

WMA BYE-LAWS

AFFILIATION APPLICATION PROCEDURE

If a NGB makes an application for affiliation in a country where there is an existing WMA Affiliate, the Council shall make a recommendation to the applicant. If the recommendation to the applicant is not accepted, a special Commission consisting of an equal number of representatives from the IAAF and WMA shall be established to consider the matter and make a recommendation to the applicant to be sent through the IAAF Secretariat. If the recommendation is still not accepted, the Commission shall present a report to the IAAF Council, submitting its considerations and recommendations. The final decision shall be made by the WMA Council

COUNCIL

Organisation & Operation

- 2.1.1 The WMA Executive consists of the elected officers:
 - 2.1.1.1 the President,
 - 2.1.1.2 the Executive Vice- President (hereinafter referred to as E-VP),
 - 2.1.1.3 the Vice-President Stadia (hereinafter referred to as VP-S),
 - 2.1.1.4 the Vice-President Non-Stadia (hereinafter referred to as VP-NS),
 - 2.1.1.5 the Secretary,
 - 2.1.1.6 the Treasurer, and
 - 2.1.1.7 the Women's Representative.
- 2.1.2 At the annual Council meeting, the President, in consultation with the WMA Council, shall decide the participation of WMA Representatives in Regional, or other major Championships.
- 2.1.3 **WMA Electronic Voting Procedure**

Formal electronic motions may be submitted by any Council Member to the WMA Secretary. The Secretary shall immediately send the motions to the President by the best method, preferably by E-mail. The President will decide the acceptability and, in conjunction with the motion proposer, draft the final wording of the motion which will be documented by the WMA Secretary.

The WMA Secretary shall then immediately date and circulate the approved motion to all Council Members for voting by the fastest and best available method, preferable E-mail. The Secretary shall require acknowledgment of receipt, by the same method, within seven (7) days of the circulation.

All votes, or amendments, must be received by the Secretary within fourteen (14) days of the motion circulation. Motions are considered successful by a simple majority of votes of a quorum of at least two-thirds of the Council. The President has an additional vote to break a tie, if necessary, after the 14th day.

If proposed amendments to the motion in question are received, the Secretary, in conjunction with the original motion and the amendment proposers, will draft the final wording of the amended motion and shall circulate as above.

The Secretary shall then note and tabulate all voting messages and forward each vote message to the WMA Treasurer who will scrutinize the results and provide them to the President for immediate announcement to the full Council.
- 2.1.4 The reference in clause 6.1.1 of the Constitution to the appointment of a replacement to fulfil the duties of a vacant office "until the next General Assembly" shall be interpreted to mean the next "quadrennial election General Assembly".
- 2.1.5 **Eligibility:**
 - 2.1.5.1 Athletes granted dispensation under section 11.2 requesting a second change in national affiliation status, will be considered by WMA Council, by request from their

present Affiliate stating all reasons therefore together with evidence from the two affiliations concerned. Any reversal of such change shall only be granted to their original affiliate of nationality /citizenship, and they shall also serve a term of non eligibility as per the WMA/IAAF rules for eligibility.

2.2 Financial Management

2.2.1 Accounting & Publication

- 2.2.1.1 WMA's accounting period shall be of two years' duration and shall commence on the first day of January of each odd-numbered year. Not later than six calendar months following the end of each accounting period, the Treasurer shall send the relevant audited statement of account and balance-sheet to each Affiliate and to each member of the Council.
- 2.2.1.2 Before January 31 of each year, the Treasurer shall submit to the Council a report on the year ending on the previous December 31. The Treasurer shall also submit to the Council an updated report at its periodic meetings.
- 2.2.1.3 The Treasurer's proposed budget as described in the Constitution shall cover the next accounting period and shall be subject to approval by the Council.
- 2.2.1.4 A bank account in United States Dollars shall be operated in the name of WMA. All disbursements on amounts above USD 5,000 shall be authorised jointly by the Treasurer and the President or any Council members so authorised in writing by the President.
- 2.2.1.5 The Treasurer shall be bonded to a value of US \$250 000 except as modified by the Council.

