

PRINCIPLES FOR THE SELECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF EUROPEAN ATHLETICS ONE-DAY OUTDOOR MEETINGS

(DRAFT 17 April 2009)

1. Objectives

- 1.1. To maintain an official system of co-operation and liaison between the European Athletic Association (hereinafter European Athletics), the IAAF, the Member Federations, the meeting organisers and the athletes.
- 1.2. To create an understandable link between the meetings.
- 1.3. To implement a recognisable consequence of the results.
- 1.4. To give a clear status to each level of meeting.
- 1.5. To provide an incentive for meeting organisers to strive for a greater status for their meeting.
- 1.6. To protect all categories of meetings on the international calendar.
- 1.7. To ensure equal competition possibilities for each discipline.
- 1.8. To protect athletes by providing categories according to a ranking system.
- 1.9. To ensure observance of standard conditions, as specified below, by European Athletics.

2. Procedure of making an Application

Applications for European Athletics status (Premium or Challenge League [working titles]) shall be submitted on the appropriate form by the Member Federations to the European Athletics Office by September of the year preceding that of the meeting.

3. How to apply for Up-grading

- 3.1. European Athletics will only consider applications for European Athletics status from those meetings that have previously held an international meeting with national permit status for a minimum of one (1) year.
- 3.2. Any Member Federation applying for an upgrading of status shall submit, in its application, results of the last meeting and details which support such up-grading in accordance with the requirements of status detailed below.

4. Guidelines for Selection of European Athletics Premium or Challenge Meetings

- 4.1. In principle approximately 64 European Athletics Meetings may be held in any one calendar year (January 1st - December 31st) in two Leagues.
- 4.2. European Athletics will accept meeting status of two levels
 - a) European Athletics Premium meetings organised in a League (approximately 12 - 14 meetings)
 - b) European Athletics Challenge meetings organised in a League (approximately 50 meetings)
 - c) European Athletics Area Permit meetings (according to IAAF Rule 1 (i): International Invitation Meetings and competitions, other than those referred to in Rule 1.1(e), where appearance fees, prize money and/or the value of non-cash prizes exceed USD15,000 in total or USD5,000 for any one event.)

- 4.3. The requirements for each category are stated in Appendix A.
- 4.4. 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 C)
- 4.4.1. The first 14 of this ranking and the overall evaluation, who have applied and fulfilled the conditions to be included in the Premium meetings circuit, will have, in principle, the right to the status of European Athletics Premium meeting (see point 6).
- 4.4.2. The other 50 meetings will be chosen according to the following items:
- Fulfil the requirements for the European Athletics Challenge meetings
 - Evaluation report by Panel
 - Position in the ranking
 - Tradition of the meeting
 - Consistent excellence of the meeting's National Federation concerned
 - Geographic position.

5. Guidelines of Scheduling

- 5.1. The allocated date for any European Athletics meeting is a consequence of the conditions set to obtain a permit. The following conditions will be applied:
- Protection windows between meetings of the same level and the same events
 - Recommended dates for the National Championships
 - Recommended dates for international matches
 - Clear qualification criteria under which an athlete can enter in a higher category of a meeting and dates for reviewing the qualification status
- 5.2. In principle, not more than one (1) European Athletics One-Day outdoor meeting may be staged in the same town in any one year. The European Athletics Premium meetings have priority

6. Programme

A balanced programme for the two levels will be mandatory to apply. The following groups will be allocated by draw to the different meeting of the two leagues during the European Athletics Convention every October:

a) Two groups of disciplines applicable for the European Premium League:

Group A		Group B	
Men	Women	Men	Women
100 SF/F	200	200	100 SF/F
800	400	400	800
5000	1500	1500	5,000
400 H	100 H	110 H	400 H
PV	3000 SC	3000 SC	PV
TJ	HJ	HJ	TJ
SP	LJ	LJ	SP
JT	DT	DT	JT

Note: European Athletics will ensure that at a minimum of 7 European Premium meetings Hammer Throw will be part of the official programme.

b) Three groups of disciplines applicable for the European Challenge League:

Group A		Group B		Group C	
Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
100	200	200	400	400	100
800	1500	1500	3000/5000	3000	800
3000 st	100 h	110 h	400 h	400 h	3000 st
HJ	LJ	LJ	PV	PV	HJ
TJ	SP	SP	DT	DT	TJ
JT	HT	HT			JT

c) Each European Athletics meeting should organise at least 2 events (M&W) for Under 23 European athletes.

