



**225th World Athletics Council Meeting
28-29 July 2021 – Tokyo, Japan
Information and Decisions**

The Council of World Athletics chaired by President Sebastian Coe met on 28 and 29 July 2021 in Tokyo, Japan, on the occasion of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

1. REPORTS

Council received the following:

- President's Introduction
- Executive Board update
- CEO and Operations report, including the proposed Agenda, procedure, and Convention programme for the 53rd World Athletics Congress
- Report from the Athletes' Commission
- Report from the Competition Commission covering proposals relating to World Athletics Series (WAS) competition delegate appointments, new regulations for the World Athletics Cross Country Tour, the World Athletics Race Walking Tour and the World Athletics Combined Events Tour and amendments to the Competition & Technical Rules
- Report from the Development Commission including details on the new kids' athletics programme concept
- Report from the Governance Commission including proposed amendments to rules
- Reports from the Human Rights Working Group, the Safeguarding Working Group, and the World Plan Working Group
- Report from the Nominations Panel covering the proposed recipients of Service Awards to submit to the 2021 Congress
- World Athletics Series and Olympic Games updates
- Athletics Integrity Unit Board Report
- 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 March 2021 Council meeting.

The Russia Taskforce confirmed that the suspended Russian Athletics Federation (RusAF) was making satisfactory progress against the milestones and key performance indicators (KPIs) set out in the Reinstatement Plan and had paid the latest invoice of US\$431,848 for the reinstatement costs incurred by World Athletics in the quarter ending 31 March 2021.

The Taskforce was hopeful that, under the guidance of Acting President Irina Privalova, and with the assistance of the three international experts appointed to assist in the Reinstatement Plan, RusAF would continue to meet



the remaining milestones and KPIs to satisfy all of the conditions set for its reinstatement to membership of World Athletics.

Consequently, the Council resolved that the Authorised Neutral Athlete (ANA) process would remain in effect and that the Council would consider in November 2021 whether the ANA quota of 10 athletes that applied to certain competitions in 2021 should be maintained or revised for competitions staged in 2022.

It further decided that the status of RusAF's membership would be put on the agenda for the 53rd World Athletics Congress to be held in November, where the congress will be asked to vote on the following resolution:

Congress resolves, in exercise of its powers under Article 13.7 of the World Athletics Constitution, that the suspension of RusAF's membership of World Athletics will continue until Council decides that all of the conditions set by Council from time to time for the revocation of RusAF's suspension and the consequent reinstatement of RusAF's membership have been met.

However, the Taskforce warned that if RusAF stopped making satisfactory progress against the KPIs and milestones in the Reinstatement Plan or failed to reimburse World Athletics' reinstatement costs on a timely basis in this period, it would recommend that the Council withdraw the proposed resolution to Congress and propose instead that Congress resolves to expel RusAF from membership with immediate effect.

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

2.2 53RD WORLD ATHLETICS CONGRESS & CONVENTION

Council received a briefing note outlining progress on the planning of the 53rd World Athletics Congress & Convention and approved the Congress Agenda, the proposed Congress Procedure and the focus of the Convention programme as being on the World Plan for Athletics. Further details will be included in the congress documentation circulated to Member Federations under separate cover next month.

2.2.1 Recommended Service Award recipients for Congress approval

Upon the recommendation of the Nominations Panel, Council approved to recommend to the 2021 Congress for approval the proposed recipients of the Plaque of Merit, Order of Merit and Veteran Pins. The proposed list will be communicated to Member Federations under separate cover as part of the Congress 2021 documentation.

2.3 CONSTITUTION

Council considered the proposed amendments to the World Athletics Constitution (for approval by Congress) as recommended by the Governance Commission. These proposed amendments will be circulated to Member Federations under separate cover next month as part of the Congress 2021 documentation and will be submitted to the 53rd World Athletics Congress for review and decision.

2.4 RULES

2.4.1 Competition and Technical Rules

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved amendments to the Competition and Technical Rules to come into force from 1 November 2021. These amendments concern the following rules:

- Competition Rule 32 - World Record in 50km road running

Considering the increasing popularity of the 50km road races, Council supported the inclusion of the 50km on the list of road running events for which World Records are recognised.



Council approved the recognition of the 50km road race World Record, as well as the proposed performances set as inaugural World Records, and that Competition Rule 32 be amended and the following criteria for setting the inaugural 50km World Record be established:

The initial records will be the best performances that comply with Rule 31 of the Competition Rules as at 1 January 2022. The performances shall be equal or better than 2:43:38 for men and 3:07:20 for women only & 2:38:00 2:59:54 for mixed race.

