

ATHLETICS AUSTRALIA

SUMMARY OF NEW IAAF RULES PASSED IN 2019 WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT

The following changes have been made to the IAAF Rules and will come into effect internationally immediately (ie from 12 March 2019) and therefore in Australia from the same date.

2019 is a usual rule change year and a list of other proposals has been presented by the IAAF Technical Committee to the IAAF Council and these will be considered at its June Meeting – and those passed for the most part will come into effect internationally on 1 November.

Whilst all of the other Rules below are standard IAAF Rules and therefore operative for all competitions in Australia, the change to Rule 180.6 is optional and it is up to each relevant governing body (ie Oceania Athletics, Athletics Australia or an AA member Association to decide whether to apply it to competitions held under its jurisdiction. Accordingly, it is not proposed that this rule will be adopted for AA competitions and it is recommended that MAs do not adopt it.

The following proposals were however considered “urgent” or timely and were passed at the Council Meeting on 10/11 March 2019:

1. Rule 113 – this Rule is elaborated to make even clearer the powers and responsibilities of the Medical Delegate and appointed medical staff. Even after the mis-application of the rule in several competitions including for the marathon at the Commonwealth Games there continue to appear to be misunderstandings or reluctance to intervene. Worse still there continue to be many cases where the relevant personnel are not well positioned to observe the competition, are not speedy in their responses when notified and have inadequate communication tools. It also continues to be a misunderstanding particular in mass participation road events that these rules “do not apply to the elite athletes”. They do!

RULE 113

Medical Delegate

The Medical Delegate shall:

- (a) have ultimate authority on all medical matters.
- (b) ensure that adequate facilities for medical examination, treatment and emergency care will be available at the venue(s) of the competition, training and Warm-up areas and that medical attention can be provided where athletes are accommodated **and for provision of and compliance with the requirements of Rule 144.2.**
- (c) make examinations and provide medical certificates in accordance with Rule 142.4.
- (d) have the power to order an athlete to withdraw before, or to immediately retire from an event during, competition.

Note (i): The powers under (c) and (d) above may be passed by the Medical Delegate to (or where no Medical Delegate is appointed or available be exercised by one or more medical doctors appointed and so designated by the Organisers who should normally be identified by an armband, vest or similar distinctive apparel. Where the Medical Delegate or doctor is not immediately available to the athlete, he may provide instruction or direction to an official or other authorised person to act on his behalf.

2. Rule 149.3 – this change is made to clarify that in instances where the Penalty Zone in walking events is applied to an athlete but he is not later disqualified for any reason, his/her results are valid.

RULE 149
Validity of Performances

3. Performances made in accordance with these Rules in Qualification Rounds, in deciding ties in High Jump and Pole Vault, in any event or part of an event which is subsequently decreed void under the provisions of Rules 125.7, 146.4(b), 163.2 or 180.20, **in Race Walking events in which Rule 230.7(c) is applied and the athlete is not disqualified** or in individual events in Combined Events competitions, regardless of whether or not the athlete completes the whole Combined Events competition, will normally be regarded as valid for purposes such as statistics, records, rankings and the achievement of entry standards.

3. Rule 170 – this change is made so that new or innovative relay events can be developed and introduced without the need to formally elaborate the method of conduct within the IAAF Rules – and to give flexibility in their implementation, such as will occur with the hurdles relay and the 2 x 2 x 400m relays at the 2019 World Relays in Yokohama.

RULE 170
Relay Races

22. **In the case of relay events not covered by this Rule, the relevant competition regulations should specify any particular rules that should be applied and the method by which the relay should be conducted.**

4. Rule 180.6 – this change is made to allow governing bodies or competition organisers if they wish to change the order of competing after rounds 4 and/or 5 as well as the mandatory change after round 3. This gives the possibility to use the rule which previously applied to all competitions but was deleted because it increased the time taken to conduct events and which was not popular with many athletes, particularly those who ended up have less time to take their final trial. There is no plan to take up this option and apply this Rule for competitions held in Australia.

RULE 180
General Conditions – Field Events

Competing Order and Trials

6. Except for the High Jump and Pole Vault, no athlete shall have more than one trial recorded in any one round of trials of the competition.

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Note (iii): The regulations of the relevant governing body may specify the number of trials (provided it is no more than six) and the number of athletes which may progress to each additional round of trials after the third.

Note (iv): The regulations of the relevant governing body may specify that the competing order be changed again after any further round of trials after the third.

5. Rule 180.17 – this change reverts to the time allowances for field event trials that applied before the changes in 2017. Feedback from across the globe indicated that the changes rarely sped up competitions, caused uncertainty and increased disputes between officials and athletes. It is considered that length of competitions can be better reduced by greater efficiencies in competition organisation and delivery.