Meeting organisers must include the disciplines from its group, and thereafter will have the discretion to add further disciplines, subject to the conditions below:

- The discretionary disciplines cannot conflict with those being staged by another meeting of the same league within five nights (before or after), unless both meetings agree at least 14 nights in advance and this agreement is ratified by European Athletics. The final decision on any arbitration remains with European Athletics.
- If a discipline is to be held that conflicts with another meeting of the same league within five nights (before or after) and an agreement has not been reached, then only athletes from that Member Federation or from a lower athlete category may compete (see Appendix B).
- Any change made to the programme must be immediately notified by the meeting organiser to the European Athletics Office.

7. Reporting Procedure

- 7.1. Following each European Athletics meeting the meeting organiser must submit a written report concerning the organisation and staging of the meeting (including final account, payment confirmation, any other relevant information) to the European Athletics Office no later than 30 days after the meeting.
- 7.2. Following each European Athletics meeting, the designed European Athletics Delegate (Technical and Doping Control [Premium only]) shall be required to submit a written report concerning the staging of the meeting. 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 (complementing Appendix A)

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 IAAF and European Athletics.

8.2. At least one person from the National Federation, selected in agreement with the Organising Committee, must be co-opted onto the Organising Committee for the purposes of liaison.

8.3. An official Delegate, appointed by European Athletics, shall be received by the meeting organiser. This Delegate shall be experienced in technical matters, and shall be ready to give technical assistance when required. He shall supervise the meeting, is responsible for the correct conduct of the doping controls (for Challenge meetings only) and adherence to the advertising rules and regulations.

For Premium meetings a Doping Control Delegate, appointed by European Athletics, shall be received by the meeting organiser. This delegate will take care of the supervision of medical and doping control area.

Normally the Delegate(s) should not be a citizen of the country where the meeting is held. The organiser shall pay the travel and accommodation costs for up to three days.

8.4. Liability insurance must be taken out in conformity with Officials and Spectators. Athletes have to cover their own insurance.

8.5. Doping control tests, normally five (5) at each Challenge meeting and six (6) at each Premium meeting, shall be conducted at random, and analysis must be performed at a WADA accredited laboratory, in accordance with the IAAF guidelines. The analysis reports shall be directly submitted by the laboratory to the European Athletics Office and as a copy to the IAAF Anti-Doping department. The costs of the control (incl. personnel), the dispatch of samples and their analysis must be borne by the meeting organiser.

8.6. Medical services shall be provided as indicated in Appendix A

8.7. Food and accommodation standards should correspond to normal international level according to Appendix A.

8.8. Local transport shall be provided from airport to hotel, to training areas and to the competition venue for all athletes.

8.9. All equipment and implements shall meet IAAF technical rules in force at the time of the meeting.

8.10. In the case of European Records, all documentation necessary for the ratification have to be forwarded to European Athletics not later than 1 month after the competition. It is therefore recommended that all required

papers are completed during the competition and signed by the responsible officials. In doing this, all the necessary material can then be collated and sent without delay to the national federation for approval. Meeting organisers shall consult the current European Record lists before the competition and should obtain the appropriate European Record Application Forms from the European Athletics Website: www.european-athletics.org

- 8.11. The following criteria for the number of participating countries (national, continental, international) will be strictly applied:
- Minimum 8 different countries (including host country must participate,
 - Minimum 6 athletes per event (100m, LJ, etc) of which at least 3 from different European countries must compete,
 - Per event (100m, LJ, etc) European athletes from 3 different countries (lane disciplines) or 4 (other disciplines) must compete,
 - From all participating athletes at the meeting, minimum 50% must be European athletes,
 - Maximum of 4 athletes, excluding the pacemakers, per country can participate at each event (excluding the host country).

Failure to meet the above thresholds will make the meeting organiser liable for penalties (see Appendix D) unless it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Evaluation Panel that the situation was caused by athlete cancellation or any other cause beyond control.

- 8.12. All payments shall be effected in accordance with IAAF Rules and Regulations.

The meeting organiser will maintain copies of all financial documents which may be called for inspection if required by European Athletics.

- 8.13. European Athletics has the right to penalise meetings, athletes, Member Federations, Athletes Representatives or others, if they do not comply with the set principles according to Appendix D.
- 8.14. European Athletics has the right to downgrade or exclude a meeting according to the evaluation process indicated in Appendix C.

