

ATHLETICS CANADA COMPETITION RULES (001-110)**SECTION 1**

- 001** Unless otherwise specifically amended by any rule addressed in the Athletics Canada (AC) Rule Book, all rules published, or currently amended; by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) shall be the rules which govern the conduct of athletes, coaches, officials and administrators, as well as athletics competitions, in Canada.
- 002** No athlete, coach, official or administrator, including any Competition Director, may claim ignorance of any such IAAF or AC rule as an excuse for non-compliance with the provisions of such rules.
- 003** Where necessary, the conduct of competitions and any other matters not directly governed by IAAF or AC rules will be addressed in the Policy and Procedures Manual of Athletics Canada.

ELIGIBILITY FOR CANADIAN AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

- 004** Only the following persons are eligible to participate in Competitions sanctioned by Athletics Canada or by a Member Branch of Athletics Canada:
- a. Canadians, including Landed Immigrants, who are athletic members of Athletics Canada, or residents who are athletic members of Athletics Canada.
 - b. For international competition, only Canadians holding Canadian Citizen are eligible for selection to Canadian teams.
 - c. US athletes resident in a state bordering on the province within which the meet is being held and who hold valid amateur cards issued by United States of America Track & Field (USATF).
 - d. Any other foreign athlete in possession of a permit issued by his National Governing Body certifying his eligibility for Competition under IAAF rules.
- 005** Athletic membership of Athletics Canada is restricted to persons who are eligible under **IAAF Rules 21-23**.
- 006** In Canada, an eligible athlete is one who abides by the rules of Athletics Canada.
- 007** A person shall be deemed to be ineligible to be a competitor in Competitions under Athletics Canada and IAAF rules if he:
- a. Has taken part in any Athletics Competition (including road races, cross-country races or race walk Competitions) in which any of the competitors in any Events were, to his knowledge, ineligible to compete under Athletics Canada or IAAF rules, or which takes place in the Country or Territory of a suspended Member. This does not apply to any athletics competition which is restricted to the Masters age group (35 years and over)
 - b. Has taken part in any Competition which is not sanctioned, recognized or certified by Athletics Canada or the National Governing Body of the country in which the Competition is held.
 - c. Is, and for so long as he remains, under suspension from Competition by Athletics Canada or IAAF.

- d. Who contravenes the Anti-Doping Rules.
- e. While competing, displays on his person any advertising material other than the accepted name of his club or organization, or takes on to any arena or course any form of advertising material. This rule shall apply to the clothing and travelling bags, but does not apply to articles not clearly visible, nor to competitors' number cards, provided that **IAAF Rule 8** is complied with.

NOTE: The restrictions in **Rule 007** do not apply to joggers or entrants in 'mass' road races.

008 If any objection is taken to the status of any athlete competing under Athletics Canada rules, such objection shall be referred to the jury, or if no jury has been appointed, to the appropriate referee. If the matter cannot be settled satisfactorily prior to the Competition, the athlete shall be allowed to compete 'under protest' and the matter referred to the executive of the body sanctioning the Competition.

COMPETITIONS

009 An International Athletics Competition is defined as follows:

- a. Olympic Games and World Championships
- b. Continental, Regional, or Area Championships open to all IAAF members in the area or region (e.g. Pan American Games)
- c. Group Games or Championships, *i.e.* other Championships or Games open to all athletes belonging to a defined group (e.g. Commonwealth Games)
- d. Representative matches between teams representing two (2) or more member countries of the IAAF or combination of members (e.g. World Cup)
- e. Other Competitions specifically sanctioned by Athletics Canada so that foreign athletes may take part.

010 All International Competitions, or any Competition in which any foreign athlete takes part, must be sanctioned by the IAAF or by Athletics Canada.

Before sanctioning any International Competition under **Rule 009 e)**, Athletics Canada must obtain from the promoter an undertaking in writing:

- a. That all IAAF rules and regulations will be observed. (For exceptions, see **Rules 001 and 101**)
- b. That, in particular, the rules relating to expenses will be strictly followed

011 No athlete or club may take part in a Competition in a foreign country without the written approval of Athletics Canada, and Athletics Canada shall not allow any foreign athlete to enter any Competition without such permit certifying that he is an eligible athlete and permitted to compete in Canada (except for USA athletes from border states - see **Rule 004 b)**.