- Competition Rule 32 - World Record in 35km Race Walking

Following Council's approval of the 35km and 35,000m Race Walk as World Record events, Council approved the following performances set as inaugural World Records in these events:

Men: 2:22:00
Women: 2:38:00

- Technical Rule 17.2.2 - Obstruction/Jostling

Council approved the addition of the following note to TR17.2.2 as a clarification and to provide a clear interpretation of obstruction / jostling:

Jostling should be understood as physical contact with another athlete or athletes that results in an unfair advantage or causes injury or harm to them or, consequently, to another athlete or athletes.

- Technical Rule 11 – Validity of Performances: Indoor 400m tracks

The current rules make a clear distinction between outdoor and indoor events and, with more and more competitions being delivered outside of traditional facilities, it is becoming increasingly challenging to find a proper home within the current rules for events such as: 100m indoor, 60m outdoor, a 400m set on an indoor oversized track, indoor long throws, etc.

Council therefore approved an amendment to Technical Rule 11 to allow performances currently considered valid only if achieved on an outdoor facility to be also valid if achieved on an indoor facility, subject to all technical rules being respected, including on oversized indoor tracks to count towards the outdoor lists.

- Competition Rule 19.4 – Judges: Displaying validity of Field Event Trials

Displaying the validity or otherwise of Field Event trials with a flag is currently mandatory by the rule but, more and more, other visual aids are being used (especially with electronic displays).

Council therefore approved the use of alternate visual indications to confirm the validity or non-validity of attempts in field events and to amend Competition Rule 19 accordingly.

The detail of all approved amendments to the Competition and Technical Rules is available [here](#) on the World Athletics website (Book C: Competition – C1.1 Competition Rules and C2.1 Technical Rules).

2.4.2 Rules of Congress

At the March 2021 Council meeting, Council approved proposed amendments to the Rules of Congress, including to set out the elections for the Vice-Presidents and Individual Council Members in the Rules of Congress instead of the Constitution, but these specific changes to the Rules are subject to approval by Congress in November 2021 of the related proposed amendments to the Constitution and cannot be implemented until that time). Therefore, after further review, maintaining all other agreed proposed amendments which related to hosting



a virtual Congress meeting and simplifying the rules of debate, upon the recommendation of the Governance Commission, Council approved the amended Rules of Congress, effective 13 August 2021.

The amended Rules are available [here](#) on the World Athletics website (Book A: The Constitution – A2 Rules of Congress).

2.4.3 Governance Rules

Upon the recommendation of the Governance Commission, Council approved the proposed amendments to Rule 7.9 of the Governance Rules to align wording and deadlines relating to reporting to Congress.

The amended Rules take effect from 29 July 2021 and are available [here](#) on the World Athletics website (Book B: Organisation – B3.1 Governance Rules).

2.5 REGULATIONS

2.5.1 World Athletics Series Regulations

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved the proposal to offer the Wild Card for Oregon22 in the 35km Race Walk to the male and female World Champions in the 50km Race Walk in Doha 2019. This is because the long Race Walk event at the World Athletics Championships Oregon 22 will be held over 35km rather than 50km as in Doha 2019.

2.5.2 World Athletics Race Walking Tour Regulations 2022

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved new regulations for the World Athletics Race Walking Tour. The World Athletics Race Walking Tour will provide clearly defined differing levels of competition based on factors including athlete budget and prize money, and quality of organisation for worldwide international race walking meetings, subject to fulfilment of the minimum requirements set out in the regulations. Gold, silver, and bronze level competitions will be on offer.

The World Athletics Race Walking Tour Regulations will come into force on 1 December 2021 and can be found [here](#) on the World Athletics website (Book C: Competition – C1.7 Race Walking Tour Regulations).

2.5.3 World Athletics Combined Events Tour Regulations 2022

On the same principles, Council approved new regulations for the World Athletics Combined Events Tour.

The World Athletics Combined Events Tour Regulations will come into force on 1 October 2021 and can be found [here](#) on the World Athletics website (Book C: Competition – C1.8 Combined Events Tour Regulations).

2.5.4 World Athletics Cross Country Tour Regulations 2022

On the same principles, Council approved new Regulations for the World Athletics Cross Country Tour.

The World Athletics Cross Country Tour Regulations will come into force on 1 September 2021 and can be found [here](#) on the World Athletics website (Book C: Competition – C1.9 Cross Country Tour Regulations).

2.6 SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Since the establishment of the Safeguarding Working Group by Council in June 2021, work and research have been conducted to identify best practice in protecting athletes from harassment and abuse, and to develop a draft Safeguarding Policy for World Athletics which was approved by Council. The Policy encourages and supports Member Federations to adopt their own safeguarding policies and necessary safeguarding materials,



and guidance documents and a starter pack are being prepared to support Member Federations to do this. The Policy applies to everyone in athletics and not just children.

