



Athletics
Ireland

**AGM
2024**



**ATHLETICS
IRELAND**

ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

27th April 2024

SYLLABUS

***In Person Crowne Plaza Hotel, Santry
Fahrenheit Room***

Annual General Meeting

27th April 2024

AGENDA

10am	Registration
10.30	Presidents Welcome
10.40	Roll Call
11.00	Presidents Address
11.10	Minutes AGM 2022 approval
11.15	Auditors Report
11.20	Finance & Risk Report - Chair of Finance & Risk 2023 Audited Accounts & 2024 Budget Summary Appointment of Auditors
11.35	CEO Report
11.45	Adoption of Standing Orders & Appointment of Scrutineers
11.50	Motions
12.45	Governance Presentation
1.30pm	President to close and advise of Congress 2025 date/venue

A five minute presentation on the Spraoi Games will be facilitated prior to lunch.

Lunch provided by Athletics Ireland & Social Opportunity



Annual General Meeting

The AGM shall consist of:

1. Members of the Athletics Ireland Board (Voting)
2. The Life Vice Presidents (Non-voting)
3. Four (4) Delegates from each Provincial Council (voting)
4. Delegates from each County calculated and appointed as hereinafter provided, each Delegate having one (1) vote.
 - a) The number of delegates from each County shall be calculated on the basis of **1 Delegate for each 400, or part 400**, registered members of clubs affiliated under Article 4 of the Constitution.
 - b) The Delegates from each county shall be appointed as follows;
 - i. Where there is a County Board by that County Board
 - ii. Where there is no County Board by the relevant Provincial Council which shall accept any nominations agreed by the affiliated clubs in the County but, in the absence of such agreement, shall appoint Delegates with due regard to the registered numerical strength of such clubs.

Delegates must be registered members of affiliated clubs of the County or Provincial Council represented. Delegates must attain the age of 18 at least in the year of the AGM.

The number of registered members as of the 31st of December 2023 was used to calculate the numbers of Delegates per County.

STANDING ORDERS

1. Voting for all motions and amendments shall be by a show of hands: amendment of the Memorandum and Articles of Association (Art 82) requires a **75% majority**; otherwise a **simple majority** will apply.
2. The Proposer of a motion may speak for **3 minutes**, but no longer than **3 minutes**.
3. The Proposer of an amendment may speak for **2 minutes**, but no longer than **2 minutes**.
4. A Delegate speaking to a motion, or an amendment thereto shall not exceed **2 minutes**.
5. The Proposer of a motion may speak for a second time for **2 minutes** before a vote is taken, but **no other** delegate can speak a **second time** to the same motion.
6. The Chair may at any time consider that a motion has been sufficiently discussed; call on the proposer for a reply, and when that has been given a vote must be taken.
7. A Delegate may with the consent of the Chair move **“That the question be now put”** after which, when the Proposer has spoken, a vote shall be taken.
8. Standing orders shall not be suspended for considering any matter not on the agenda, except by the consent of a majority equal to two thirds of those present and entitled to vote.
9. A member who feels that Standing Orders have been contravened may raise a point of order with the Chair. The ruling of the Chair on the point of order shall be final.
10. All speakers shall introduce themselves by stating their name; who they are representing and address all remarks to the Chair.
11. Motions **not** on the final agenda shall **not** be considered.
12. Only members of the **BOARD**, registered delegates of **COUNTY BOARDS** and **PROVINCIAL COUNCILS** may vote, move motions or amendments.
13. The Chair shall lead meeting and is the final arbiter on all matters related to the conduct of the meeting.

TOTAL MEMBERS REGISTERED PER COUNTY AT 31st DECEMBER 2023

Province	County	Total	Voting Strength
	* Antrim	2473	7
	* Armagh	398	2
	Carlow	701	2
	Cavan	759	2
	Clare	1898	5
	Cork	8735	22
	* Derry	457	2
	Donegal	2286	6
	* Down	1707	5
	Dublin	11675	30
	* Fermanagh	185	2
	Galway	3864	10
	Kerry	2009	6
	Kildare	2838	8
	Kilkenny	1762	5
	Laois	1160	3
	Leitrim	631	2
	Limerick	1653	5
	Longford	442	2
	Louth	2468	7
	Mayo	2896	8
	Meath	4503	12
	Monaghan	1418	4
	Offaly	1606	5
	Roscommon	1040	3
	Sligo	1337	4
	Tipperary	2369	6
	* Tyrone	470	2
	Waterford	1708	5
	Westmeath	1200	3
	Wexford	1947	5
	Wicklow	1977	5
Munster			4
Connaught			4
Ulster			4
Leinster			4
AAI Board			16
Total			227

*Information supplied by Athletics Northern Ireland

MOTIONS

CONSTITUTION

Article 33 (vi)		
------------------------	--	--

Registered Members attending (non-voting) as permitted by Article 32;	1.	Revised to: THAT: Registered Members attending (non-voting) as permitted by Article 33 (a); BOARD
---	-----------	---

Rationale: Incorrect numbering.