012 In approving the participation of an athlete at a Competition in a foreign country, Athletics Canada shall specify the number of days for which the athlete and any accompanying manager or coach is permitted to receive expenses and the daily allowance as detailed in **Rules 021-024**. After the meet, Athletics Canada may request an account of any expenses paid.

013 Any athlete participating in any foreign country (other than in an International Competition as defined in **Rule 009**) shall, in respect to that Competition, be subject to the Athletics rules of that country.

014 All negotiations for the participation of an athlete in another country shall be carried on through Athletics Canada and the Governing Body of the country concerned, and in no circumstances shall any invitation be extended directly or indirectly to an athlete by any individual, club, college, university, or other organization.

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CITIZENSHIP, RESIDENCE, AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL MEETS

016 In Olympic Games and World Championships and in Continental, Regional or Area Championships or Games (except as specified in **Rule 017**), Canada shall be represented only by Citizens by birth or naturalization.

Having once represented any member country in a meet which comes within the categories defined above, no contestant may thereafter represent any other member country in such a meet except in the following circumstances:

- a. The incorporation of one country into another
- b. The creation of a new country ratified by treaty
- c. The election to membership of the IAAF of the National Governing Body of a colony not previously directly represented by a member country
- d. A change of Citizenship by marriage.
- e. Residence in a country for at least three (3) years since the date when the athlete last represented another member country, and, if there are legal provisions for acquiring Citizenship of that country, compliance with such provisions. The period of residence may be reduced to one (1) year, if the two member countries concerned agree, and if the Council of the IAAF approves.

017 In the Commonwealth Games:

- a. Each competitor must be a Citizen or subject of a constituent part of the Commonwealth.
- b. If an eligible competitor wishes to represent a country other than that of his birth, he must have resided therein for a minimum period of six (6) months during the twelve (12) months prior to the closing date of individual entries for the Commonwealth Games concerned, or his domicile, 'permanent home', or normal place of residence must be in that country.
- c. Those who have already competed in the Commonwealth Games for one country may represent another country at a future celebration of the Commonwealth Games with the approval from the Commonwealth Games Federation and the permission of the Commonwealth Games Associations of the two countries concerned.

018 For other International Competitions in which teams represent Canada, the eligibility of athletes shall be by mutual agreement between competing countries.

019 To be eligible for Athletics Canada National Teams selection, an athlete must:

- a. Hold current Athletics Canada/Branch competitive membership at the time the team selection criteria standard is achieved.
- b. Be a Canadian Citizen and satisfy one of the following:
 - i) Must have been a permanent resident in Canada for at least six (6) months prior to the first day of Competition for which the athlete is being selected unless temporarily outside Canada because of personal, spousal, school, or work requirements, and having expressed a commitment to resuming permanent residency in Canada; or
 - ii) Must have registered or affiliated with a Member Branch at least twelve (12) months prior to the first day of Competition for which the athlete is being selected.

020 When representing Canada in international competition(s), athletes must wear the official team uniform.

EXPENSES AND ASSISTANCE

021

- a. The Athlete Reserve Fund (ARF) was originally established in accordance with the Canadian *Income Tax Act*, Section 143.1, relating to athlete trusts and to comply with the appropriate **IAAF Rule** in effect at the time.
- b. **IAAF Rule 6** no longer requires athletes' prize monies, etc., to be controlled and administered by Athletics Canada, but residual funds will continue to be held in an account separate and distinct from its general funds under the existing trust agreement, and no further contributions will be accepted to that Fund.
- c. Payment of the residue of the Athlete Reserve Fund (ARF) to its members, or their personal representative, is permitted only upon written notice of voluntary retirement, retirement resulting from illness or injury, or death prior to retirement.

