



## **CONTINENTAL TOUR REGULATIONS**

*(Approved by Council, 28 February 2024, effective from 08 March 2024)*





## 1. General Principles

- 1.1. The World Athletics Continental Tour ('Continental Tour') provides clearly understood differing levels of competition based on prize money and quality of organisation for worldwide international one-day Meetings, subject to fulfilment of the minimum requirements set out in these Regulations.
- 1.2. Regulations governing the World Athletics Continental Tour shall be issued to Continental Tour Meeting Organisers ('Organisers') and may be amended every year by World Athletics.

## 2. Minimum Requirements

- 2.1. Organisers agree to observe and respect all Rules and Regulations, and decisions taken by World Athletics.
- 2.2. Organisers staging the meeting at one competition stadium must do so over one day. If Organisers stage part of the meeting in a temporary facility or facilities (i.e. outside the competition stadium to promote a specific event or events and shorten the timetable) then that part of the meeting must be held the day before. The temporary facility or facilities must be constructed according to Rule 11 of the Technical Rules (see Book C – C2.1 of the World Athletics Book of Rules).
- 2.3. Organisers must arrange a liability insurance policy, in favour of the Athletes, officials and spectators, to cover risks for which they may be liable towards such participants.
- 2.4. Organisers must meet the minimum requirements set out in Appendix 1 to these Regulations.
- 2.5. The Continental Tour calendar can be found on the [World Athletics website](#).
- 2.6. Once an Athlete (or an Athletes' Representative or Member Federation on their behalf) has accepted a starting place in a Meeting, and subsequently withdraws for any reason 5 days or less before the Meeting, the athlete cannot compete in a World Rankings Competition (including a Continental Tour or Diamond League meet) for 5 days following the date of the originally accepted Meeting. For the avoidance of doubt, Organisers must not invite an athlete subject to the 5-day period. If an Organiser discovers they have invited such an athlete and are still within the 5-day period, then they must withdraw their invitation.
- 2.7. The restriction at Regulation 2.7 can only be waived with the written acceptance of the Technical Delegate of the Meeting in which the athlete originally accepted to compete in and subsequently withdrew from, or if for any reason the Technical Delegate is unable to, the World Athletics' Chief Executive Officer (or their nominee). For the avoidance of doubt, withdrawal for genuine reasons (e.g. illness, injury, bereavement, family emergencies etc.) will be presumed acceptable with supporting information.
- 2.8. Where an Athlete is eligible, selected and notified in writing by their Member Federation to compete at the Member Federation's National Championships but, without a genuine reason (with supporting information), instead competes at a Meeting then World Athletics may decide not to validate, recognise and record the Athletes' Results from the Meeting. For the avoidance of doubt, the Athlete is to submit such genuine reasons in writing (with supporting information) to World Athletics' Chief Executive Officer (or their nominee).

### **3. Application Processes**

#### 3.1. Each year Organisers must:

- 3.1.1. Submit an application through the Global Calendar Platform to be listed as a World Rankings Competition: <https://globalcalendar.worldathletics.org/>
- 3.1.2. Arrange for their application to be countersigned by the host National Federation and forwarded to the corresponding Area Association (in the case of Silver, Bronze or Challenger level Meetings).
- 3.1.3. By the deadline set by World Athletics, as published from time to time on the following page, <https://globalcalendar.worldathletics.org/>

### **4. Requirements to Deliver the Event**

#### 4.1. Media

##### 4.1.1. Organiser must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Tribune - Dedicated seats
- Equipment - High-speed internet access and TV monitors (recommended)
- Results - Individual & Public access to live results
- Internet / Web - Organisers are required to provide information to feed World Athletics Continental Tour website, whilst having possibility to maintain their own dedicated website.
- Press releases - 2 minimum per month in the first 3 months prior to the Meeting and 4 in the last month.
- Photographers - High speed and large capacity internet access via WIFI for the purpose of quick upload and sending of digital photographs from the stadium Media working area
- Press conferences - 2 minimum
- Media Stand - 2 places for World Athletics representatives (including 2 ADSL high-speed internet connections)

Organisers will use their best endeavours to provide the services to press and photographers in accordance with World Athletics Media Guidelines.

#### 4.2. Television

- 4.2.1. Organisers will use their best endeavours to ensure television production and service to broadcasters comply with the Television Production and Graphic Branding Guidelines.
- 4.2.2. Live broadcast, or in exceptional circumstances only, delayed significant broadcast on the day of the Meeting is compulsory within the host country. If possible, live streaming should be used to promote the field events.