2.2.2 Approval Requirements Expense Reimbursements

- 2.2.2.1 Clerical, postage and telephone expenditure to a maximum of US \$1,000 (one thousand United States Dollars) may be incurred by the Treasurer without the prior approval of the Council.
- 2.2.2.2 Emergency expenditure (not included in approved budget) to a maximum of US \$2,000 (two thousand United States Dollars) must be approved by the President and the Treasurer and there may be only one such emergency expenditure in any one calendar year. All expenditure, other than that authorised above, shall require the prior approval of the Council. If a Council member is eligible for reimbursement from a third party source, such as his sport federation, the member shall not be entitled to duplicate reimbursement by WMA. In no event shall a Council member receive travel or other related reimbursement when the member has not personally incurred that expense. The Treasurer is authorised to reimburse council travel in accordance with a Travel and Expense Reimbursement policy established for that purpose.
- 2.2.2.7 WMA shall reimburse travel expenses of Council members, when authorised, by the most direct and least expensive airfare reasonably available from a regular airline.
- 2.2.2.8 Except for emergency meetings, Council members are obligated to schedule travel sufficiently in advance to obtain the lowest economy fares.
- 2.2.2.9 All requests for reimbursement shall be supported by receipts or other supporting documentation acceptable to the Treasurer.

2.3 CHAMPIONSHIPS

2.3.1 Bidding Requirements

- 2.3.1.1 Effective from 2016 WMA shall sanction WMA World Championships Stadia, normally to be held in each even-numbered year, WMA World Championships Indoors normally in each odd-numbered year. Application to stage World Masters Championships shall be submitted by a WMA Affiliate, which shall present

its candidature together with a city. Written notification from the Affiliate of the Bid City nominated, duly signed by the Bid City, must be in the hands of the WMA Secretary by not later than 1st September in the year prior to the General Assembly at which the bid is to be considered, and no more than one Bid City may be nominated by an Affiliate.

2.3.2 Bidding Evaluation, Presentation & Award

2.3.2.1 Following upon the delivery of the written notification referred to in 2.3.1.1 above, for the consideration of any bid, the contract must be signed by the Affiliate, the city's organising committee, the mayor of the Bid City and the head of the country's IAAF NGB and delivered to the WMA Secretary at least sixty (60) days before the General Assembly. Inspection visits to the sites of the prospective bidders shall take place not less than 60 nor more than 179 days prior to the General Assembly and it is to be made by not more than 3 members of the Council, whose airfare, plus food and accommodation for three nights, shall be provided by the prospective Bid City at its cost. The WMA Delegates visiting the Bid Cities shall compile standard form reports following upon their inspection visits. These reports shall be sent to the Bid Cities for consideration, review and comments. When comments are received from the Bid Cities, the reports together with the comments are to be distributed amongst the Council Members for Council's evaluation and grading of the Bid Cities.

The Bid Cities present their bids to the Council the days before the Championships. The Council revises, if necessary, the grading and forwards the two highest graded Bid Cities to the General Assembly for presentation and decision. The detailed technical and inspection reports are to be circularised by the Secretary amongst the affiliates 45 days before the opening of the General Assembly. If there are only a few bids which are regarded by Council as being not sufficiently competitive, the Council shall have the right to call for fresh bids.

3. COMMITTEES

3.0 General : Voting by mail, E-mail or fax shall be permitted.

3.1 Stadia Committee (hereinafter referred to as SC)

3.1.1 Nominations

3.1.1.1 The Committee shall be chaired by the WMA VP-S.

3.1.1.2 There shall be six (6) members of the Committee plus the Chairman.

3.1.1.3 The six (6) members of the Committee shall be appointed by the President, based upon nominations submitted to him by the Chairman

3.1.2 Operation

3.1.2.1 The Organising Committee of the next WMA World Championships Stadia shall have the right to appoint whoever will be in charge of the Stadia events to the Committee, under the same rules and procedures as stated in the previous section.

3.1.2.2 The SC shall submit to the Council for approval or rejection such proposed amendments to the Rules of Competition as the Committee considers desirable.

3.1.2.3 The SC shall consider any relevant proposal made by an Affiliate.

3.1.2.4 The Chair of the SC shall serve as the primary WMA Technical Delegate to all WMA, and WMA sanctioned, World Championships. If necessary, the Chair of the SC can nominate a designee for this position who is subject to approval by the Council. Other Technical Delegates, as nominated by the Chair of the SC and approved by the Council, may also be designated with specific or general duties as assigned by the Chair of the SC.

3.1.2.5 The Chair of the SC is one of the required signatories to all WMA World Championships, and all WMA sanctioned World Championships, Contracts.

