



ELIGIBILITY RULES

(In force as from 1st November 2017)

ELIGIBILITY

RULE 20

Definition of Eligible Athlete

An athlete is eligible to compete if he agrees to abide by the Rules and has not been declared ineligible.

RULE 21

Restriction of Competition to Eligible Athletes

1. Competition under these Rules is restricted to (i) athletes who are under the jurisdiction of a Member and who are eligible to compete under the Rules; and (ii) Neutral Athletes who satisfy the conditions of eligibility specified by the Council, including signing agreements on terms acceptable to the IAAF, in which they agree (among other things) to be bound by the Rules and Regulations (as amended from time to time) and to submit all disputes they may have with the IAAF or a Member to arbitration only in accordance with these Rules, accepting not to refer any such disputes to any Court or authority which is not provided for in these Rules.
2. In any competition under the Rules, the eligibility of an athlete competing shall be guaranteed by the Member to which the athlete is affiliated. This Rule does not apply to Neutral Athletes.
3. The eligibility rules of Members shall be strictly in conformity with those of the IAAF and no Member may pass, promulgate or retain in its constitution or regulations any eligibility rule or regulation which is in direct conflict with a Rule or Regulation. Where there is a conflict between the Eligibility Rules of the IAAF and the eligibility rules of a Member, the Eligibility Rules of the IAAF shall apply.

RULE 22

Ineligibility for International and Domestic Competitions

1. The following persons shall be ineligible for competitions, whether held under these Rules or the rules of an Area or a Member.
Any athlete, athlete support personnel or other person:
 - (a) whose National Federation is currently suspended by the IAAF.
This does not apply to national competitions organised by the currently suspended Member for the Citizens of that Country or Territory;

- (b) who has been provisionally suspended or declared ineligible under the rules of his National Federation from competing in competitions under the jurisdiction of that National Federation, in so far as such suspension or ineligibility is consistent with these Rules;
- (c) who is currently serving a period of provisional suspension from competition under these Rules;
- (d) who does not meet the eligibility requirements set out in Rule 141 or the Regulations thereunder;
- (e) who has been declared ineligible as a result of a breach of the Anti-Doping Rules;
- (f) who has been suspended or banned by the Ethics Board for a violation of the Code of Ethics, pursuant to the Statutes of the Ethics Board;
- (g) who has been declared ineligible as a result of conduct specified in Rule 23.

1A. Notwithstanding Rule 22.1(a), upon application, the Council (or its delegate(s)) may exceptionally grant eligibility for some or all International Competitions, under conditions defined by the Council (or its delegate(s)), to an athlete whose National Federation is currently suspended by the IAAF, if (and only if) the athlete is able to demonstrate to the comfortable satisfaction of the Council (or its delegate(s)) that:

- (a) the suspension of the National Federation was not due in any way to its failure to protect and promote clean athletes, fair play, and the integrity and authenticity of the sport; or
- (b) if the suspension of the National Federation was due in any way to its failure to put in place adequate systems to protect and promote clean athletes, fair play, and the integrity and authenticity of the sport, (i) the athlete is not directly implicated in any way (knowingly or unknowingly) by that failure; and (ii) he has been subject to other, fully adequate, systems (including fully WADA Code-compliant drug-testing) for a sufficiently long period to provide substantial objective assurance of integrity; or
- (c) that the athlete has made a truly exceptional contribution to the protection and promotion of clean athletes, fair play, and the integrity and authenticity of the sport.

The more important the International Competition in question, the more corroborating evidence the athlete must provide in order to be granted special eligibility under this Rule 22.1A. Where such

eligibility is granted, the athlete shall not represent the suspended National Federation in the International Competition(s) in question, but rather shall compete in an individual capacity, as a 'Neutral Athlete'. The Council (or its delegate(s)) may reconsider a decision to grant or deny an application for eligibility under this Rule 22.1A where it deems it appropriate to do so (e.g., if new facts or new evidence emerge).

2. If an athlete competes in a competition when not eligible to do so under Rule 141 or the Regulations thereunder, without prejudice to any other disciplinary action that may be taken under the Rules, the athlete and any team for which the athlete competed shall be disqualified from the competition with all resulting consequences for the athlete and the team, including the forfeiture of all titles, awards, medals, points and prize and appearance money.
3. If an athlete competes (or an athlete support personnel or other person participates) in a competition, whether held under these Rules or the rules of an Area or Member, whilst ineligible to do so under the Anti-Doping Rules, the consequences set out in the Rules therein shall apply.
4. If an athlete competes (or an athlete support personnel or other person participates) in a competition, whether held under these Rules or the rules of an Area or Member, whilst ineligible to do so under any other Rule, the period of his ineligibility shall recommence from the time he last competed as though no part of a period of ineligibility had been served.

RULE 23

Persons Subject to Declaration of Ineligibility

Any athlete, Athlete Support Personnel or other person:

- (a) who takes part in an athletics competition or event in which any of the competitors were, to his knowledge, suspended from participation or ineligible to compete under these Rules, or which takes place in a Country or Territory of a suspended Member. This does not apply to any athletics competition which is restricted to the Masters' age group (in accordance with Rule 141);
- (b) who takes part in any athletics competition which is not authorised in accordance with Rule 2 (Authorisation to Stage Competitions);
- (c) who contravenes Rule 4 (Requirements to Compete in International Competitions) or any Regulations made thereunder;
- (d) who contravenes Rule 5 (Eligibility to Represent a Member) or any Regulations made thereunder;

- (e) who contravenes Rule 6 (Payments to Athletes) or any Regulations made thereunder;
 - (f) who contravenes Rule 7 (Athletes' Representatives) or any Regulations made thereunder;
 - (g) who contravenes Rule 8 (Advertising and Displays during International Competitions) or any Regulations made thereunder;
 - (h) who commits a breach of any other Rule (other than as set out in Rule 60.2)
- may be declared ineligible under this Rule 23.