#### 4.3. Medical & Anti-doping

##### 4.3.1. The Organiser must provide:

- Adequate Medical and Emergency Services on site, including emergency assistance and ambulance service, and minor stitching.
- Physiotherapy facilities at the stadium and at the Athletes' hotel.

4.3.2. The Organiser must organise and cover the costs of doping controls and analyses as follows:

	Urine Tests	Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents (ESA)
Gold	Minimum 12	4 of the 12 urine tests
Silver	Minimum 6	2 of the 6 urine tests
Bronze	Minimum 5	n/a

- Samples must be collected in strict accordance with World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules (and appendices) using qualified doping control personnel.
- Samples shall be shipped to and analysed by a WADA-accredited laboratory.
- Additional tests may also be conducted where:
  - a. World Athletics decides to conduct pre-competition blood testing at its own expense. The Organiser shall assist the Athletics Integrity Unit should pre-competition blood tests take place at the Organiser's event (chaperones, hotel room for sample collection etc.); and/or
  - b. an Athlete breaks or equals a World Record (if more than one Athlete breaks or equals the record in the same event, then all Athletes concerned must be tested); and/or
  - c. any Athlete who has broken an Area or National Record requests it; and/or
  - d. the Athletics Integrity Unit requests it.
- The latest World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules are available to download from [www.athleticsintegrity.org](http://www.athleticsintegrity.org)

#### 4.4. Athlete & Delegates Logistics

4.4.1. The Meeting headquarters hotel and transport facilities to be provided by the Organiser must comply with the following minimum requirements:

	Hotel*	Technical Delegates	PV
Gold	Min 4 star	Pool Cars	Transport & storage
Silver	Min 3 star	Pool Cars	Transport & storage
Bronze	Min 3 star	Pool Cars	Transport & storage

\* For athletes (the number of nights to be arranged by the Organiser's designated Athlete liaison person & for the Technical Delegates see Regulation 6.6 below)

4.4.2. Athletes' transportation means: to/from hotel, stadium, airport, train station, and any other official competition venue.

#### 4.5. Technical Requirements

##### 4.5.1. Entry Lists and Results

- Entry lists must be sent to the respective Area Association and to World Athletics (email: [worldathleticsmeetingresults@worldathletics.org](mailto:worldathleticsmeetingresults@worldathletics.org)) two days before the Meeting.
- Start Lists must be sent the evening before the Meeting, following the Technical Meeting (if applicable).
- The Start List must include:
  - Event

- Athlete’s Surname and Name
- Athlete’s Country Code
- Athlete’s Date/Year of Birth
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- Organisers must use their best endeavours to post live on the event website and sent live after each event to World Athletics (email: [worldathleticsmeetingresults@worldathletics.org](mailto:worldathleticsmeetingresults@worldathletics.org)) and to the Area Association, but at minimum no later than 60 minutes after the end of the Meeting.
- The Organiser must also ensure that the Area Association and World Athletics are informed of any correction to the Results within 48 hours of the correction being identified by the Organiser.
- Results must include:
  - Event
  - Athlete’s Position
  - Athlete’s Surname and Name
  - Athlete’s Country Code
  - Athlete’s Mark
  - Wind: 100m, 200m, 100H/110mH
  - Wind at each trial: LJ and TJ
  - Trials: HJ, PV, SP, DT, JT, HT

4.6. Minimum requirements staged Disciplines (for all 3 levels)

- 4.6.1. The competition order of the field events will be at the discretion of the Organisers.
- 4.6.2. For events from 100m to 800m inclusive, allocation of lanes will be at the Organisers' discretion, who will take into consideration current performances and local conditions.
- 4.6.3. The maximum size of fields (including pacemakers) should be as follows:

800m		11 Athletes incl. pace
1500m		15 Athletes
3000m / 5000m		18 Athletes
3000m SC		18 Athletes
Field events		8 Athletes + max. 2 national Athletes 12 Athletes in High Jump and Pole Vault

4.7. Sustainability Requirements

- 4.7.1. Organisers must meet and report in accordance with the Sustainable Event Standard set out in the following link <https://worldathletics.org/athletics-better-world/sustainability/athletics-for-a-better-world-standard> .

**5. Evaluation and Reporting**

- 5.1. After completion of each Gold Level Meeting season all Organisers will undergo an evaluation arranged and conducted by World Athletics. Organisers will report against the criteria and scoring set out at Appendix 3 in accordance with dates and deadlines advised by World Athletics.