3.2 Non-Stadia Committee (hereinafter referred to as N-SC)

3.2.1 Nominations

3.2.1.1 The Committee shall be chaired by the WMA VP-NS.

3.2.1.2 There shall be six (6) members of the Committee plus the Chairman.

3.2.1.3 The six (6) members of the Committee shall be appointed by the President, based upon nominations submitted to him by the Chairman

3.2.2 Operation

3.2.2.1 The Organising Committee of the next WMA World Championships Non-Stadia shall have the right to appoint whoever will be in charge of Non-Stadia events to the Committee, under the same rules and procedures as stated in the previous section.

3.2.2.2 The N-SC shall submit to the Council for approval or rejection such proposed amendments to the Rules of Competition as the Committee considers desirable.

3.2.2.3 The N-SC shall consider any relevant proposal made by an Affiliate.

3.2.2.4 The Chair of the N-SC shall serve as the primary WMA Technical Delegate to all WMA, and WMA sanctioned, World Championships. If necessary, the Chair of the N-SC can nominate a designee for this position who is subject to approval by the Council. Other Technical Delegates, as nominated by the Chair of the N-SC and approved by the Council, may also be designated with specific or general duties as assigned by the Chair of the N-SC.

3.2.2.5 The Chair of the N-SC is required to be one of the signatories to all WMA World Championships, and all WMA sanctioned World Championships, Contracts.

3.2.2.6 The Chair of the N-SC shall be in charge of all Race Walking matters, Stadia and Non Stadia. He shall cooperate with the VP-S on Stadia Race Walk events. The VP-NS shall nominate the Chief Race Walk Judge subject to approval by the Council. The Local Organizing Committee shall choose the number of judges as defined by the IAAF rules subject to approval by the VP-NS and the Chief Race Walk Judge.

3.3 Anti-Doping and Medical Committee (hereinafter referred to as A-DMC)

3.3.1 Nominations

3.3.1.1 The Chairman shall be appointed by the President in consultation with the council, preferably, but not necessarily, from amongst the Council's ranks.

3.3.1.2 There shall be six (6) members of the Committee plus the Chairman, with some of the members having medical and legal experience.

3.3.1.3 The six (6) members of the Committee shall be appointed by the President, based upon nominations submitted to him by the Chairman.

3.3.1.4 The Women's Representative shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee.

3.3.2 Operation

3.3.2.1 The A-DMC is responsible for doping control at all WMA World Championships, observing the IAAF Procedural Guidelines for Doping Control".

3.3.2.2 The A-DMC shall advise the WMA Council and the Law and Legislation Committee on all matters relating to doping generally as well as specifically.

3.3.3 The WMA Anti-Doping Rules as circulated or posted on the WMA website together with any offices provided for be adopted as per their appendix: L the Anti-doping Rules. L1 the TUE Regulations.

3.4 Law and Legislation Committee (hereinafter referred to as L+LC)

3.4.1 Nominations

3.4.1.1 The Chairman shall be appointed by the President from amongst the Council's ranks.

3.4.1.2 There shall be five (5) members of the Committee plus the Chairman.

3.4.1.3 The five (5) members of the Committee shall be appointed by the President based upon nominations submitted to him by the Chairman.

3.4.2 Operation

3.4.2.1 All proposed amendments to the Constitution and/or Bye-Laws, received by the WMA Secretary, shall be submitted to the L+LC.

3.4.2.2 The L+LC shall not modify the intention of the proposed changes without the written permission of the authors of said proposals.

3.4.3 Doping related Allegations

An allegation of any of the following offences shall be considered by the L+LC:

3.4.3.1 Improper use of drugs

3.4.4 Discipline related Allegations

An allegation of any of the following offences shall be considered by the L+LC :

3.4.4.1 Incorrect statement of age or age group.

3.4.4.2 Competing or attempting to compete as a member of the opposite sex.

3.4.4.3 The act by any WMA Office holder of promoting, organizing, conducting or advertising any international athletic masters competition, not sanctioned by WMA, that is in direct competition with WMA events.

3.4.4.4 Unsportsmanlike conduct.

3.4.4.5 Failure to register via affiliate of athlete's country of citizenship.

3.4.4.6 Athletes bringing the sport into disrepute or discrediting the sport.

3.4.4.6.1 Having conflict of Interests.

Procedural Review

3.4.4.7 An allegation of an offence in terms of sub-section 3.4.3.1 and 3.4.4.1 to 3.4.4.6 above of the Bye-Laws shall be sent to the WMA Secretary who, within seven (7) days of his receipt thereof, shall send a copy of the allegation to each member of the Council, to each member of the L+LC and, by recorded mail, to the accused.