The Policy will be reviewed annually and brought back to Council for approval each year. The next review will likely occur when the Council considers proposed Safeguarding Rules being developed by the AIU in consultation with other World Athletics bodies.

The Safeguarding Policy will be circulated to Member Federations and published in the next months.

2.7 WORLD ATHLETICS SERIES COMPETITIONS

Upon the recommendation of the Bid Evaluation Panel, Council decided to award the organisation of the following WAS events.

2.7.1 World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships 2022

Council awarded the organisation of the 2022 World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships to the host city of Muscat, Oman, and the Oman Athletics Association. It is the first time that a World Athletics Series event will be hosted in Oman.

Minsk in Belarus was originally selected to host this event, but the Council decided to relocate the event after receiving a report prepared by the Risk Committee of the Executive Board which concluded that uncertainties around diplomatic relations and international travel restrictions with regards to Belarus would impact significantly on the staging of the championships in Minsk next year (see Circular M/22/21).

The event will now be held in Muscat in March 2022 and organised in partnership with Oman Sail and the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Oman intends to turn this event into a wider celebration of athletics. As well as the elite male and female 20km race walk events, U20 male and female 10km race walk events and a 35km combined race, it will feature masters' categories, 1km and 2km kids' runs and a parkrun festival.

2.7.2 World Athletics Relays 2023

The World Athletics Relays will be held in China for the first time in 2023, following the awarding of this event to the port city of Guangzhou, one of China's three largest cities, and the Chinese Athletics Association.

The sixth World Athletics Relays will serve as a qualifying event for the 2023 World Athletics Championships in Budapest and the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. The dates have yet to be finalised but the relays are traditionally held in May.

2.7.3 World Athletics Road Running Championships 2023

Council awarded the organisation of the inaugural World Athletics Road Running Championships to the host city of Riga, Latvia, and the Latvian Athletics Association. This new event is designed to celebrate road running for both elite and mass participation runners. It will incorporate the current World Athletics Half Marathon Championships and the new world 5km championships, as well as mass races.

Thirteen cities originally expressed interest in hosting this new event and five cities were taken through to the final round. The dates of the event have yet to be finalised but it is expected to be held around September-October of 2023.



2.7.4 Competition Delegates appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Competition Commission, Council approved the delegate appointments for the following WAS Competitions:

- World Athletics Indoor Championships Belgrade 22
- World Athletics U20 Championships Cali 22

In approving these appointments, Council requested that a roadmap with clear targets and a timeline be developed to outline how the ongoing concerns regarding area and gender representation will be addressed. The roadmap will be presented at the next Council meeting in December 2021.

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

2.8 DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION

2.8.1 Ethical Compliance eLearning Strategy framework

Upon the recommendation of the Governance Commission, Council approved the proposed Ethical Compliance eLearning Strategy framework. The aim is to deliver tailored online education for individual stakeholder learning requirements, and certification and refresher courses to the different audiences starting with World Athletics staff, officials, candidate cities, and local organising committees. A pilot course will be launched in September 2021.

2.8.2 Kids' Athletics

Council received a detailed presentation on progress on the development of the new kids' athletics programme. The development phase started in April 2021 and covers all aspects of the project including digital, design, and programme content and materials. Notable actions over the next months include:

- A testing phase of the new content with selected member federations in August
- A mascot competition will be organised in September as an opportunity to involve children in the process and raise awareness about the programme.

The detail of the new kids' athletics programme which included information about the programme structure, proposed content and 2021 deliverables (including materials, guidance, and platform) was provided to Council who approved the proposed concept and timeframe for roll out. The programme will be launched in Q3 2021 and will initially be delivered in four languages: English, French, Spanish, and Mandarin.

2.9 WORLD PLAN FOR ATHLETICS 2022-2030

An update was provided to Council on the development of the World Plan following the intensive period since the last Council meeting of consultation, plan development and review.

During the consultation phase two surveys were conducted to obtain the views of key stakeholders in the sport, including all Member Federations and the wider global athletics community from which 25,000 responses were received. The consultation findings were analysed to identify the specific goals, objectives, and actions to include in the World Plan, and which set out how World Athletics, the Area Associations and Member Federations, and other stakeholders, can work together to develop and grow the sport worldwide.

The consultation findings, analysis and proposed goals, objectives and actions have been shared with Member Federations and Areas for input and feedback through the MF Info Sessions and the Area meetings.



The final designed document will be circulated to Council before being submitted to Member Federations under separate cover next month as part of the Congress 2021 documentation. The World Plan will be an item on the Congress agenda and recommended by Council to the 53rd World Athletics Congress for review and decision.

