



**227<sup>th</sup> World Athletics Council Meeting  
9-10 March 2022 – Video conference  
Information and Decisions**

The Council of World Athletics chaired by President Sebastian Coe met on 9 and 10 March 2022 by video conference.

## 1. REPORTS

Council received the following:

- President's Introduction
- Executive Board update
- CEO and Operations report, including dates for two World Athletics Series events in 2024, the proposed concept of a competition manipulation watchlist, the details of European Athletics' online anti-doping education programme "I Run Clean", the terms of reference and composition of the World Plan Implementation Working Group as well as an update on the HQ priorities for 2022
- Report from the Athletes' Commission
- Report from the Competition Commission covering proposals relating to the World Athletics Road Running Championships competition programme and amendments to the World Athletics Series Regulations
- Report from the Development Commission including the proposed approach and direction of travel of the ITO Review Project
- Report from the Governance Commission including proposed amendments to rules and regulations
- Report from the Safeguarding Working Group
- World Athletics Series and Olympic Games updates
- Athletics Integrity Unit Board Report
- Paper on Ukraine and the Russian military invasion
- Russia Taskforce Report.

## 2. INFORMATION AND DECISIONS

### 2.1 MEMBER FEDERATIONS

#### 2.1.1 Russia

The Council received a report from the World Athletics Russia Taskforce chaired by Rune Andersen on the progress made since the December 2021 Council Meeting and the Russian Athletics Federation (RusAF) reinstatement process.

The Taskforce acknowledged that the Russian military invasion of Ukraine had "cast a shadow" over the whole of Russia, including sport but recommended that the RusAF reinstatement process should continue, to avoid RusAF reverting to past doping practices if the process was suspended now.

The Council approved the following recommendations from the Russia Taskforce:

1. The Taskforce continues its oversight and monitoring of RusAF's implementation of the Reinstatement Plan and KPIs, guided to the extent possible in current circumstances by the international experts. The Taskforce shall report on its work to Council at its next meeting in July 2022 or, if required, earlier.



2. The Taskforce meet with RusAF to discuss progress against the Reinstatement Plan based on the KPIs, to assess and, if necessary, update the Reinstatement Plan and the KPIs, and possibly discuss and/or agree a specific timeline for consideration of reinstatement.
3. The Taskforce reviews the Post-Reinstatement Conditions including the RusAF's feedback on them and present them to the Council at its next meeting in July 2022 for approval and/or discussion, as the Taskforce deems appropriate at that time.

The post-reinstatement conditions will be submitted to Council for discussion at its next meeting in July 2022, although it was cautioned that this does not mean that the Taskforce would recommend RusAF's reinstatement at that time. Any consideration of reinstatement would be subject to further discussions.

A copy of the World Athletics Russia Taskforce's full report is available [here](#).

### 2.1.2 Belarus

As communicated in Circular M/16/22 on 10 March 2022, as a consequence of the government of the Republic of Belarus' involvement in the invasion by Russia of Ukraine, which is contrary to the purposes of World Athletics, Council has resolved that the following additional sanctions should be imposed on the Belarus Athletic Federation to take effect immediately and to continue for the foreseeable future:

1. No hosting of any International Competition or European Athletics events, which includes World Athletics Series, Continental Tour meetings and any other International Competitions;
2. No right to attend, speak and/or vote at meetings of Congress or in decisions to be taken by Congress;
3. No accreditation to attend any World Athletics Series events, including the World Athletics Indoor Championships Belgrade 22 and the World Athletics Championships Oregon 22;
4. No involvement of the Member Federation personnel in any World Athletics development or professional programmes.

Under Article 13.6 of the Constitution, the Council has given 21 days' notice from the time of notification to the Belarus Athletic Federation for them to respond to its resolution.

The additional sanctions follow the decisions taken by Council on 1 March 2022 which were the following: (They were communicated via Circular M/12/22 on the same date and also by [Press Release](#)).

