

Athletics Ireland



Motions Congress 2025

MOTIONS

CONSTITUTION

1. Add new 81 g(viii) in the Constitution as follows:

That: There shall be a Nominations Committee, which shall consist of two standing members and one rotating member. The rotating member shall be either the President (Chair) of the Board or the Chair of the relevant Committee for which appointments are being made under Articles 51 and 81. The two standing members, one of whom will serve as Chair, shall be selected by the President from members of the Association, with at least one being a past or present Board member, as soon as possible after Congress to advise the Board on candidate appointments for approval at the earliest opportunity.

Rationale:

The establishment of a Nominations Committee ensures a structured and effective approach to identifying and appointing suitable candidates for appointed positions following Congress. This practice is common in several sporting organizations. Early appointment is critical to ensuring that suitable candidates are identified in a timely manner, allowing the Board and various committees to reach full complement as soon as possible.

BOARD

BYE-LAWS

2. That: Athletics Ireland provide an additional transfer window for members in January, at the start of the calendar year.

Rationale:

To introduce an additional window for athletes to transfer when the new registration year commences. Applications for transfer would commence in December, closing 21st December. County Boards will review the applications at their January meeting. When approved, the athletes may compete with their new club from the 1st of February.

BOARD

3. That: each county appoint a Development officer to their Board, as a designated role.

Rationale: to keep club and athlete development to the fore of the minds of the organising bodies.

BOARD

4. That: each region appoint a Development officer to their Board, as a designated role.

Rationale: to keep club and athlete development to the fore of the minds of the organising bodies.

BOARD

ADMINISTRATION

5. That: the reimbursement of fees for permitted events to County boards should be paid on the approval of the event.

WEXFORD

6. That: when a club is running a league, one Permit should suffice to cover all days of the league.

WEXFORD

7. That: the Athletics Ireland permit application process be completed before being published.

CORK

8. That: permit application forms shall include requirements for Safety and Risk Assessment.

CORK

9. That: each club upon affiliation to Athletics Ireland receives two complimentary passes which will enable entry to all national championships.

DUBLIN

10. That: Athletics Ireland coaches gain free admission to the National Children's Games as an acknowledgement of their voluntary contribution to the sport.

CONNACHT

11. That: all Athletics Ireland registered coaches gain free admission to the National Juvenile Championships [all days] as an acknowledgement of their voluntary contribution to the sport.

CONNACHT

12. That: Athletics Ireland will commit to providing governance training for all members of principal and appointed committees.

DUBLIN

13. That: all principal and appointed committees of Athletics Ireland will publish a report in conjunction with the regular Board reports.

DUBLIN

14. That: registered Athletics Ireland members from the previous year are eligible to enter competitions where entries close to the first 2 weeks of January in the current year.

DUBLIN

15. That: the Board put in place a public relations officer who will be responsible for ensuring maximum publicity for the association and its activities on national television as well as print and other media.

LEITRIM

16. That: Athletics Ireland create a Family Permit for recreational events. This permit will allow children of any age to participate in Run Walk Jog 5KM events under strict conditions.

Age and Distance Restrictions

- Up to maximum distance of 5K, for Run, Jog, Walk Road permitted events.
- Children 12 years and under can participate with a guardian present and must remain under the supervision of the guardian at all times for safety and guardian purposes.

Entrants

- Entrants up to 1,000
- More than 1,000 entrants, contact Howden insurance Brokers

Cost

- €200 up to 1,000
- On request > 1,000

Additional Rules

- Start times must differ, to differentiate between Competitive and Non-Competitive event.
- Route must be clear to accommodate each event, to ensure no conflict or interference with participants in each respective event.
- No prizes or timing for children 12 years and under.
- Segregated waves start (wave 1: runners, wave 2: joggers, wave 3: walkers, wave 4: buggies). Waves 2 to 4 shall include children 12 years and under.

Mandatory Requirements

- Documented Event Safety Management Plan (ESMP)
 - To outline hazards and associated risks relating to the delivery of the event and sets out responsibilities for managing those risks.
- Documented Event Medical Plan (EMP)
 - To outline the resources, facilities and management structures of medical services being provided for the healthcare of the participants.
- To outline arrangements & procedures to be put in place for a serious incident or a major emergency.

BOARD

COMPETITION

17. That: the following be added to the Competition rules:

As per World Master Athletics rule 5.13.3, athletes participating in Master exclusive competitions organised by the Athletics Association of Ireland be permitted to wear shoes with soles with a maximum thickness of no more than 40mm, except any shoe that contains spikes which can have a sole with a maximum thickness of no more than 30mm.

DUBLIN

18. That: Athletics Ireland implement the same shoe height standards as World Master Athletics for all Irish Master Championships in Track & Field and Road races.

MEATH

19. That: a Masters Women's O/60 county team category be introduced for the National Masters Cross Country Championships, with three to score.

MEATH

20. That: a Masters Men's O/65 county team category be introduced for the National Masters Cross Country Championships, with three to score.

MEATH

21. That: the rules of competition concerning eligibility for national novice cross country and national intermediate cross country are amended to read as follows:

National Novice Cross Country:

1. Novice athletes must be 19 years of age or over on 31 December in the year of competition.
2. An athlete who has never been an individual medal winner or a scoring member of the winning club or county team at the National novice Cross Country Championships.
3. An athlete who has never been an individual medal winner or a scoring member of the winning club or county team at the national intermediate Championships.
4. An athlete who has never been an individual medal winner or a scoring member of the winning club or county team at National Senior Cross country grade A championship.
5. An athlete who has never been an individual medal (senior) winner at National level in any senior track indoor, outdoor or road championship at 1500m or greater.
6. An athlete who has never represented Ireland at any World Athletics or EAA Senior International championship.