- 5.2. Organisers are obliged to co-operate with the evaluation and reporting procedures and comply promptly with any requests for information pursuant to them.
- 5.3. Further to the reporting requirement at Regulation 5.1, Organisers must provide a report on their meeting to World Athletics by the date requested by World Athletics and include the following information:
  - 5.3.1. ticket sales,
  - 5.3.2. financial breakdown.
  - 5.3.3. completed Satisfaction Surveys in the form provided by World Athletics
  - 5.3.4. fan engagement survey.
- 5.4. Following each Gold Level Meeting the designated Technical Delegate (as appointed by World Athletics in accordance with Regulation 6.6) will complete the Technical Delegate Report Form concerning the staging of the Meeting to be returned to World Athletics no later than 10 days after the Meeting.
- 5.5. A copy of the Technical Delegate's Report will also be given to the Organiser and the Area Association where the Meeting is held.
- 5.6. Once all Meetings reports have been received by World Athletics then World Athletics will endeavour to complete its overall evaluation and reporting of the season by 31 January following the last Gold Level meeting.
- 5.7. For the Silver and Bronze Level Meetings either the Member Federation or Area Association may set the evaluation and reporting process and criteria for the meetings for which they have issued a Permit. Organisers of Silver and Bronze Level Meetings are obliged to co-operate with the evaluation and reporting procedures as determined by the Member Federation or Area Association and comply promptly with any requests for information pursuant to them. Further, Technical Delegates to Silver and Bronze Level Meetings shall give assistance to the Organiser and the Organiser shall cooperate with the Technical Delegate.

## **6. Gold Level Meetings**

- 6.1. The Organiser shall make every effort to stage the main programme within two (2) consecutive hours.
- 6.2. Organisers must stage a minimum of 12 events, with a minimum of five (5) events per sex including at least one (1) jumping and one (1) throwing event. Included in the 12 events will be:
  - A core group of six (6) events which will take local interests into consideration as much as possible but also aim to ensure all disciplines are conducted uniformly throughout the Continental Tour. These must be agreed in advance in writing with World Athletics and the relevant Area Association.
  - An additional group of six (6) events focussed on the Area of the Meeting and on rewarding the best Athletes from that Area in a unique way.



- Organisers will be free to organise additional events and assign them to the core or additional groups.

6.3. Athlete Participation and World Ranking Points (see: <https://worldathletics.org/world-ranking-rules/basics>)

- There shall be a minimum of 6 Athletes in any one event.
- A minimum of 50% of the total Athletes participating in the Meeting shall be based in the host Area in which the Meeting is held.
  - A minimum of 15% of the total Athletes participating in a Meeting shall be based outside the host Area.
  - A maximum of 4 Athletes from any one country (other than the host country) may compete in any event.
  - A minimum of 3 Athletes from the top 50 (counting a maximum of 3 per country) of the World Athletics World Rankings (in the month prior to the Meeting) to participate in at least 12 events.
  - Athletes requesting entry into a Meeting shall receive priority based on their position in the World Rankings provided that their request to enter the Meeting has been received by the Organiser at least one month prior to the date of the meeting.
  - Category “A” World Ranking points will be awarded for all Continental Tour Gold Level disciplines, except the following discipline where category “GW” World Ranking points will be awarded: HT (men and women) (see: <https://worldathletics.org/world-ranking-rules/basics>).

6.4. For any Athlete, Organisers must only negotiate their participation in the Meeting with:

- a World Athletics licensed Athletes’ Representative;
- a Member Federation who has received the prior written consent of World Athletics’ CEO to represent the athlete;
- the Athlete themselves (if they have chosen to represent themselves).

A complete list of registered Athletes’ Representatives is available from World Athletics website at <https://worldathletics.org/athletes/athlete-representatives> .

6.5. Prize Money at the Gold Level Meetings

- Organisers must offer two levels of prize money per discipline: either US Dollars 15, 000 or US Dollars 10, 000.
- A minimum of eight core events must offer US Dollars 15, 000 and a minimum of 6 additional events must offer US Dollars 10, 000 in prize money.

