

PRINCIPLES FOR THE SELECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF WORLD ATHLETICS CROSS COUNTRY TOUR SILVER AND BRONZE, – EUROPE – OF EUROPEAN ATHLETICS CROSS COUNTRY RACES

Objectives

- 1.1 To maintain an official system of co-operation and liaison between the European Athletic Association (hereinafter European Athletics), the World Athletics, the Member Federations, the Cross-Country meeting organisers, and the athletes.
- 1.2 To create an understandable link between the Cross-Country races' meetings.
- 1.3 To implement a recognizable consequence of the results.
- 1.4 To give a clear status to each level of Cross-Country race.
- 1.5 To provide an incentive for cross country races organisers to strive for greater status for their race.
- 1.6 To protect the dates of the European Athletics Cross Country races on the International Calendar.
- 1.7 To ensure observance of standard conditions, as specified below, by European Athletics.

2. Procedure of making an application

Applications for European Athletics status **Silver and Bronze** Levels shall be made via the **online platform of World Athletics Global Calendar**

- <https://globalcalendar.worldathletics.org/>

Please note that applications fulfilled by organisers must be validated by the respective Member Federation. Member Federations interested in applying for a permit need to fill out an online application form duly filled in by the deadline set via Circular letter of the year preceding that of the meeting.

Fulfilling the Application means that the Organiser agree to observe and respect all following Rules and Guidelines

How to apply for Upgrading

- 3.1. European Athletics will only consider applications for European Athletics Silver and Bronze status from those meetings that have previously held an international race with National or Area status for a minimum of two (2) years within the previous two years.
- 3.2. Any Member Federation applying for an upgrading of status must submit, in its application, results of the last two races and details which support such up-grading in accordance with the requirements of status detailed below.

4. Guidelines for Selection of European Athletics Silver or Bronze Races

- 4.1. European Athletics will accept meeting status of levels.
 - a) **European Athletics Silver Level Tour Status.**
 - b) **European Athletics Bronze Level Tour Status.**
- 4.3 The ranking, and consequent up-/ downgrading, of each individual meeting will be done through an evaluation process conducted by an Evaluation Panel (details to follow in Appendix A).
 - 4.3.1. The European Athletics Silver and Bronze Level Tour races will be chosen according to the following items:
 - Receive at EA before deadline appropriate application form.
 - Fulfil the requirements for the European Athletics Silver or Bronze Level Tour Status.
 - Evaluation report by Panel
 - Tradition of the race
 - Consistent excellence of the meeting's National Federation concerned.
 - Geographic position

5. Guidelines of Scheduling

- 5.1. A European Athletics Race may not be staged on the same day as a race being part of the World Athletics Cross Country Challenge. This restriction may be waived when World Athletics meetings are scheduled in another continent.
- 5.2. Two European Athletics Races may not be staged on the same day, unless the two races are in different countries and do not share a common border or the race organisers concerned do agree.
- 5.3. Not more than one (1) European Athletics Race may be staged in the same town in any one cross country period (September to March).

6. Programme

The balanced programme of not less than four (4) races and at least one (1) man's and one (1) women's event seniors and one (1) man's and one women's event U20 at European Athletics Cross Country Races must be provided in the Application. Any change made to the Programme must be immediately notified by the race organizer to:

- European Athletics Office
- Member Federation concerned.

The basic circuit shall in principle have a minimum length of 1500m.

It is suggested that length of men and women races should be the same.

7. Reporting Procedure

- 7.1 Following each European Athletics race, the meeting organiser must submit a written report concerning the organisation and staging of the competition (including final account, payment confirmation, any other relevant information) to the European Athletics Office no later than 10 days after the meeting.
- 7.2 Following each European Athletics race, the designated European Athletics Delegate shall be required to submit a written report concerning the staging of the race. This report including the results and doping control forms shall be forwarded to the European Athletics Office not later than 10 days after the meeting attended.
- 7.3 The analysis of these reports will assist the Evaluation Panel in determining the status of a meeting the following year.