Article 33 (vii)		
-------------------------	--	--

Representatives of the media, unless excluded in accordance with Article 39; and	2.	Revised to: THAT: Representatives of the media, unless excluded in accordance with Article 40; and BOARD
--	-----------	--

Rationale: Incorrect numbering.

Article 48		
-------------------	--	--

Reinstatement of Article.	3.	Revised to: THAT: Any motion, other than a motion from the Board, whether to amend the memorandum of association of the Association, these Articles, the Bye-laws, the Rules of Competition or Other Rules or on any other topic, shall be notified to the CEO in writing not less than sixty (60) Clear Days before the date for holding the general meeting. Each such motion shall deal with one subject only. BOARD
---------------------------	-----------	---

Rationale: To re-instate this article mistakenly dropped from the constitution following Congress 2023. Note constitutional numbering will be adjusted accordingly.

Article 25 (h)		
-----------------------	--	--

All decisions issued under the Appeals procedure set out in Article 24(f) and 24(g) above may be appealed exclusively by referral to Sport Dispute Solutions Ireland within 14 days after the decision has been communicated to the person or body in respect of whom or which the decision was made, for final and binding arbitration	4.	Revised to: THAT: All decisions issued under the Appeals procedure set out in Article 25(f) and 25(g) above may be appealed exclusively by referral to Sport Dispute Solutions Ireland within 14 days after the decision has been communicated to the person or body in respect of whom or which the decision was made, for final and binding arbitration in accordance with the Sport Dispute Solutions Ireland Arbitration Rules
---	-----------	--

<p>in accordance with the Sport Dispute Solutions Ireland Arbitration Rules (as amended from time to time). The decision of the arbitrator(s) thereunder shall be final and binding on all concerned.</p>		<p>(as amended from time to time). The decision of the arbitrator(s) thereunder shall be final and binding on all concerned.</p>
<p>Rationale: Incorrect numbering.</p>		

<p align="center">Article 14 Affiliated Clubs</p>		
<p>(a) Any club prepared to properly promote Athletics in any County or Province, and which has at least 10 (ten) members (four of whom have attained the age of 21 years) and who will be entitled to be Registered Members if that club becomes Affiliated shall be eligible to apply for Affiliation. All members of an Affiliated Club must become Registered Members within a reasonable time (as determined by the Board in any case) after that club has become Affiliated.</p> <p>(b) Applications for Affiliation by a club together with a copy of its constitution shall be submitted to the relevant County Board which shall have the power to affiliate clubs provisionally.</p> <p>(c) Affiliation provisionally granted by a County Board must be confirmed at its next Annual County Board Convention which confirmation must obtain a special majority, i.e. 2/3 of those clubs present at that Convention and entitled to vote which 2/3 must also represent at least one half of the aggregate voting power of all Affiliated Clubs present at that Convention.</p>	<p>5.</p>	<p>Revised to:</p> <p>THAT:</p> <p>(c) Affiliation granted by a County Board must be confirmed with a majority vote of those affiliated clubs present at the County Board meeting (quorum 50% of total affiliated county clubs plus one) and entitled to vote. The prospective new club should also be present at the County Board meet to present their case (but the prospective new club cannot vote).</p> <p>(d) Should a candidate club fail to become affiliated under 14(c) the right of appeal will be to the relevant Provincial Council within 21 days. The relevant County Board and/or the candidate club will have a further right of appeal (within 21 days of the Provincial Council decision) to the Board of AAI whose decision will be final and binding. All decisions will be communicated within a reasonable time frame.</p>
<p>Rationale: To allow a right of appeal to a candidate club seeking affiliation if not successful under 14(c) above and to simplify the new club affiliation process.</p>		

<p align="center">Motion 5 Amendment A.</p>		
		<p>Revised to:</p> <p>THAT:</p> <p>(c) Affiliation granted by a County Board must be confirmed with a majority vote of those affiliated clubs present at the County Board meeting (quorum 2/3's majority of total affiliated county club delegates) and entitled to vote. The prospective new club should also</p>