Position	Core Events	Additional Events
1	5,000 USD	3,500 USD
2	3,000 USD	2,000 USD
3	2,000 USD	1,400 USD
4	1,400 USD	1,000 USD
5	1,200 USD	800 USD
6	1,000 USD	600 USD

7	800 USD	400 USD
8	600 USD	300 USD
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,000 USD</b>	<b>10,000 USD</b>

- c. Except for the HT, the same World Ranking points will be on offer for all disciplines regardless of the prize money category.
- d. The HT will have prize money of US Dollars 15, 000 and be awarded 'GW' category World Ranking points.
- e. The following shall be at the Organiser's discretion:
  - For middle distance races, awards for Athletes finishing in places 9 through 12; and
  - Bonuses for breaking a World Record.
- f. Organisers must pay prize money within 30 days of receipt of the doping control clearance from the Athletics Integrity Unit and complete invoices which must comply with the communicated legal, fiscal and procedural requirements of the Organiser.
- g. Organisers must reimburse an Athletes' travel expenses. The reimbursement will either be made at the Meeting or within 2 weeks after the Meeting, provided the necessary paperwork (i.e. receipts, invoices etc.) has been given to the Organiser.
- h. Upon request from World Athletics, an Organiser has the obligation to provide within two weeks, proof of the payments made to the Athletes.

#### 6.6. Technical Delegate

- a. A Technical Delegate shall be appointed by World Athletics for each Gold level Meeting on the Tour. Provided they are suitably qualified, the Technical Delegate can be from any Country or Territory including the Country or Territory where the Meeting is located.
- b. The role of the Technical Delegate is to ensure the Meeting is run in accordance with these regulations and any policies.
- c. The Meeting must pay for travel and three night's full board accommodation for the Technical Delegate unless otherwise agreed with World Athletics.

#### 6.7. Coordinator

- a. A Continental Tour Coordinator will be appointed by World Athletics to manage all aspects relating to the Tour.
- b. The role of the coordinator will be to support the Meeting organisers throughout the year to ensure the highest quality Meeting possible and oversee all requirements including Quality Control, Communication and PR, social media, Event Presentation and some technical aspects including the timetable.
- c. The Meeting must pay for travel and three night's full board accommodation for the Continental Tour Coordinator unless otherwise agreed with World Athletics.

#### 6.8. Marketing & Other Rights

The Organiser guarantees to abide by the agreements between the Organisers and

World Athletics regarding all marketing and other rights granted to World Athletics. The Organiser agrees to comply with and implement the Marketing & Advertising Regulations concerning event branding set out in Appendix 2 which apply to Continental Tour Gold Level Meetings only.

#### 6.9. Technical Meeting

The Organiser must hold a Technical Meeting or similar communication with all participants (i.e. Technical Delegate, Referees, Athletes', Coaches, Athletes' Representative, Meet personnel, World Athletics staff etc.) on the eve of the competition.

#### 6.10. Lane Allocation

For events from 100m to 800m inclusive, allocation of lanes will be at the Organisers' discretion, who will take into consideration current performances and local conditions.

#### 6.11. Order of Field Events

The competition order of the field events will be at the discretion of the Organisers.

#### 6.12. Size of athlete competition field

The maximum size of fields (including pacemakers) should be as follows:

800m	11 Athletes incl. pace	1500m	15	
Athletes	3000m / 5000m	18 Athletes	3000m SC	18 Athletes
Field events	8 Athletes + max. 2 national Athletes			
	12 Athletes in High Jump and Pole Vault			

## 7. Silver Level Meeting

7.1. Organisers must stage a minimum of 12 events, with minimum five (5) events per gender including at least one (1) jumping and one (1) throwing event.

7.2. The Organiser shall make every effort to stage the main programme within two and a half (2.5) consecutive hours.

### 7.3. Athlete Participation and World Ranking Points

- a. There shall be a minimum of 6 Athletes in any one event.
- b. A minimum of 50% of the total Athletes participating in the Meeting shall be from the Area Association in which the Meeting is held.
- c. A minimum of 10% of the total Athletes participating in a Meeting shall be from outside the host Area.
- d. A maximum of 4 Athletes from any one country (other than the host country) may compete in any event. (Consent from the Area Association to change this requirement may be granted in exceptional circumstances).
- e. A minimum of 3 Athletes from the Top 100 (counting a maximum of 3 per country) of the World Athletics World Rankings (in the month prior to the Meeting) to participate in each of at least 12 international events.
- f. Athletes requesting entry into a Meeting shall receive priority based on their position in the World Rankings. The request must be received by the Organiser at least one month prior the date of the meeting.
- g. For any Athlete (including a 'Ranked Athlete' as defined in the Athletes' Representatives Rules) Organisers must self-report to World Athletics who (full name and contact details) the Organiser has negotiated the Athlete's appearance at the Meeting with.
- h. Category "B" World Ranking points will be awarded for Continental Tour Silver Level meetings.