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ASSOCIATE/ATHLETIC MEMBERS

- 026** All persons elected or appointed to Member Branch or Athletics Canada Executives, Boards of Directors, or Committees, all coaches, trainers, managers, and members of the Executive of Athletics Clubs, and all officials at Competitions sanctioned by Athletics Canada or by a Member Branch of Athletics Canada, shall be *either* associate members *or* athletic members of Athletics Canada.
- 027** Applications for associate or athletic membership of Athletics Canada shall be made on the prescribed form to the registrar of the Member Branch to which the person's club is affiliated. Individuals not attached to a club shall apply to the registrar of the Member Branch in whose territory they reside.
- 028** The term of membership for associate or athletic membership of Athletics Canada shall run from 01 January to 31 December, except that for members joining after 30 September in a year, the term of membership may extend to 31 December of the following year.
- 029** Registration fees shall be established by the Member Branches.

- 030** Athletic members of Athletics Canada may not participate in open Competitions or take part in exhibitions in Canada which are not sanctioned or recognized by Athletics Canada or by a Member Branch of Athletics Canada.
- 031** The following Competitions are not considered open Competitions:
- a. Competitions confined to members of one club
 - b. Competitions promoted by and confined to members of the Canadian Armed Forces, or law enforcement agencies, or firefighters
 - c. Scholastic and interscholastic Competitions authorized by school, college, or university athletic associations
 - d. Masters Competitions (men and women 35 and over)
 - e. Mass participation events not involving Athletics Canada registered or invited foreign athletes.
- 032** Athletic members of Athletics Canada may not compete in open Competitions or take part in exhibitions outside Canada unless these are sanctioned by the Governing Body of Athletics of that country.
- 033**
- a. Athletic members of Athletics Canada wishing to compete in the USA in states other than those bordering on the province in which they are registered, must obtain from their Branch registrar, before leaving Canada, an international permit certifying their eligibility to compete under IAAF rules.
 - b. Athletic members of Athletics Canada wishing to compete outside Canada in any country other than the USA, must apply to their Branch registrar to obtain from the National Office of Athletics Canada, before they leave Canada, a letter certifying their eligibility to compete under IAAF rules.
 - c. By agreement with the United States of America Track and Field (USATF), athletic Members of Athletics Canada will be allowed to compete in states which border on the Member Branch with which they are registered, on the production of a valid Member Branch or Athletics Canada membership.
- 034**
- a. Members of Athletics Canada are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will not bring the good name of the Association or other members into disrepute.
 - b. Any arrangement or agreement between two or more members of the Association, or between members of the Association and third parties, which can have the effect of lessening the competitive effort put forward by any competitor(s) shall be deemed to bring the good name of the Association into disrepute.
- 035** Consent will not be granted to any athlete to use an athlete's representative, and no athlete's representative shall be authorized, unless a written contract exists between the athlete and his representative, which contains the minimum terms set out in the IAAF Regulations concerning Federation/Athletes Representatives.

CLUB MEMBERS

- 036** Athletics clubs shall affiliate with the Member Branch of Athletics Canada within whose territory the headquarters of the club lies. Subject to the Rules and By-Laws of Athletics Canada, the Member Branches have the responsibility for and jurisdiction over, Athletics clubs within their territory.
- 037** Transfer of athletes between two clubs affiliated to the same Member Branch of Athletics Canada shall be governed by the rules of that Member Branch.
- 038** An athlete who wishes, due to a change of residence, to transfer to a club affiliated to a different Member Branch shall be free to do so immediately.
- 039** The term of membership for club affiliation to a Member Branch of Athletics Canada shall run from 01 January to 31 December, except that for clubs joining after 30 September in a year, the term of membership may extend to 31 December of the following year.

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BRANCH MEMBERS

- 046** Member Branches shall make rules and regulations governing the conduct of Athletics within their territories, but such rules and regulations shall not be in conflict with, or contravene, the sense and spirit of Athletics Canada rules. A copy of the rules and regulations of each Member Branch, and of any amendments thereto, must be filed with the Athletics Canada National Office.