3.4.4.8 The Secretary shall provide the accused with a copy of this section of the Bye-Laws and the names and addresses of the members of the L+LC.

3.4.4.9 Within thirty (30) days of receipt of the allegation, the accused shall lodge, with each member of the L+LC, a written defence to the allegation.

3.4.4.10 Each member of the L+LC, within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the defence of the accused (or, if no written defence is received, within fifteen (15) days of the expiration of the thirty-day period within which the accused was obliged to respond), shall submit written recommendations to the Chairman of the L+LC.

3.4.4.11 Within fifteen (15) days of having received written recommendations from all members of the L+LC (but not later than forty-five (45) days after the expiration of the thirty-day period within which the accused was obliged to respond), the Chairman shall send to the WMA Secretary a summary of the L+LC's findings.

3.4.5 Sanctions and Notifications

3.4.5.1 Anyone found guilty of an intentional offence under sub-section 3.4.3.1 and 3.4.4.1 to 3.4.4.3 above, shall be suspended from masters athletics, in respect of his first offence, for a period of two years and, in respect of any second offence, for life.

- 3.4.5.2 Anyone found guilty of an intentional offence under sub-section 3.4.3.1 and 3.4.4.1 to 3.4.4.3 above, may not be a member of the Council or of any Committee or be a Delegate to a General Assembly.
- 3.4.5.3 Anyone found guilty of an offence under sub-section 3.4.4.4 to 3.4.4.6 above, shall be subject to such suspension (not exceeding a period of two years), or reprimand as shall be determined by the L+LC.
- 3.4.5.4 The Secretary, within fifteen (15) days of his receipt of the L+LC's findings shall inform the accused and the Council accordingly.
- 3.4.5.5 Any suspension imposed under this section shall be observed by the Affiliate of which the accused is a member and by the Regional Association of which that Affiliate is part. WMA shall observe any suspension imposed by an Affiliate.
- 3.4.5.6 Any athlete suspended by an Affiliate pursuant to the provisions of Bye-Law 3.4.3.1 and 3.4.4.1 to 3.4.4.4. shall automatically become ineligible to participate in any WMA Affiliate's events for the duration of such suspension. To enforce such suspension it shall be the obligation of the Secretary of the suspending Affiliate to notify the WMA Secretary in writing of such suspension within thirty (30) days thereof, including the nature of the offence. Upon receipt of such notification the Secretary shall, as soon as possible thereafter, notify all Affiliates in writing of such suspension and the details thereof. The lifting of the suspension shall be dealt with in the same manner.

3.5 Records Committee

3.5.1 Nominations

- 3.5.1.1 The Chairman shall be appointed by the President from amongst the Council's ranks.
- 3.5.1.2 There shall be seven (7) members of the Committee plus the Chairman.
It shall be composed of:
 - 3.5.1.2.1 the Chairman
 - 3.5.1.2.2 the Record Manager
 - 3.5.1.2.3 the six Area Statisticians
- 3.5.1.3 Each of the WMA Regions shall have the right to appoint one delegate to this Committee within forty-five days (45) after the close of the WMA World Championships Stadia, held in odd numbered years.
If any Region does not notify the WMA Secretary by letter or wire, post marked within forty-five (45) days, the Chairman can then nominate a person to the Committee.
- 3.5.1.4 The Chairman of the Records Committee shall have the right to nominate the Record Manager whose appointment shall be ratified by the Council.

3.5.2 Operation

Refer to Rules of Competition, Rule 260 and 261

3.6 Organisational Advisory Committee (hereinafter referred to as OAC)

3.6.1 Nominations

- 3.6.1.1 The Committee shall be chaired by the WMA E-VP.
- 3.6.1.2 There shall be six (6) members of the Committee plus the Chairman.
It shall be composed of:
 - 3.6.1.2.1 the Chairman
 - 3.6.1.2.2 the VP-S
 - 3.6.1.2.3 the VP-NS
 - 3.6.1.2.4 four individuals, not on the WMA Council.

- 3.6.1.3 The four (4) individual members of the Committee shall be appointed by the President based upon nominations submitted to him by the Chairman.