		<p>be present at the County Board meet to present their case (but the prospective new club cannot vote).</p> <p>(d) Should a candidate club fail to become affiliated under 14(c) the right of appeal will be to the relevant Provincial Council within 21 days. The relevant County Board and/or the candidate club will have a further right of appeal (within 21 days of the Provincial Council decision) to the Board of AAI whose decision will be final and binding. All decisions will be communicated within a reasonable time frame.</p> <p>GALWAY</p>
<p>Rationale: '50%' changed to two thirds. 'county clubs' changed to 'county delegates'. removal of the words 'plus one'.</p>		
<p>Motion 5 Amendment B.</p>		
		<p>Revised to: THAT: The addition to (d) Such right of appeal may only be to a defect in the process or procedure followed at the County Board meeting and not to the outcome of a vote properly taken under 14(c). Any such defect so appealed to be remitted back to the relevant County Board for rectification.</p> <p>MEATH</p>
<p>Rationale: Clarifying that affiliation of clubs remains a reserved function of County Boards.</p>		

ADMINISTRATION

6. The increase of the registration fee from the 1/1/2025 to Juvenile €20 and Senior €25.

Rationale:

- Applying the split of Juvenile members at €15/Senior €20 to 2024 and assuming we maintain 70k members (no growth) then we would receive approx. €300k extra in nett revenue in 2025.
- Current reg fee is Juvenile €15 and Senior €20 since the 1/1/2019. Note inflation during this period has been approx. 20%.
- For comparison, Swim Ireland senior fee is €49 going to €54, Cycling Ireland senior fee €136, Gymnastics Ireland senior fee €70.
- This increase will be used to cover higher costs across the business as a result of inflation.

BOARD

Motion 6. Amendment

The increase of the registration fee from 1/1/2025 to Juvenile 20 euro and Senior 25 euro, this increase to also cover €1.50 per member for Directors & Officers Insurance.

LOUTH

7. *The increase of the registration fee for Juvenile and Senior members by €1.50 from the 1/1/2025 to cover the cost of Directors & Officers insurance.*

Rationale: Recommendation from Congress 2023.

The cost to establish a group Directors & Officers insurance scheme for all Clubs, County Boards and Provinces is in the region of €100,000. This insurance cover is highly recommended for all Clubs, County Boards and Provinces. This insurance covers the cost of claims and settlement amounts made against your Club and the club's directors and managers, officers or key decision makers for alleged wrongful acts e.g. misleading statement, incorrect decision making, libel/slander, breach of duty, breach of trust or neglect. As an officer of the club you have unlimited personal liability. This policy would therefore protect the assets of the individual in the event of a claim.

The €1.50 fee increase proposed in this motion will be in addition to the €5 proposed in Motion 6.

BOARD

8. *The increase of the Club Affiliation fee to €500 from the 1/1/2025.*

Rationale: Recommendation from Congress 2023.

This motion will be withdrawn by the Board if motion 7. is passed. This motion offers an alternative mechanism to establish the Directors & Officers group insurance scheme.

The increase of the club affiliation fee from the current €150 to €500 from the 1/1/2025. This increase covers the group cost of Directors and Officers liability cover for all AAI affiliated Clubs. This is a group insurance scheme and will save clubs who are currently purchasing this cover independently up to €200 each as the individual cost per club is approximately €550. All Clubs should be availing of this cover to protect their coaches and club officers.

BOARD

9. *Athletics Ireland Affiliated Clubs, County Boards and Provincial Councils must apply for an AAI permit through the approved AAI system portal when organising an event (Recreation, Road, Track & Field & Cross Country) for their own Club, County or Province or on behalf of a third party.*

Rationale:

This motion is to clarify that all Athletics Ireland affiliated Clubs, Counties & Provinces must operate using the approved AAI system portal to obtain a permit. Note this ensures all appropriate events are recorded for insurance purposes for example all road races, County and Provincial Cross Country and Track & Field events. Note club trainings, club and county leagues, development events, squad trainings do not require a permit. All National events are recorded separately and directly with the insurer and hence do not require County Board approval. However, all National event dates will be shared with respective County Boards to prevent date clashes.

BOARD

Motion 9. Amendment

Any unit of the Association, Club, Co Board or Province requiring an event permit on their own behalf or for another organisation must use the Association approved portal system.

Rationale:

The wording 'organising an event (recreation, road, track & field and cross country)' describes practically everything a club and County Board does. An event can be used to cover every small club and county race, club and county leagues, development events (that word again) squad training etc that are the day to day life of our clubs - and can even include schedule training sessions. To have to apply for a permit for each one is not possible for our already overstretched club secretaries.

KILDARE