National intermediate Cross Country:

1. Intermediate athletes must be 20 years of age or over on 31 December in the year of competition.
2. An athlete who has never been an individual medal winner or a scoring member of the winning club or county team at the national intermediate Cross Country Championships.
3. An athlete who has never been an individual medal winner or a scoring member of the winning club or county team at National Senior Cross country grade A championship.
4. An athlete who has never been an individual medal (senior) winner at National level in any senior track indoor, outdoor or road championship at 1500m or greater.
6. An athlete who has never represented Ireland at any World Athletics Member Federation or EAA Senior International championship.

DUBLIN

22. That: Rule 7 of the competition rules for the National Intermediate Cross Country be amended to read as follows:

An athlete who has never represented Ireland, or any other World Athletics member federation, at any World Athletics or EAA Senior International Championship.

CORK

23. That: Rule 9 of the Competition rules for National Novice Cross Country be amended as follows:

An athlete who has never represented Ireland, or any other World Athletics member federation, at any World Athletics or EAA senior international championship.

CORK

24. That: separate National Masters Cross country rules be drawn up.

CORK

25. That: Athletics Ireland include a 1-mile road race National Senior Championship competition to the calendar.

DUBLIN

26. That: Senior Walk Distances be updated to the new World Athletics Distances of Half Marathon & Marathon.

BOARD

27. That: the Intermediate Men's Cross-Country distance to be reduced to 7000m.

BOARD

28. That: Athletics Ireland should advocate at European Athletics and other relevant bodies to reinstate the European Clubs Championship for National League (track and field) outdoor champions. They should report any responses to all County Boards promptly and provide a comprehensive report on their efforts at the next General Meeting of Athletics Ireland.

DUBLIN

29. That: within the competition rules of Athletics Ireland, the World Athletics Rule TR17.3, be modified for the 4 x 200m relay event for Juveniles in the U12 to U15 category to read:

That a time penalty be applied, where currently the applications of the World Athletics Rule TR17.3, would usually result in a disqualification of the team

DUBLIN

30. That: Spraoi games be added to the events that AAI promote at County and Regional level.

BOARD

31. That the distance of Boy's U18 Steeplechase be reduced to 2km and height of 2'9" (0.838m) in line with the current European and EYOF championship distance for that age group.

BOARD

APPENDIX

Amendments to Congress Motions

Motion 2.

THAT: Athletics Ireland provide an additional transfer window for members in January, at the start of the calendar year.

BOARD

Amendment A

THAT: A.A.I. introduces an additional window for athletes to transfer when the new registration year commences. Applications for transfer would commence in November, closing 21st November. County Boards will review the applications at their December meeting. When approved, the athletes may compete with their new club from the 1st of January.

CORK

Amendment B

THAT: Athletics Ireland allow athlete transfers to take place at any time throughout the year, with transfer applications to be submitted on a rolling basis and reviewed monthly at County Board meetings.

Rationale: This amendment removes the restriction of fixed transfer windows, providing greater flexibility for athletes and clubs. Transfer applications would be accepted throughout the year, and County Boards would process them at their regular monthly meetings. This aligns the transfer process more closely with how lapsed athletes are currently permitted to transfer at any time, ensuring consistency and fairness in the treatment of all athletes. The existing restriction of allowing only one transfer per athlete in any twelve-month period would remain in place. This change helps reduce administrative bottlenecks and allows athletes to change clubs in a timely manner, supporting their ongoing development and engagement in the sport.

MEATH

Motion 5.

THAT: the reimbursement of fees for permitted events to County Boards should be paid on the approval of the event.

WEXFORD

Amendment

THAT: the reimbursement of fees for permitted events to County Boards will be paid electronically on the approval of the event once all County Boards have connected their Stripe accounts.

BOARD

Rationale: We would prefer to facilitate all County Board payments electronically at event approval. We do require all County Boards to have this e-payment facility in place prior to automating our system. We have previously sought to establish Stripe accounts with all County Boards to facilitate this payment but to date only have four County Board Stripe accounts are connected to AAI. We will continue to progress this integration with all County Boards.

Motion 7.

THAT: the Athletics Ireland permit application process be completed before being published.

CORK

Amendment

THAT: The Athletics Ireland Permit Application Process must be completed and approved by the relevant County before being published.

CORK

Motion 9.

THAT: each club upon affiliation to Athletics Ireland receives two complimentary passes which will enable entry to all national championships.

DUBLIN

Amendment

THAT: Each affiliated Club receives 4 complimentary tickets for their coaches to attend the following National Championship events; National Senior T&F (2 days), National Juvenile T&F Relays (1 Day), National Juvenile Children Games (1 Day), Autumn Open & Juvenile XC Relays (1 Day).

Note the tickets will be issued electronically to the Club Secretary prior to each event.

BOARD

Rationale: We recognise the contribution of all volunteers including coaches in our sport. However, due to the severely restricted capacity at Indoor events we cannot provide complimentary tickets for these events. We also note that this proposed amendment has a value of €74,000 if all allocated tickets are used in all five days of national events. This significant financial investment in tickets will require a full budgetary review as this potentially represents a 14% cut to the overall competition department budget.

Motion 31.

THAT: the distance of Boy's U18 Steeplechase be reduced to 2km and height of 2'9" (0.838m) in line with the current European and EYOF championship distance for that age group

BOARD

Amendment

THAT: the Boy's U18 Steeplechase distance and heights shall comply with the European and EYOF championship regulations.

CORK

Rationale: Avoid specifics and keep it general, to allow for future change at European and EYOF levels.