1. The 2022 Authorised Neutral Athlete process is maintained.
2. In respect of the Russian Athletics Federation, the privileges granted by the Council at its meeting on 01 December 2021 to Authorised Neutral Athletes and the Athlete Support Personnel and any other official supporting them are suspended in relation to World Athletics Series Events for the foreseeable future. This means that Authorised Neutral Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel and any other official will not be able to compete or participate in World Athletics Series Events.
3. In respect of the Belarus Athletic Federation, in accordance with Article 13 of World Athletics Constitution, their Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel, Member Federation Officials and Officials who are Citizens of Belarus are excluded from World Athletics Series Events for the foreseeable future.
4. Both decisions will be kept under review by the Council if and as circumstances warrant.
5. The Member Federations for Russia and Belarus have been informed of this today and given four hours' notice to respond.
6. The Council has delegated to the President to review any responses received and determine if there is any merit in them and to reconvene Council if warranted.



7. The issue of whether the exclusions from competition should be extended to other International Competitions and whether Belarus Athletic Federation should be suspended from membership will be considered at the Council meeting on 9/10 March together with any additional matters relating to the issues following the invasion by Russia of Ukraine and the complicity of the Republic of Belarus.

The reason for this was the invasion of Ukraine which is contrary to the purposes of World Athletics, and to stand in solidarity with the global sporting movement. The Belarus Athletics Federation and the Russian Athletics Federation were provided with the opportunity to respond before these sanctions are implemented.

The related Press Release can be found [by clicking here](#).

## 2.2 RULES

### 2.2.1 Eligibility Rules

Upon the recommendation of the Governance Commission, following a review of the rules and regulations relating to eligibility and requirements to enter and compete in International Competitions, Council approved amendments to the Eligibility Rules to come into force on 25 March 2022. This is to streamline the relevant rules and regulations and restructure the Book of Rules with one set of Eligibility Rules to avoid duplication. The following rules and requirements are deleted as their contents are now all incorporated in the Eligibility Rules:

- Requirements to Compete in International Competitions
- Eligibility to Represent a Member Rules
- Payments to Athletes Rules

The amended Eligibility Rules are available in the [Book of Rules](#) on the World Athletics website (Book C: Competition – C3.3 Eligibility Rules).

## 2.3 REGULATIONS

### 2.3.1 New Mechanical Aids Regulations

Upon the recommendation of the Governance Commission and following the Council's approval of the principles concerning para-athletes competing in World Athletics Series Events at its last meeting, the principles have been developed into Mechanical Aids Regulations which are a sub-set of Technical Rule 6.3.4 providing a general prohibition on the use of Mechanical Aids. The Mechanical Aids Regulations set out the detailed requirements and procedure for authorisation for use of a Mechanical Aid.

The new Regulations can be found in the [Book of Rules](#) on the World Athletics website (Book C: Competition – C2.1B Mechanical Aids Regulations).

### 2.3.2 World Athletics Series Regulations

#### **World Athletics U20 Championships**

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved amendments to the World Athletics U20 Championships Regulations as follows:

20	<b>Participation</b>	
20.1.1		Mass participation can be included as part of the World Athletics U20 Championships with World Athletics' approval.



24	<b>Technical matters and requirements</b>	
24.1.1	<u>Main Stadium</u> The World Athletics U20 Championships shall be held in a stadium conforming in all respects with the requirements of the Rules and must hold a Class 1 Athletics Facility Certificate.	<u>Main Stadium</u> The World Athletics U20 Championships shall be held in a stadium conforming in all respects with the requirements of the Rules and must hold a Class 1 Athletics Facility Certificate. <b>If needed, additional stadiums can be used for qualification and mass participations purposes. Such facilities would require approval by the TDs.</b>

These amendments are aimed at providing future hosts of the World Athletics U20 Championships with the option to include substantial mass participation activities in the competition programme, and the possibility to use additional stadiums (which could also be used for the Championships’ qualification purposes, if required).

The amended Regulations are available [here](#) on the World Athletics website (Book C: Competition – C1.2 World Athletics Series Regulations).

**4x400m Mixed Relay**

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved that the World Athletics Series Regulations be amended to introduce a fixed order for the alternation of athletes of different genders in the 4x400m Mixed Relay event and to add the following:

“When any Mixed 4x400m Relay is to be conducted, the order in which all of the teams shall run in all rounds of that specific WAS Event is Man, Woman, Man, Woman.”

The rationale for this amendment is to increase the overall consideration of this event avoiding imbalances or simple tactical alchemies and to better showcase athletes’ performances.

**2.4 WORLD ATHLETICS SERIES COMPETITIONS**

**2.4.1 World Athletics Indoor Championships Glasgow 24**

Council approved the dates for the World Athletics Indoor Championships Glasgow 24 to be held from 1 to 3 March 2024.

