W	QAB								
9:15	Long Jump	W	QA	9:40	Long Jump Hep	W	R1	9:25	100m H	W	R1	9:25	<b>10,000m R.Walk</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>								
9:35	4 x 400m Relay	X	R1	10:05	400m H	M	R1	9:35	Long Jump Dec	M	R1	9:40	Discus Throw Dec	M	A								
10:10	100m	W	R1	10:30	High Jump	M	AB	10:20	110m H	M	R1	10:25	<b>10,000m R.Walk</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>								
10:10	High Jump Hep	W	QB	10:35	Javelin Throw	W	QB	10:25	Hammer Throw	W	QB	10:50	Discus Throw Dec	W	B								
10:15	Hammer Throw	M	QB	11:05	400m	W	R1	11:05	High Jump	W	QB	11:30	4 x 400m Relay	W	R1								
11:10	100m	M	R1	11:50	Triple Jump	W	QAB	11:10	Shot Put Dec	M	R1	11:35	Pole Vault Dec	M	A								
11:00	Shot Put	M	QAB	12:00	400m	M	R1	11:55	200m	W	R1	11:55	Discus Throw	M	QA								
11:35	Discus Throw	W	QA	12:05	Javelin Throw Hep	W	QAB	11:45	Long Jump	M	QAB	12:00	4 x 400m Relay	M	R1								
12:05	Triple Jump	M	QAB	12:50	3000m SC	M	R1	12:10	200m	M	R1	12:35	4 x 100m Relay	W	R1								
12:10	800m	M	R1									12:25	Pole Vault Dec	M	B								
13:00	Discus Throw	W	QB									13:05	4 x 100m Relay	M	R1								
13:05	800m	W	R1									13:05	Discus Throw	M	QB								
DAY 1 - Tuesday Afternoon 27 August		DAY 2 - Wednesday Afternoon 28 August		DAY 3 - Thursday Afternoon 29 August		DAY 4 - Friday Afternoon 30 August		DAY 5 - Saturday Afternoon 31 August															
16:00	Pole Vault	W	AB	16:05	1500m	M	R1	15:30	Javelin Throw Dec	M	A	15:30	Javelin Throw Dec	M	A	16:00	Discus Throw	M	F	16:00	Discus Throw	M	F
16:05	Shot Put Hep	W	0	16:29	<b>Discus Throw</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	15:25	<b>Hammer Throw</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	15:35	400m H	W	SF	16:35	400m H	W	F	16:35	400m H	W	F
16:00	3000m SC	W	R1	16:40	1500m	W	R1	15:30	110m H	M	SF	16:00	<b>Pole Vault</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	16:05	400m H	M	SF	16:45	400m H	W	F
16:20	Javelin Throw	M	QA	17:20	<b>Long Jump</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	15:50	High Jump Dec	M	SF	16:05	400m H	M	SF	16:25	<b>High Jump</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	16:25	<b>High Jump</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>
16:45	100m	W	SF	17:20	400m	M	SF	15:55	800m	W	SF	16:10	<b>Shot Put</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	16:55	800m	W	F	17:00	1500m	W	F
17:07	100m	M	SF	17:45	400m	W	SF	16:20	<b>Pole Vault</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	16:35	Javelin Throw Dec	M	B	16:35	800m	M	F	17:10	Triple Jump	W	F
17:35	<b>Shot Put</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	18:10	<b>800m Hep</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	16:47	200m	M	SF	16:50	800m	W	F	17:15	3000m SC	M	F	17:15	3000m SC	M	F
17:40	Javelin Throw	M	QB	18:30	<b>100m</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	17:10	200m	M	SF	16:55	<b>High Jump</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	17:40	Hammer Throw	W	F	17:40	Hammer Throw	W	F
18:50	<b>4 x 400m Relay</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>F</b>	18:47	<b>100m</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	17:20	<b>Triple Jump</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	17:10	<b>100m H</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	17:45	4 x 100m Relay	W	F	17:45	4 x 100m Relay	W	F
17:30	<b>5000m</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	17:30	<b>Javelin Throw</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	17:30	<b>Javelin Throw</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	17:15	<b>Long Jump</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	17:55	4 x 100m Relay	M	F	17:55	4 x 100m Relay	M	F
18:25	200m Hep	W	Heats	17:55	400m Dec	M	Heats	17:35	<b>3000m SC</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	17:25	110m H	M	F	18:10	1500m	M	F	18:10	1500m	M	F
17:55	<b>5000m</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	18:15	<b>3000m</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	18:15	<b>3000m</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>F</b>	17:45	<b>Javelin Throw</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	18:30	4 x 400m Relay	W	F	18:30	4 x 400m Relay	W	F
				18:43	<b>400m</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>F</b>	17:55	400m Dec	M	Heats	17:50	3000m	W	F	18:50	4 x 400m Relay	M	F	18:50	4 x 400m Relay	M	F



WORLD  
ATHLETICS

APPENDIX B

COMPETITION DELEGATES APPOINTMENTS

Paris 2024 Olympic Games	
Technical Delegates	Anna Riccardi (ITA) - W
	David Katz (USA) - M
	Chris Cohen (GBR) - M
	Luis Saladie (ESP) - M
Jury of Appeal	Council on rotation
	Abby Hoffman (CAN) – W <i>Chair</i>
	Thomas Eckel (AUT) - M
	Loreto Perez (ESP) – W
Secretary	Pierce O’Callaghan (IRL) – M* ( <i>*on rotation</i> )
	Luca Verrascina (ITA) – M*
World Athletics Referees	Krisztina Horvath (HUN) – W
	Mike Armstrong (USA) – M
	Par Holm (SWE) – M
	Jane Edstrom (CAN) – W
	Helen Roberts (AUS) – W
	Niels van der Aar (NED) – M
	Vadim Nigmatov (TJK) – M
	Frederico Nantes (BRA) – M
	Gemma Castano-Vinyals (ESP) – W
	Jorge Salcedo (POR) – M
	Suren Ayadassen (MRI) – M
	International Starter
International Photo Finish Judge	Janet Nixon (AUS) – W
Announcers	Helene Richter (FRA) - W
	Clément Breyse (FRA) - M
	Kristen Temple (GBR) - M
	Donald Smith (JAM) - M
World Athletics Race Walking Judges	Fred Bianchi (SUI) – M
	Jean-Pierre Dahm (FRA) – M
	Daniel Michaud (CAN) – M
	Steve Taylor (GBR) – M
	Echo Yeung (HGK) – W
	Kirsten Crocker (AUS) – W
Recorder	Dolores Rojas (ESP) – W
	Zuzana Costin (SVK) – W
Course Measurer	Maurice Winterman (NED) - M

**NB – New Delegate appointments are in green font (others were appointed at previous Council meetings)**