The Convention on 16 November will be focused on the World Plan to provide the opportunity to outline and discuss the plan and its implications with Member Federations in more detail.

2.10 HUMAN RIGHTS

Following Council's decision to establish a Human Rights Working Group (HRWG) with the scope of undertaking an assessment of World Athletics' operations, policies, and rules in terms of human rights, and developing a specific framework for World Athletics, the HRWG has completed its tasks and provided a summary of its work and findings to Council. The report covered the following:

- background and context to the report
- findings of the HRWG; and,
- recommendations of the HRWG.

The HRWG made recommendations to Council with proposed actions. In making these recommendations, the HRWG acknowledged that World Athletics has already started on a human rights journey, and that there is a timely and important opportunity to strengthen and build on this and take further steps to put in place systems and processes that focus on preventing harm to people. Council approved the recommendations made by the HRWG in its report, the executive summary of which will be circulated to member federations as part of the Congress documentation, and the report findings and recommendations presented to the Congress.

2.11 MANDATE OF THE WORKING GROUP ON ATHLETIC SHOES

Based on the need for further work to reach a long-term sustainable solution for the regulation of athletic shoes, Council approved the continuation of the Working Group on Athletic Shoes until 31 December 2021 with the same membership which includes technical expertise and representation from shoe manufacturers.

Related Press Release

<https://worldathletics.org/news/press-releases/competition-updates-225th-world-athletics-council-meeting>



COMPETITION DELEGATES APPOINTMENTS

July 2021

New Delegate appointments are in red font

Delegates previously appointed by Council are in black font

World Athletics Indoor Championships Belgrade 2022

Technical Delegate	Niels Van der Aar (NED)
Technical Delegate	Luca Verrascina (ITA)
Jury of Appeal (Council Member)	Abby Hoffman (CAN)
Jury of Appeal (ITO)	Chris Cohen (GBR)
Jury of Appeal (ITO)	Antonio Perez Cristobal (ESP)
Secretary Jury of Appeal (ITO)	
Medical Delegate	Stéphane Bermon (FRA)
Antidoping Delegate	Jasmina Glad-Schreven (FIN)
Press Delegate	Martina Kucerova (SVK)
Photo Commissioner	Raquel Cavaco Nunes (POR)
Advertising Commissioner	Karena Vleck (GBR)
ITOs – Chief	Rui Loucao (POR)
ITOs	Giovanni Cardona (COL)
ITOs	Daniel Michaud (CAN)
ITOs	Pasi Oksanen (FIN)
ITOs	Loreto Perez Roman (ESP)
International Starter	Lisa Ferdinand (CAN)
International Photo Finish	David Weicker (CAN)
Statistician	Andras Szabo (HUN)
English Announcer	Kris Temple (GBR)

World Athletics U20 Championships Cali 2022

Technical Delegate	Gemma Castaño (ESP)
Technical Delegate	Fred Nantes (BRA)
Jury of Appeal (Council Member)	Helio Gesta de Melo (BRA)
Jury of Appeal (ITO)	Mike Armstrong (USA)
Jury of Appeal (ITO)	Vadim Nigmatov (TJK) Rui Loucao (POR)
Secretary Jury of Appeal (ITO)	
Medical Delegate	Paolo Emilio Adami (ITA)
Antidoping Delegate	Alejandro Lozano Buron (ESP)
Press Delegate	Zacharias Vailakis (GRE)
Advertising Commissioner	Vijay Parbat (GBR)
ITOs – Chief	Can Korkmazoglu (TUR)



ITOs	Claudia Schneck (BRA)	
ITOs	Elena Barrios (ESP)	
ITOs	Didier Foulon (BEL)	
ITOs	Frank Hamm (GER)	Amit Ne'eman (ISR)
ITOs	Samuel Lopes (POR)	
ITOs	Claes Jurstrand (SWE)	
ITOs	John Cronin (IRL)	Loreto Perez (ESP)
ITOs	Pasi Oksanen (FIN)	
ITOs	Mats Svensson (SWE)	
International Starter	Ubiratan Martins (BRA)	
International Photo Finish	David Weicker (CAN)	
Statistician	Andras Szabo (HUN)	
English Announcer	Javier Clavelo (CAN)	
Race Walking Judge - Chief	Jean-Pierre Dahm (FRA)	
Race Walking Judge	Daniel Michaud (CAN)	Shaun Gallagher (IRL)
Race Walking Judge	Ian Richards (GBR)	
Race Walking Judge	Sergio Solana (ESP)	
Race Walking Judge	Guillermo Pera Vallejos (ARG)	
Race Walking Judge	Vasco Guedes (POR)	