3.6.2 Operation

- 3.6.2.1 The Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of co-ordinating all non-competition aspects of the Championships including, but not limited to, accommodation, transportation, Opening and Closing Ceremonies, competitors' handbook and award ceremonies.
- 3.6.2.2 All questions regarding the operation of the non-competition areas of the Championships shall be directed to the Chairman, who will co-ordinate with the Local Organising Committee. The OAC shall submit to the Council for approval all questions of policy regarding the non-competition aspects of the Championships and shall report to the WMA President regarding the status of the liaison with the Local Organising Committee.
- 3.6.2.3 The Chair of the OAC shall serve as the primary WMA Organizational Delegate to all WMA, and WMA sanctioned, World Championships. If necessary, the Chair of the OAC can nominate a designee for this position who is subject to approval by the Council. Other Organizational Delegates, as nominated by the Chair of the OAC and approved by the Council, may also be designated with specific or general duties as assigned by the Chair of the OAC.
- 3.6.2.4 The Chair of the OAC is one of the required signatories to all WMA World Championships, and all WMA sanctioned World Championships, Contracts.

3.7 Women's Committee

3.7.1 Nominations

- 3.7.1.1 The Women's Committee shall be chaired by the Women's Representative.
- 3.7.1.2 There shall be six (6) members of the Committee plus the Chairman.
It shall be composed of:
 - 3.7.1.2.1 the Women's Representative;
 - 3.7.1.2.2 one delegate from each of the six Regions;
 - 3.7.1.3 Each of the WMA Regions shall have the right to appoint one delegate to the Committee within forty-five (45) days after the close of the WMA World Championships Stadia, held in odd-numbered years.
If any Region does not notify the WMA Secretary by letter or wire, post marked within said forty-five (45) days, the Chairman can then nominate a person to the Committee. Such person may come from any part of the world.

3.7.2 Operation

- 3.7.2.1 The Committee shall be charged with the duty of representing the interests of Women athletes.

4. ALTERATIONS TO RULES

4.1 Adoption of Rules

- 4.1.1 The Rules of Competition may be modified by the Council in their application to particular Championships. Any application by an Organising Committee for such modification must be lodged with the WMA Secretary not later than ninety (90) days before the commencement of the Championships. The Secretary, in close co-operation with the VP-S/VP-NS, shall submit a motion for Council decision, no later than seventy-five (75) days before the Championships.

4.2 Change of Rules

The following two year adoption process is required for proposed changes to the Rules of Competition:

- 4.2.1 Rules of Competition that are passed by majority vote of the WMA General Assembly are not in effect during the two year adoption process.
- 4.2.2 The WMA Secretary must forward all General Assembly approved Rules of Competition proposals to the appropriate WMA Stadia or Non-Stadia Committee Chairs within 30 days of the close of the General Assembly at which they were provisionally adopted.
- 4.2.3 Within 30 days of receipt from the WMA Secretary, the Stadia or Non-Stadia Committee Chairs will distribute all proposals to their respective Committees for research and study.
- 4.2.4 The Stadia and Non-Stadia Committees shall meet face-to-face, at the site and prior to the WMA Council meeting before the upcoming Outdoor Championships. All proposals that have been submitted will be discussed. Written Committee recommendations and comments will be made for each.
- 4.2.5 The Stadia or Non-Stadia Committee Chairs will present the proposals, recommendations, and comments to the WMA Council at their meeting in the year before the Championships. The Council will make their own written recommendations and comments on each of the proposals at that meeting.
- 4.2.6 The WMA Secretary will circulate the proposals along with the Stadia/Non-Stadia Committee and Council recommendations and comments to all Regions and Affiliates within 30 days of the close of this WMA Council meeting.
- 4.2.7 At the subsequent General Assembly, all Rules of Competition proposals will be presented along with the WMA Stadia/Non-Stadia, and WMA Council recommendations.
- 4.2.8 The only proposals that will be discussed on the floor of the General Assembly are those which have been specifically requested in writing to the WMA Secretary by Affiliates within the specified 90 days preceding the General Assembly.
- 4.2.9 The General Assembly would then vote the final adoption or rejection of each of the proposals and only those adopted would become effective as provided for by WMA regulations.

5. AUTHORITY FOR RULES

- 5.1 In all matters relating to the interpretation or application of the Bye-Laws, the Council shall be the final authority.