**2.4.2 World Athletics U20 Championships Lima 24**

Council approved 20 to 25 August 2024 as the dates of the World Athletics U20 Championships which will be held in Lima, Peru.

**2.4.3 World Athletics Road Running Championships Riga 23**

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved the inclusion of the Road Mile in the competition programme of the World Athletics Road Running Championships, starting in 2023. The two-day event, which will make its debut in Riga, Latvia in 2023, will now feature three championship disciplines: the mile, 5km and half marathon. Council also approved the revised athletes’ quotas and prize money resulting from this addition, as follows:



Quota adjustment	
Road Mile	24 (12 M / 12 W) non-quota athletes accepted max. 2/MF
5km	40 (20 M / 20 W)
Half Marathon	100 (50 M / 50 W)
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>

Prize money adjustment (in USD)

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	Total
Half Marathon	30k	15k	12k	9k	8k	7k	6k	5k	4k	3k	2k	1k	102k
5km	10k	7.5k	6k	3k	2.5k	2k	1.5k	1k					33.5k
Road Mile	10k	6k	3.5k	2k	1.25k	1k	750	500					25k
<b>Per gender</b>													<b>160.5k</b>
<b>Total</b>													<b>321k</b>

The aim is to increase the capacity of mass races as well as lower the barrier of entry to reach wider segments of the population and increase the financial prospects of local organising committees.

#### 2.4.4 Delegates' Appointment

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved the Competition Delegates for the WAS events and Olympic Games as listed below:

Competition Delegates	
<b>WCH Oregon22</b>	
Announcer (replacement)	Geoff WIGHTMANN (GBR)
<b>WCH Budapest 23</b>	
Medical Delegate	Stéphane BERMON*
Antidoping Delegate	Raphael ROUX*
Press Delegate	Martina KUCEROVA*
Photographers Commissioner	Raquel CAVACO NUNES (POR)
Advertising Commissioner	Karena VLECK*
Course Measurer	Hugh JONES (GBR)
<b>WIC Glasgow 24</b>	
Technical Delegate	Vadim NIGMATOV(TJK)
Technical Delegate	Loreto PEREZ (ESP)
Medical Delegate	Paolo Emilio ADAMI*
Antidoping Delegate	Jasmina GLAD (FIN)
Press Delegate	Martina KUCEROVA*
Photographers Commissioner	Raquel CAVACO NUNES (POR)



Advertising Commissioner	Karena VLECK*
<b>WRE Guangzhou 23</b>	
Technical Delegate	Kwan KEE (HKG)
Medical Delegate	Paolo Emilio ADAMI*
Press Delegate	Zacharias VAILAKIS*
Advertising Commissioner	Karena VLECK*
<b>WU20 Cali 22</b>	
Statistician	Andras SZABO (HUN)
Announcer	Javier CLAVELO (CUB)
Advertising Commissioner	Karena VLECK*
<b>Paris 2024 Olympic Games</b>	
Course Measurer	Maurice WINTERMAN (NED)

*\*World Athletics Staff Members*

#### 2.4.5 International Technical Official (ITO) Review Project

The ITO review project was initiated following the Council's request to address geographic distribution and gender balance across ITOs given the existing levels of disparity.

The overarching concept developed through the Development and Competition commissions is for new and additional pathways to be integrated into the existing Technical Official Education Certification System (TOECS) to improve consistency between levels and attract more technical officials (TOs) into the sport by providing them with an earlier entry point and the possibility to access education and evolve in the system. Council supported this proposed concept and for the framework as outlined below to be progressed in consultation with the Area Associations.

One of the main changes proposed is the replacement of the name of International Technical Official (ITO) to a more easily understood and marketable title such as "World Athletics Referee".

The proposed TOECS pathway would then be as follows:

- **The Apprentice Level.** An entry-level online eLearning programme, designed for teachers, parents, fans and newcomers to athletics who would like to know more about how the events are conducted and the rules applied and interpreted.
- **The Level 1, World Athletics Referee.** A more advanced online eLearning programme designed to support and eventually fully replace the current TOECS Level 1 face-to-face learning materials.
- **(New) The Level 1.5, World Athletics Badge Referee.** Designed to fill the current gap between TOECS Level 1 and Level 2 and increase the pool of TOs at the National and Area level by gradually gaining experience before moving to the next level.
- The existing TOECS Levels 2 and 3 will be merged to create the **World Athletics Diploma Referee** with the aim to increase the pool of TOs available for the numerous World Athletics competitions.
- **The World Athletics Top List** will replace the existing ITOs Panels and will be populated continuously by the World Athletics Diploma Referee members.