Without prejudice to the generality of the preceding paragraph, each Member Branch shall:

- a. Set and collect membership registration fees for athletic and associate memberships (see **Rules 026, 029**)
 - b. Make rules governing clubs affiliated with the Member Branch; in particular, each Member Branch shall set Club affiliation fees, and establish rules regarding the transfer of athletes between two Clubs affiliated with the Member Branch (see **Rule 037**)
 - c. Set sanction fees for all Competitions, other than National or International Competitions, held within its territory.
- 047** Each Member Branch shall appoint a Branch registrar who shall:
- a. Receive applications for Club, athletic or associate membership of the Member Branch and ensure that candidates for athletic membership are qualified in accordance with **Rules 004-007** to compete under Athletics Canada rules.
 - b. Issue Athletics Canada Branch membership cards to all members, marking the cards of associate members with the words 'non-competitor'
 - c. Issue international permits to athletic members of the Member Branch who wish to compete in authorized Competitions in the USA and who are qualified, in accordance with **Rules 004-007**, to compete under **IAAF Rules 037-038**.

- d. Obtain from the National Office of Athletics Canada letters certifying eligibility to compete under IAAF rules for athletic members of the Branch who wish to compete in authorized Competitions outside Canada in any country other than the USA, and who are qualified in accordance with **Rules 004-007** to compete under IAAF rules.

048 Member Branches shall be responsible for ensuring that all athletes competing in Competitions under their sanction are qualified in accordance with **Rule 004**, and that all Member Branch and Club officers and officials and coaches are members of the Member Branch in accordance with **Rule 026**.

049 Member Branches shall be responsible for the conduct of all Competitions held under their sanction. Member Branches have special responsibilities for the conduct of National and International Competitions held within their territory. All Competitions held under the sanction of a Member Branch shall be conducted under the rules of Athletics Canada and the sanctioning Member Branch.

050 Member Branches shall be responsible for reviewing all applications from organizing committees to conduct International Competitions in their territory. The Member Branch shall forward all applications to the Athletics Canada Competitions Manager within the specified time lines.

051 Member Branches may be represented by relay teams in National Championships (see **Rule 081**).

052 Each Member Branch shall mail to the Athletics Canada National Office by the deadline indicated:

- a. Within two (2) weeks following its Annual Meeting, a list of the names and addresses of the Executive and the Directors of the Member Branch elected at the Annual Meeting, and a copy of the Annual Report of the Member Branch, which shall include a financial statement.

- b. By 31 December, a report of the number of Clubs affiliated, and a breakdown of individual membership as follows:

- i) Male athletic members, Senior
- ii) Male athletic members, Junior
- iii) Male athletic members, Youth
- iv) Male athletic member, Masters
- v) Female athletic members, Senior
- vi) Female athletic members, Junior
- vii) Female athletic members, Youth
- viii) Female athletic members, Masters
- ix) Associate members, officials
- x) Associate members, coaches
- xi) Associate members, others

- c. By 15 March, any proposed changes to the rules of Athletics Canada or to those of the IAAF.

- d. By 15 October, or 15 days after the completion of the last events as noted in **Rule 242**, nominees for the various national Athletics Awards (see **Rules 241-262**).

- e. Forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual General Meeting, any nominations for the Director(s)-at-Large positions due for election to the Board of Directors of Athletics Canada.

- f. By 1 April, names and addresses of their Appeals Panel representatives (see **Rule 156**).

- g. By 15 April, the names and addresses of delegates who will be attending the Annual General Meeting.

053 Member Branches shall pay to Athletics Canada an annual fee, as set by the Board of Directors and approved by a General Meeting of Athletics Canada, to be paid in equal monthly installments. Where a General Meeting approves the raising of additional monies from the Member Branches, the total amount of such additional payments, the formula for dividing the amount between Member Branches of Athletics Canada, and the dates on which the installments are due, shall be confirmed by a General Meeting of Athletics Canada.

NOTE: Population in this rule shall be based on Statistics Canada figures.

054 Nominations for the positions of team officials of Canadian teams, and for athlete training camps, shall be made by the Member Branches to the National Office of Athletics Canada prior to the deadline laid down in each case by Athletics Canada.

055 **Spare**

056 Member Branches are responsible for the initial investigation into alleged violations of the By-Laws, rules or regulations of Athletics Canada or of the Member Branch (see **Rule 190**).

057 Member Branches are responsible for the distribution of complete results of all National and International Competitions held within their territory within one (1) week of the Competition.