APPENDIX A – MEETING REQUIREMENT CRITERIA

Requirements	European Premium	European Challenge
Events & Athletes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events according to allocation: Group A or B 8 countries (including host country, 6 athletes per event, at least 3 from different European countries, Per event European athletes from 3 different countries (lane disciplines) or 4 (other disciplines) Per meeting min 50% European athletes Maximum of 4 athletes, excluding the pacemakers, per country can participate at each event (excluding the host country) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events according to allocation: Group A-B-C 8 countries (including host country, 6 athletes per event, at least 3 from different European countries, Per event European athletes from 3 different countries (lane disciplines) or 4 (other disciplines) Per meeting min 50% European athletes Maximum of 4 athletes, excluding the pacemakers, per country can participate at each event (excluding the host country)
Technical facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 lanes Capacity of 5000 Video boards 2 infield timing boards (double sided) Infield scoring board per field event EDM + automatic false start apparatus, full electronic timing Electronic Wind gauge IAAF track certificate class 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 lanes Capacity of 3000 2 infield timing boards Wind gauge Automatic false start apparatus, full electronic timing EDM (recommended)
Equipment & Implements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All equipment & implements must be IAAF certified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All equipment & implements must be IAAF certified
International Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Technical Delegate 1 Doping Control Delegate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Technical Delegate
Accommodation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 stars hotel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 stars hotel
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On site for athletes and officials Flights for Delegates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On site for athletes and officials Flights for Delegates
Medical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physiotherapy service First aid ambulance Doctor/Physician 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First aid ambulance Doctor/Physician
Anti-Doping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 6 doping controls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum 5 doping controls
TV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Live 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 minutes of highlights
Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total budget 500,000 EUR minimum rewards minimum of 120,000 EUR for the athletes payment within 60 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total budget 100,000 EUR minimum rewards minimum of 40,000 EUR for the athletes payment within 60 days
Prize Money Before tax (brutto)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exacts prize money structure must be published on meeting website 30 days before competition Minimum prize money must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Place 1200 EUR 2nd Place 900 EUR 3rd Place 600 EUR 4th Place 400 EUR 5th Place 300 EUR 6th Place 200 EUR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exacts prize money structure must be published on meeting website 30 days before competition Minimum prize money must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Place 700 EUR 2nd Place 500 EUR 3rd Place 300 EUR 4th Place 200 EUR 5th Place 100 EUR

Requirements	European Premium	European Challenge
Financial obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed budget including prize money structure Travel & accommodation of appointed officials Local transportation for athletes, coaches, managers Doping control organisation and analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed budget including prize money structure Travel & accommodation of appointed officials Local transportation for athletes, coaches, managers Doping control organisation and analysis
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dedicated website Immediate/Live results on website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dedicated website Immediate/Live results on website
Logo-branding and advertisement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Premium logo on all printed materials, TV graphics, and website (linked to European Athletics) European Athletics advertising boards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classic logo on all printed materials and website (linked to European Athletics)
Event Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidelines to be set 	
Insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liability for Officials and Spectators Meeting cancellation Financial loss 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liability for Officials and Spectators Meeting cancellation

Note: for European Athletics Area Permit Meetings the conditions are according to IAAF Rule 1. (i)

APPENDIX B – ATHLETE CATEGORISATION & INVITATION

Each athlete has to be qualified for a level of competitions based on the following qualification criteria:

Categories		
Diamond League	Criteria on world ranking, OG & WCH medals, WR holders filled qualification criteria by performance and position	I AAF
European Premium League	Criteria on World and European ranking OG, WCH and ECH finalist Fulfilled qualification criteria by performance and position	European Athletics M F
European Challenge League	Criteria on World and European ranking Fulfilled qualification criteria by performance and position	
Area Permit Meetings	Permit by Area according to IAAF rules	
NATIONAL COMPETITION PROGRAMME		MF

The athlete classifications will be published at the European Athletics Convention starting in 2009. This list will form the first classification for outdoor one-day meetings in 2010.

An updated list will be published every Monday during the outdoor season. Athletes will not be demoted during an outdoor season, even if better performances are achieved by other athletes, therefore the number of athletes in each category is likely to increase during the season.

Specialist input from European Athletics statisticians will be required to determine the detail the classification system.

Should a one-day meeting organiser wish to substitute a particular distance race as part of the programme at his meeting, the following rules would apply:

Discipline to be staged	Athlete categorisation to be used
1000m	800m
1 mile	1500m
3000m	5000m/10000m

- A single category of athletes will be created for the 5000m discipline that combines results and rankings for both 5000m and 10000m. This will ensure that medallists / record holders in 10000m have the opportunity to be invited to compete in the one-day meetings.