It is proposed that this process is replicated for World Athletics "Badged" Walk Judges, Photo Finish Judges and Starters.



## 2.5 SAFEGUARDING

Following the launch of the World Athletics Safeguarding Policy in November 2021, the Safeguarding Working Group has focused on developing guidance materials to help Member Federations and Area Associations develop and implement their own policies and procedures.

The draft guidance materials include the following:

- Starter Pack – for those Member Federations who have nothing yet in place
- Guide to Safeguarding – for those Member Federations who have some safeguarding materials in place but whose approach could be strengthened to help ensure all participants in athletics are properly protected
- Template Documents

A wide consultation process is being undertaken with key stakeholder groups including Member Federations, Area Associations and Commissions to help shape the proposed guidance materials contents and approach. The aim is for Area Associations and Member Federations to use the guidance to produce their own policies, codes of conduct, and rules and support and inform the approach as to how to deal with safeguarding concerns.

Feedback from the consultation process will be collated and incorporated into the final draft of the guidance documents and inform the development of online learning tools and educational materials.

## 2.6 COMMISSIONS & WORKING GROUPS

### 2.6.1 Commissions

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

### 2.6.2 World Plan Implementation Working Group

A World Plan Implementation Working Group has been established to provide oversight and support in the implementation of the World Plan for Athletics 2022-30.

Council approved the membership of the World Plan Implementation Working Group as set out below and the proposed terms of reference:

- Willie Banks, Chair
- Beatrice Ayikoru, Council Member
- Antti Pihlakoski, Council Member
- Adille Sumariwalla, Council Member
- Robin Sapong, Council Member
- Jean Gracia, European Athletics First Vice-President – Area representative
- Aisha Praught-Leer, Athletes' Commission Member
- Ximena Restrepo, Executive Board Member
- Geen Clarke, President Costa Rica Federation – MF representative
- James Moloï, President Athletics South Africa – MF representative)

The President, Sebastian Coe will be an ex-officio member of the Working Group.

The key areas of focus for the Working Group include the development of a process for monitoring and evaluating the progress of the World Plan's implementation, the development of a reporting system for World Athletics, the Areas and MFs, the development of an engagement and communications approach to promote the World Plan, offer support and guidance, provide clarity on delivery expectations for identified actions, and identify and showcase good practice and successful outcomes achieved.



The term of office for membership of this Working Group is for an initial maximum one-year period from the date of appointment by the Council (i.e 9 March 2022).

## 2.7 DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION

### 2.7.1 European Athletics (EA) "I Run Clean" programme

Council endorsed the European Athletics (EA) online anti-doping education programme "[I Run Clean](#)". The programme is an eLearning tool aimed at providing information to athletes and those who support them about the rules and the dangers of doping but also addressing the values and attitudes that help users make good decisions in the true spirit of sport.

World Athletics and the AIU are exploring opportunities to work with EA on this anti-doping education initiative, and Council's formal support of the programme will help access European Union funding and facilitate discussions with WADA to enable expansion and development of the programme.

### 2.7.2 Kids' Athletics

Through the Development Commission, Council received a presentation on the Kids' Athletics programme and the key priorities in 2022 which includes the launch of Kids' Athletics Day on 7 May and the development of Level 3 activities (for the 12-14 age group), athletics movement videos and competition guide.

Member Federations are encouraged to explore the [Kids' Athletics website](#) and register to be part of the World Athletics global Kids' Athletics community and access resources. The 'Teaching Athletics' section currently includes programme activity cards for the 4-7 and 8-11 age groups.

### 2.7.3 eLearning Content Update

Council received an update on the [World Athletics eLearning platform](#) which included details on the available courses (coaches, officials, gender leadership and sustainability), webinars, glossary and library.

## Related Press Releases

<https://www.worldathletics.org/news/press-releases/sanctions-applied-belarus-federation>

<https://www.worldathletics.org/news/press-releases/competition-decisions-227th-council-meeting>