8 . Requirements of Status of European Athletics Meetings

- 8.1 The meeting organiser must be the National Federation or a Member of the National Federation and must agree to abide by the Rules of the World Athletics and European Athletics.
- 8.2 In case the National Federation is not the meeting organiser, a strong cooperation and communication between both organisations must be established.
- 8.3 A minimum total athlete budget for travel, accommodation and prize money should be.

Silver Label	8.000€ , of which minimum of 2.000€ must be for position of athletes in the race.
Bronze Level	4.000€ of which minimum of 1.000€ must be for position of athletes in the race.

Detail of Prize Money distribution must be sent to EA at least two months before date of the race.

- 8.3.1 Prize Money shall be paid within 60 days of receipt of the doping control clearance from the Athletics Integrity Unit and of the complete invoices, which must comply with the communicated legal, fiscal, and procedural requirements of the Organiser.
- 8.3.2 Payment of travel reimbursements will be made at the World Athletics Cross- Country Tour Meeting or within 2 weeks after the Meeting, provided the necessary paperwork has been given to the Organiser.
- 8.3.3 Negotiations for Athletes to compete must be conducted only with authorised Athletes Representatives or with the Athlete directly.
- 8.4 For Silver and Bronze races an official Delegate, appointed by European Athletics, shall be received by the meeting organiser. This Delegate shall be experienced in cross country matters and shall be ready to give any assistance when required. He/she shall supervise the meeting, is responsible for the correct conduct of the doping controls and adherence to the advertising rules and regulations. Normally the Delegate(s) should not be a citizen of the country where the meeting is held. The organiser shall pay travel and accommodation costs for two nights

including costs for visa (if applicable).

- 8.5 Meeting Organisers are recommended to sign a liability insurance policy, in favour of the athletes, officials and spectators, to cover risks for which they may be retained liable and present a copy to European Athletics. It is recommended that other insurance policy should be signed against the risks of cancellation. Athletes must cover their own insurance for accident.
- 8.6 On Silver and Bronze Tour Level races, Doping control tests shall be conducted on random/target selection basis, and analysis must be performed at the allocated WADA accredited laboratory, in accordance with the WADA standards and World Athletics guidelines. The organiser must take care of dispatching the samples to the laboratories. The analysis reports shall be directly submitted by the laboratory to European Athletics Office and as a copy to the Athletics Integrity Unit. The costs of the control (incl. Personnel), the Meeting Organiser must bear the dispatch of samples and their analysis.

Required number of doping control tests in both Silver and Bronze levels:

- A minimum of 4 doping control (Silver) and 3 (Bronze) tests must be conducted, of which two (2) must be EPO tests.
 - Samples shall 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.
- 8.7 Medical services shall be provided as
- on-site emergency aid
 - emergency ambulance service to provide full hospitalization.
 - on-site physiotherapy
- 8.8 Food and accommodation standards should correspond to normal international standards.
- 8.9 Local transport shall be provided from airport to hotel, to training areas and to the competition venue for all athletes.
- 8.11 The following criteria for the number of participating athletes and countries (national, continental, international) will be strictly applied (see Appendix A):
- Silver Level
- a) Minimum 6 different countries (including host country) and at least a minimum of four (4) European countries
 - b) From all participating athletes at the meeting, minimum 50% must be European athletes
 - c) **U20, Schools & Masters races are optional but the total number of participants should exceed 700.**
- Bronze Level
- a) Minimum 4 different countries (including host country) and at least a minimum of three (3) European countries
 - b) From all participating athletes at the meeting, minimum 50% must be European athletes
 - c) **U20, Schools & Masters races are optional but the total number of participants should exceed 500.**
- 8.12 Once an athlete (or an AR on their behalf) has accepted a starting place in a World Indoor Tour meet, and subsequently withdraws for any reason 5 days or less before the Meeting, the athlete cannot compete in a World Rankings Competition (including a World Indoor Tour 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.

The restriction at this Regulation 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.

- 8.13 At least three days before the Meeting, the Organiser shall provide European Athletics and World Athletics with

the provisional Entry List and the Timetable, and at least the evening prior to the Meeting Start List should also be sent to European Athletics.