RULE 180

General Conditions – Field Events

Time Allowed for Trials

Individual Events

	H Jump	P Vault	Other
More than 3 athletes (or for the very first trial of each athlete)	1min	1min	1min
2 or 3 athletes	1.5min	2min	1min
1 athlete	3min	5min	-
Consecutive trials	2min	3min	2min

Combined Events

	H Jump	P Vault	Other
More than 3 athletes (or for the very first trial of each athlete)	1min	1min	1min
2 or 3 athletes	1.5min	2min	1min
1 athlete	2min	3min	-
Consecutive trials	2min	3min	2min

6. Rule 200 – this change is not intended in any way to change the way in which combined events are conducted nor their integrity but simply to provide for the reality that on some occasions a “day” of a combined event competition extends beyond midnight on the day on which it started (a situation that will intentionally occur in the 2019 World Championships in Doha). It also incorporates an editorial change that in future (in order to align with IOC terminology) references to “boys” and “girls” for under 18 competition instead be to “men” and “women”:

RULE 200

Combined Events Competitions

U18 Boys, U20 and Senior Men (Pentathlon and Decathlon)

1. The Pentathlon consists of five events which shall be held on one day in the following order: Long Jump; Javelin Throw; 200m; Discus Throw; and 1500m.
2. The ~~U18 Boys and the~~ Men’s Decathlon consists of ten events which shall be held on two consecutive ~~days~~ **24-hour periods** in the following order:

First day: 100m; Long Jump; Shot Put; High Jump; 400m.
 Second day: 110m Hurdles; Discus Throw; Pole Vault; Javelin Throw; 1500m.

U20 and Senior Women (Heptathlon and Decathlon)

3. The Heptathlon consists of seven events, which shall be held on two consecutive ~~days~~ **24-hour periods** in the following order:

First day: 100m Hurdles; High Jump; Shot Put; 200m.

Second day: Long Jump; Javelin Throw; 800m.

4. The Women's Decathlon consists of ten events which shall be held on two consecutive ~~days~~ **24-hour periods** in the order of Rule 200.2 or in the following order:

First day: 100m; Discus Throw; Pole Vault; Javelin Throw; 400m.

Second day: 100m Hurdles; Long Jump; Shot Put;

High Jump; 1500m.

U18 ~~Girls~~ Women's (Heptathlon only)

5. The U18 ~~Girls~~ **Women's** Heptathlon consists of seven events, which shall be held on two consecutive ~~days~~ **24-hour periods** in the following order:

First day: 100m Hurdles; High Jump; Shot Put; 200m.

Second day: Long Jump; Javelin Throw; 800m.

7. Rule 230.7 – this change is solely to change the terminology use from "Pit Lane" to "Penalty Zone". Note that the additional words in bold were additions to the Rule in 2018 when considered urgent by the IAAF Council as there was at that time no provision to cover such a situation:

RULE 230 **Race Walking**

Disqualification

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- (c) A ~~Pit Lane~~ **Penalty Zone** shall be used for any race where the applicable regulations for the competition so provide and may be used for other races as determined by the relevant governing body or Organisers. In such cases, an athlete will be required to enter the ~~Pit Lane~~ **Penalty Zone** and remain there for the applicable period once they have received three Red Cards and are so advised by the Chief Judge or someone delegated by him.

The applicable period in the ~~Pit Lane~~ **Penalty Zone** shall be as follows:

Races up to and including	Time
5000m/5km	0.5min
10,000m/10km	1min
20,000m/20km	2min
30,000m/30km	3min
40,000m/40km	4min
50,000m/50km	5min

An athlete who fails to enter the ~~Pit Lane~~ **Penalty Zone** when required to do so, or remain there for the applicable period, shall be disqualified by the Chief Judge. **If an athlete receives a third Red Card and it is no longer practicable to direct him to enter the ~~Pit Lane~~ Penalty Zone before the end of the race, the Referee shall add the time he would have been required to spend in the ~~Pit Lane~~ Penalty Zone to his finishing time and adjust the finishing order as may be necessary.**

If, at any time, an athlete receives an additional Red Card from a Judge other than one of the three who had previously sent a Red Card, he shall be disqualified.

- (d) In Track Races, an athlete who is disqualified shall immediately leave the track and, in Road Races, shall, immediately after being disqualified, remove the distinguishing bibs and leave the course. Any disqualified athlete who fails to leave the course or track or comply with directions given under Rule 230.7(c) to enter and remain for the required period in the ~~Pit Lane~~ **Penalty Zone** may be liable to further disciplinary action in accordance with Rules 125.5 and 145.2.

8. Rule 250.6 – this change is twofold: to harmonise the starting procedure with road races and to remove the mandatory use of starting boxes for teams based cross country events. It is rare that these were used in Australia so this change will have little impact. If there are competition organisers who have a tradition or just like to use start boxes, they can still do so – as it remains optional.

RULE 250

Cross-Country Races

6. The races shall be started by the firing of a gun, **cannon, air horn or like device**. The commands for races longer than 400m shall be used (Rule 162.2(b)).

In races which include a large number of athletes, five-minute, three-minute and one-minute warnings should be given.

Departure boxes ~~shall~~ **may** be provided for teams races and the members of each team ~~shall~~ **may** be lined up behind each other at the start of the race. In other races, the athletes shall be lined up in the manner determined by the organisers. On the command “On your marks”, the starter shall ensure that no athlete has his foot (or any part of his body) touching the start line or the ground in front of it, and shall then start the race.

IAAF HANDBOOK

The IAAF will not be printing a new hard copy edition of the Rules Handbook to incorporate these changes. A list of the changes (including those few also made last year) is or will be available on the IAAF website. The e-version of the Rules Handbook may also be updated.

IMPLEMENTATION IN AUSTRALIA

These IAAF rule changes come into effect internationally on 12 March 2019 and therefore are effective in Australia from the same date. In reality the only material change is the change in time allowed for trials in horizontal field events and high jump.

There is no plan to take up the new option under Rule 180.6 to change the order in horizontal field events after rounds 4 or 5.

Brian Roe
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12 March 2019