### 7.4. Prize Money at the Silver Level Meetings

- a. A total prize money purse of US Dollars 75,000 must be offered for the Meeting.
- b. A minimum amount of US Dollars 5,000 must be offered for each event according to the following structure.

<b>Position</b>	<b>All Events</b>
1	1,600 USD
2	1,200 USD
3	900 USD
4	600 USD
5	400 USD
6	300 USD
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,000 USD</b>

- c. The following shall be at the Organiser's discretion:

- Payment of awards beyond 6<sup>th</sup> position; and
  - Bonuses for breaking a World Record.
- d. Organisers must pay Prize Money within 30 days of receipt of the doping control clearance from the Athletics Integrity Unit and a complete invoice from the Athletes' Representative.
- e. Organisers must reimburse an Athletes' travel reimbursements expenses. The reimbursement must be paid within 30 days after the Meeting, provided the necessary paperwork (i.e. receipts, invoices etc.) has been given to the Organiser.
- f. Upon request from World Athletics, an Organiser has the obligation to provide within two weeks, proof of the payments made to the Athletes.

## 8. Bronze Level Meetings

8.1. Organisers must stage a minimum of 12 events, with minimum five (5) events per gender including at least one (1) jumping and one (1) throwing event.

8.2. The Organiser shall make every effort to stage the main programme within two and a half (2.5) consecutive hours.

### 8.3. Athlete Participation and World Ranking Points

a. There shall be a minimum of 6 athletes in any one event from 3 different countries. (Consent from the Area Association to change this requirement may be granted in exceptional circumstances).

b. A maximum of 4 athletes from any one country (other than the host country) may compete in any event. (Consent from the Area Association to change this requirement may be granted in exceptional circumstances).

c. For any Athlete (including a 'Ranked Athlete' as defined in the Athletes' Representatives Rules) Organisers must self-report to World Athletics who (full name and contact details) the Organiser has negotiated the Athlete's appearance at the Meeting with.

d. Category "C" World Ranking points will be awarded for Continental Tour Bronze Level meetings.

### 8.4. Prize Money at Bronze Level Meetings

a. A total prize money purse of US Dollars 25,000 must be offered for the Meeting.

b. The following shall be at the Organiser's discretion:

- Payment of awards beyond 6<sup>th</sup> position; and
- Bonuses for breaking a World Record.

c. Organisers must pay Prize Money within 30 days of receipt of the doping control clearance from the Athletics Integrity Unit and a complete invoice from the Athletes' Representative.

d. Organisers must reimburse an Athletes' travel reimbursements expenses. The reimbursement must be paid within 30 days after the Meeting, provided the necessary paperwork (i.e. receipts, invoices etc.) has been given to the Organiser .

e. Upon request from World Athletics, an Organiser has the obligation to provide within two weeks, proof of the payments made to the Athletes.

## 9. Breaches and Sanctions

9.1. In the event of an allegation of breach of any of these Regulations or World Athletics' Rules or Regulations generally, the alleged breach will be investigated and, if applicable and subject to Regulation 9.2 below, sanctioned in accordance with the Disputes and Disciplinary Proceedings Rules.

9.2. If the Disciplinary Officer finds there has been a breach of these Regulations or other relevant World Athletics Rule or Regulation, **in addition** to the sanctions set out in the

Disputes and Disciplinary Rules, they may impose any one or more of the following sanctions:

- 9.2.1. withdrawal of the Organisers' current Permit;
  - 9.2.2. downgrade the Organiser's Permit;
  - 9.2.3. not accept the results from the Organiser's meeting as being 'official' and invalidate the results in the World Athletics statistics or results;
  - 9.2.4. place conditions on future applications from the Organiser for a World Athletics Permit;
  - 9.2.5. prohibit the Organiser from applying for a meeting Permit for a period as may be appropriate in the circumstances.
- 9.3. Where the Disciplinary Officer makes a finding against an Organiser:
- 9.3.1. World Athletics (or its delegate(s)) may publish the decision and/or the sanction as World Athletics (or its delegate(s)) considers appropriate.
  - 9.3.2. a copy of the findings will be provided to the Member Federation where the Organiser's meeting is or would normally have been held.