Also, Officials results must be sent to EA and WA Athletics immediately after the conclusion of the meeting`

Both Start Lists and official results must be sent to ;

European Athletics: media@european-athletics.org
ea-statistics@worldathletics.org
meetings@european-athletics.org

and World Athletics: WorldAthleticsmeetingresults@worldathletics.org

8.14 The Organiser shall respect World Athletics Marketing and Advertising Regulations:

<https://worldathletics.org/about-iaaf/documents/book-of-rules>

9. World Ranking Points

World Rankings points will be awarded for participation in the senior races that comply with the requirements set out in these Regulations and Cross-Country Tour application form, according to A Category (Silver) and B Category (Bronze). The top 80 finishers will receive direct performance scores see <https://worldathletics.org/world-ranking-rules/cross-country-2025>.

10. World Cross Country Tour Overall Prize Money

10.1 World Athletics will offer Overall Prize Money (\$37,500 for the men and for the women) to the best 6 men and 6 women as per the following structure:

1 st	\$10 000
2 nd	\$8 000
3 rd	\$6 000
4 th	\$5 000
5 th	\$4 500
6 th	\$4 000

10.2 For the purpose of awarding the overall prize money, the athletes will be ranked according to their best 3 performance scores achieved in the period 1 September 2023 – 31 March 2024, of which at least 2 must come from World Cross Country Tour meetings (see Appendix 1 for performance score tables).

10.3 In case of a tie for the final standings, this shall be resolved in favour of the athlete with the highest single performance score. In case of further tie(s), the next highest performance score(s) will count.

10.4 Any athlete who is found to have infringed the Rules and Regulations will not receive any award, or, if already paid, repay the award by the date notified by the Chief Executive Officer (or their nominee). If the award is not repaid by the notified date, then the athlete will be suspended until such time as repayment occurs unless in the sole opinion of the Chief Executive Officer (or their nominee) there are exceptional circumstances that deserves a waiver or partial waiver of the requirement to repay the award. In this case, the prize money shall be paid to the next ranked athlete.

11. Sustainability (Silver and Bronze)

To ensure that all affiliated athletics competitions are aligned with the principles of sustainability articulated in the World Athletics Sustainability Strategy 2020-2030 World Athletics has developed an 'Athletics for a Better World Sustainable Event Standard' ('the Sustainable Event Standard'). Meeting organisers must follow those principles and you can download them in page 13 of WA Cross Country Tour Regulations in following link.

<https://worldathletics.org/athletics-better-world/sustainability/athletics-for-a-better-world-standard>

APPENDIX A - EVALUATION

1. European Athletics Cross Country Silver and Bronze races will be evaluated, ranked, and monitored by an Evaluation Panel:
 - A European Athletics Council Member
 - A meeting event organiser
 - An athlete representative
 - An Event & Competition Commission member
 - Eventually other appointed experts
2. A Member Federation can apply one season in advance for an upgrading of its meeting status (according to Principle 3.).
 - 2.1. At the meeting organisers' expense, an evaluation can take place.
 - 2.2. The final decision for an upgrading will be made by the European Athletics Executive Board following the Evaluation Panel recommendation.
3. The downgrading of a meeting will also be overseen by the Evaluation Panel, for serious shortcomings in a meeting's performance, this can be with immediate effect at the Evaluation Panel's discretion and final approval of the European Athletics Executive Board.
4. The following criteria will be closely controlled and integrated in the annual evaluation.
 - Level of the Athletes competing.
 - Athlete Budget, Prize Money, and overall event budget.
 - Services provided to the Athletes.
 - Value added and prestige to the world cross country ecosystem and brand.
 - Number of international participants.
 - Quality of the course.
 - Broadcast/live streaming coverage.
 - Geographical spread on the Tour on each continental area.
 - Tradition.
 - Respect of these Regulations.
 - Respect of all other Rules and Regulations and Graphic Branding Guidelines.
 - Respect of the financial commitments towards the Athletes.
 - Conduct of Anti-Doping measures.
 - Technical conduct of the competition.