Invitations

One-day meeting organisers will then select athletes for invitation to their meeting from the level of athlete classification that corresponds to their meeting tier, with the following conditions:

- In each discipline of the main programme, there will be a maximum of four athletes from a single Member Federation, except for pacemakers who will not finish the race.
- Each meeting can invite athletes from its Member Federation at its total discretion. For example, an Olympic gold medallist could compete at any level of meeting within his/her own Member Federation including the Classic league, without restriction
- Strict adherence to the requirements set under 9.11.

Within 14 nights of a meeting, the meeting organiser is permitted to invite athletes from a higher classification (league), as long as they are not contracted to compete at meeting in their league within a five day window either side of the invitation.

Meeting organisers from higher leagues are encouraged to invite athletes from lower classification when the athlete has won an event in a lower league.

Any athlete cancelling an appearance is not permitted to compete in another Premium or Challenge meeting within a seven day window.

APPENDIX C - EVALUATION

1. European Athletics Premium and Challenge meetings will be evaluated, ranked and monitored by an Evaluation Panel comprising:
 - A European Athletics Council Member
 - A one-day meeting event organiser
 - An athlete manager/agent
 - Plus three members of the Penalties Panel (see Appendix D)
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 Council following the Evaluation Panel recommendation.
3. 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 Council and/or Executive Committee.
 - 3.1. The final decision for downgrading will be made by the European Athletics Council following the Evaluation Panel recommendation.
4. Meetings will be evaluated on factors that are within their control. For example, no meeting will be penalised for poor athlete performances if it is clear that weather conditions were difficult.
 - 4.1. Among other the following criteria will be closely controlled:
 - Financial aspects
 - Regulations and contractual conditions
 - Technical requirements
 - Quality guidelines for the different fields of activities
 - Permit conditions, up and downgrade regulations
 - Presentation, PR and Television requirements
 - Branding and advertisement rights

APPENDIX D – PENALTIES

The Penalties Panel will comprise:

- A European Athletics Council Member
- A one-day meeting event organiser
- An athlete representative
- 2 reserves in case one of the above organiser or athlete representative is touched by a penalty case.

Penalties will be levied as follows, at the discretion of the Penalties Panel:

ISSUE	PENALTY
Not adhering to rules on advertising	2 – 10% of total prize money, depending on severity of offence
Wrongly accepting too highly ranked athletes	100% of the fee paid to the athlete or €2000, whichever is the higher amount
Not following the prize money structure (e.g. non-compliance)	2 – 10% of total prize money, depending on severity of offence
Failure to pay athlete within the agreed timescales (no more than 60 days from the meeting or no more than 10 days from receipt of an invoice, unless doping procedures have not be completed)	10% of the relevant late payment
Failure to follow the guidelines regarding the number of disciplines	10% of total prize money per event
Not following the number of European Athletes (8.11 a-e))	€2000 per athlete not in accordance with 8.11 c) or 10% of total prize money for breach of 8.11 d), whichever is the higher amount
Exceeding maximum of 20% of the total prize/appearance budget of the meeting (not including travel expenses) for a single athlete	50% of the appearance/prize money paid
Athlete cancelling then appearing within a seven day window in another meeting	Athlete to pay 50% of the appearance / prize money received to the meeting for which they cancelled Athlete to be banned from Premium and Classic one-day meetings until the fine is paid

APPENDIX E – SCORING OF THE LEAGUE

Each event takes place at least 6 times. Each discipline will be awarded with the same amount of points at each meeting.

The 5 best results of each athlete will be considered for the classification. The athlete with most of the points will be the winner of the concerned League (Premium and Challenge). In case there is a tie, the higher number of first places etc will be considered.

Place	Points
1	4 points
2	2 points
3	1 point

In addition the athletes with the highest number of victories in the League should be awarded in order to give more value.

The winner of the League will be qualified in the following year to the next higher ranked league for the whole year.

Qualification criteria for athletes

The following qualification criteria should be further developed to create a more appealing consequence of the results and increase the link between the meetings and the awareness towards the public.

- Qualification to the next higher League is achieved by 2 victories or more than 8 points
- The winner of the League is qualified for the next League
- Place 1 – 3 in each Diamond League and Premium Meeting is considered as a fulfilled standard for the ECH
- Negotiations with the IAAF should lead to a similar procedure for the WCH and OG as well as for the whole One-Day Meeting system.

The first group of qualified athletes for the following year will be published at the European Athletics Convention. An update is requested 1st of June, July and August.