058 The Branch Records Chairman shall ensure that record application forms are completed whenever a Canadian record is broken or tied in the territory of the Member Branch, except for Competitions listed in **Rule 264**, and shall forward such forms to the National Office of Athletics Canada as soon as possible, and no later than ninety (90) days after the meet (see **Rules 261-262**).

059 Member Branches shall sign an agreement with Athletics Canada and the organizing committees of National or International Competitions held within their territory defining the responsibilities of each party.

060 Member Branches shall forward to the National Office a copy of the registration form of all commercially sponsored Clubs that have registered with them.

061-065 **Spare**

066 The hosting Member Branch for any National or International Competitions shall receive and review all bids or requests to host such Competitions from Organizing Committees and forward such bids to the Athletics Canada Competitions Manager. If none of the bids is acceptable, another Member Branch may be approached. No National or International Competition should be sanctioned by Athletics Canada without the endorsement of the Member Branch in whose territory the Competition will be held.

067 The Jury of Appeal and key officials for National and International meets in Canada shall be nominated by the Officials Committee of the hosting Member Branch and approved by the Athletics Canada National Officials Committee. Preference for other positions shall be given to registered graded officials.

068 Travel and accommodation and meal expenses of out-of-town key officials and other approved qualified officials shall be the responsibility of the hosting Member Branch. Athletics Canada will pay travel expenses for out-of-province officials approved by the National Officials Committee for

- National Championships. The Hosting Branch Member is responsible for travel, accommodation and meals for officials from their Branch.
- 069** Complete results of any National or International Competition held in Canada shall be forwarded by the hosting Member Branch within one (1) week of the meet to the Athletics Canada National Office (two (2) copies), the clubs of all participating athletes, the National Records Chairman, the National Statistician, other Member Branch Offices, and, through the Athletics Canada National Office, to each Governing Body for all foreign athletes.
- 070** A financial statement and a full report of the Competition submitted by the Organizing Committee and confirmed by the host Member Branch shall be forwarded by the Member Branch to the Athletics Canada National Office within sixty (60) days of any National or International Competition held in Canada.
- 071** If within ninety (90) days prior to the date of a National or International Competition, the Member Branch which has been awarded the Competition advises Athletics Canada of its inability to hold the Competition, such Member Branch, at the discretion of the Board of Directors of Athletics Canada, may not be awarded any further National or International Competition for a period of two (2) years.
- 072** The hosting Member Branch shall be responsible for any sanction fees for National or International Competitions as set by the Athletics Canada Board of Directors. Athletics Canada will not sanction any other National/International Competition which would conflict with a previously scheduled nationally sanctioned Competition.
- 073** The hosting Member Branch shall ensure that authorized Athletics Canada Championship medals are awarded at all National Championships.
- 074-080** Spare.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 081** In National Championships, relay teams may represent a club, a Member Branch, or a region. An athlete may represent his club in one relay Event and a combined team in another relay Event, provided he does not compete twice in the same relay Event.
- 082** All National Championships shall be conducted using metric distances for all running Events.
- 083** In all field Events in National Championships, all performances shall be measured in units of the metric system.
- 084** Fully automatic photo timing shall be used at all National Field Championships and at all International Track and Field Competitions in Canada.
- 085** No team manager, coach or trainer shall be permitted to act as an official at a National Championships in which his team is taking part, unless approved by the Athletics Canada National Officials Committee.
- 086**
- a. The following athletes are eligible to compete in National Championships and/or Trials:

- i) Canadian Citizens who are Athletics Canada members and in the case of athletes who have dual Canadian Citizenship with another country, have not competed in the National Championships of that country during the previous competitive season.
 - ii) a) Canadian Permanent Residents (Landed Immigrants) who are Athletics Canada members and full-time residents of Canada;
 - b) non-Canadian residents who are claiming refugee status, and foreign athletes who are temporary residents of Canada due to business, study or family reasons, providing that they are Athletics Canada members and have been resident in Canada for at least six months prior to the date of the Championships, and are in compliance with IAAF Rule 4.3;
 - c) foreign athletes who have been invited and, at the discretion of the National Team Manager, have had their applications accepted, subject to the following conditions:
 - iii) Athletes listed under ii) above will be allowed to compete at the Track and Field Championships, subject to the following conditions:
 - a) in track events run in lanes (100m – 800m, sprint hurdles and 400m hurdles), said athletes may not advance to the final, however they may advance to the B final if one is contested. In situations whereby no athletes with Canadian Citizenship are being displaced from the final (i.e. in the case of a straight final), non-Canadian citizens may compete in the final, but shall not receive preferential lane selection;
 - b) in events not run in lanes in their entirety, it will be a race-by-race decision as to whether said athlete(s) will be able to compete in the final. Final decision will be at the discretion of the Athletics Canada Director, National Programs, or a designated individual;
 - c) in the case of field events where there are less than twelve (12) competitors advancing to final, non-Canadian athletes may compete at the sole discretion of the Meet Director and Athletics Canada. Up to 2 non-Canadian athletes may advance to the final three rounds (throws and horizontal jumps), making the field size no larger than 10 athletes. Final approval must be given by Athletics Canada Director, National Programs, or a designated individual.
 - b. Only Canadian Citizens are eligible to be declared Canadian Champions and receive a medal, award, or financial recognition.
 - c. Only Canadian Citizens, Canadian Permanent Residents and non-Canadian Residents seeking refugee status, are eligible to appear in the Athletics Canada official rankings.
 - d. Published results, both individual and team results, at all National Championships shall contain the names of all competing athletes, with suitable annotations to indicate those not eligible to receive individual Canadian Championship medals.
- 087** The following Entry Procedures to National Championships will apply to athletes who meet the criteria set out in **Rule 086**:
- a. National Senior Championships:
 - i) Athletics Canada members who have satisfied the qualifying entry standards;

- ii) Athletics Canada members who have not made the qualifying entry standards are also eligible to compete if:
 - a) at the designated Provincial/Territorial Branch Qualifying competition, they finish in the top five of those who have not achieved the entry standard for that event;
 - b) if there is no such Provincial/Territorial Branch Qualifying competition, the Province/Territory or Branch may select up to five athletes per event who have not made the qualifying standard for that event;
- b. National Junior Championships:
 - i) Athletics Canada members, 19 years and younger, who have achieved the qualifying entry standards;
 - ii) Athletics Canada members, 19 years and younger, who have not achieved qualifying entry standards are also eligible to compete if:
 - a) at the designated Provincial/Territorial Branch Qualifying competition, they finish in the top three who have not achieved the entry standard in that event;
 - b) there is no such Provincial/Territorial Branch Qualifying competition, the Province/Territory or Branch may select up to three athletes per event who have not made the qualifying standard for that event;
 - c) at their High School Senior Championships, they finish in the top three who have not achieved the entry standard for that event.

NOTE: Rule 087 shall apply to the acceptance of entries with the *proviso* that any athlete whose entry in National Championships or trials are rejected for any reason may appeal to the Athletics Canada Competitions Manager whose decision shall be final.

088 The Club affiliation of all athletes competing in National Championships shall also be listed in the program, even when the athletes are representing Member Branches or regions.

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General

090 In some international competitions, competitions arranged between Member Branches or between Clubs, and “All Comers” competitions, the number of trials in jumping and throwing events may be reduced if mutually agreed to prior to the start of the competition.

091 Running and walking events “timed sections” should be based on the latest known performances of the competitors, with each section composed of athletes with approximately equal ability. The section containing the fastest competitors shall be run last. All heats and qualifying rounds must have at least three competitors.

092

- a. Where starting blocks are required in track events up to 400m, an athlete may only use his/her own personal equipment if they have been approved by the Technical Manager prior to the event.

- b. The use of starting blocks is optional for age class competitions below the Junior age class level.

093 In races for wheelchair athletes, where the Starter requires the racers to reset their positions, the command shall be ‘Wheel back/Redressez-vous’ or ‘Sit Up/Reculez’ instead of ‘Stand Up’.

094 Where a protest is filed in any Canadian competition, it must be accompanied **by an ‘appeal deposit’ of fifty dollars (\$50.00) in Canadian funds.**

095 – 110 Spare