

For the attention of:

European Athletics Member Federations
European Athletics Council
European Athletics Commissions/Committee

Copy: World Athletics President, World Athletics CEO

Items covered in this letter:

European Athletics Team Championships 2023

- Programme and Structure
- Technical Regulations
- Quota
- Entries
- Victory Ceremonies

Lausanne, 20 May 2022
Circular Letter 2022/19

Dear Friends,

Further to the Circular Letter 2022/16 on the integration of the European Athletics Team Championships 2023 into the European Games, and that it will take place in Silesia/POL from 20 June to June 25 2023, we hereby have the pleasure to share the following information.

First of all, we would like to introduce the new concept of this event. Some discussions with the European Olympic Committee led European Athletics to think of revisiting the existing format of the Team Championships and have a new concept with all European teams competing at the same venue in order to create a TV & spectator more appealing event.

Programme and Structure

The athletics competition within the European Games 2023 is the team championships between European Athletics Member Federations, divided into 3 (three) Divisions: First Division with 16 teams, Second Division with 16 teams, and Third Division with the remaining teams (approximately 16). Please, see **Appendix 1** for more information. Each Division is to be regarded as a separate match and scored accordingly.

It shall be staged over 6 (six) days as the following:

Day 1 to Day 3: Third (3rd) Division in the morning sessions and the Second (2nd) Division in the evening sessions.

Day 4 to Day 6: First (1st) Division in the evening sessions.

The programme shall comprise 37 disciplines in total, including 18 Men, 18 Women, and one mixed discipline as below:

Men:

- Track: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 5000m, 110m hurdles, 400m hurdles, 3000m steeplechase, 4x100m relay
- Field: High Jump, Pole Vault, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Shot put, Discus Throw, Hammer Throw, Javelin Throw

Women:

- Track: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 5000m, 100m hurdles, 400m hurdles, 3000m steeplechase, 4x100m relay
- Field: High Jump, Pole Vault, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Shot put, Discus Throw, Hammer Throw, Javelin Throw

- Mixed:* 4x400m Mixed Relay

Each team shall consist of one athlete in each discipline (Men and Women), and to be represented with one team in each relay (Men, Women & Mixed).

Technical Regulations

Detailed technical regulations will be available [here](#) once finalised.

Quota

Each team invited to participate, as per **Appendix 1**, is to have a maximum of 46 athletes in quota, with one athlete per individual event and four per relay. The quota of officials has been set to 12. EOC is to provide financial support to accommodation and travel for in quota athletes and officials. Further information about travel subvention is to be communicated at a later stage. However, please note that European Athletics will work with a travel agency to assess the price from the respective capital city in each country to Silesia and decide about an average travel subvention. The detailed information for out-of-quota participation is also to be confirmed in due time.

Entries

All European Athletics Member Federations will be requested in due time to enter their teams' information into the European Athletics online Entry System, based on the hereunder deadlines:

- Preliminary Entries: from 7 to 23 March 2023 for all divisions
Final Entries: from 30 May to 12 June 2023 for Second and Third Divisions
from 30 May to 15 June 2023 for the First Division.

Member Federations will be able to enter reserve athletes in the final entries system.

Victory Ceremonies

The first, second and third placed teams in the First Division shall receive gold, silver and bronze medals. In addition, the winning team of the First Division shall receive the European Athletics Team Championships Cup. The first, second and third placed teams in the Second and Third Divisions shall receive a plaque.

Besides teams ranking and medals, there will be also winners and medallists in the individual disciplines and relays, as part of the European Games 2023 programme. The winners and medallists of individual events and relays will be identified based on the best performances achieved in the First Division only.

Kind regards,



Christian Milz
CEO

Appendix

App. 1 ETCH2023 - Grouping

Appendix 1 – Grouping – European Athletics Team Championships 2023

The distribution of the MFs below is made based on the Teams ranking following European Athletics Team Championships 2021 results (including relegation of several teams due to non-participation).

Division I	Division II	Division III
Poland	Norway	Luxembourg
Italy	Romania	Bosnia Herzegovina
Great Britain & NI	Estonia	Malta
Germany	Hungary	Montenegro
Spain	Denmark	Georgia
France	Slovenia	Armenia
Portugal	Lithuania	Andorra
Czech Republic	Bulgaria	Republic of North Macedonia
Belarus*	Slovakia	San Marino
Netherlands	Latvia	Albania
Switzerland	Croatia	AASSE
Turkey	Iceland	Azerbaijan
Finland	Serbia	Kosovo
Sweden	Cyprus	Austria
Greece	Rep. of Moldova	Ireland
Belgium	Ukraine	Israel
		Russian Federation*

*Participation of BLR and RUS is subject to the lifting of the current sanctions.

Note: the order of MFs in each Division and across divisions is presented in the order of the ranking based on the Team Championships 2021 edition. If any of the MFs is not taking part in the Team Championships 2023 (in regard to Division I and Division II), for whatever reason, the replacement will be done by the MF first in the ranking order of the next division, and so on. E.g.: In case of no participation of BLR, the first team in the ranking of the next Division (i.e. NOR) will take its place in the First Division.



TECHNICAL REGULATIONS 2023 European Games - Athletics

1. General

1.1. The Athletics competition within the 2023 European Games, hereafter called "the European Games 2023", is the "European Athletics Team Championships" to be organised in Silesia, from 20 to 25 June 2023 and for which a specific Operational Committee has been created (hereafter called "Host Authority for Athletics").

2. Programme, Structure and Scoring

2.1. The athletics competition within the European Games 2023 is a team competition between European Athletics Member Federations, divided into 3 (three) Divisions, and held in accordance with the applicable Rules of the World Athletics (WA) and the current regulations.

2.2 The participating teams shall be divided into the Divisions as the following: First Division with 16 teams, Second Division with 16 teams, and Third Division with the remaining teams (approximately 16).

Each Division is to be regarded as a separate match and scored accordingly.

Please, see below Appendix 1 for the teams' distribution.

2.3 It shall be staged over 6 (six) days as below:

Day 1 to Day 3: Third (3rd) Division in the morning sessions and the Second (2nd) Division in the evening sessions.

Day 4 to Day 6: First (1st) Division in the evening sessions.

2.4 The programme shall comprise 37 disciplines in total, including 18 Men, 18 Women, and one mixed discipline as below:

Men:

- Track: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 5000m, 110m hurdles, 400m hurdles,
3000m steeplechase, 4x100m relay

- Jumps: High Jump, Pole Vault, Long Jump, Triple Jump

- Throws: Shot put, Discus Throw, Hammer Throw, Javelin Throw

Women:

- Track: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 5000m, 100m hurdles, 400m hurdles,
3000m steeplechase, 4x100m relay

- Jumps: High Jump, Pole Vault, Long Jump, Triple Jump

- Throws: Shot put, Discus Throw, Hammer Throw, Javelin Throw

- Mixed: 4x400m Mixed Relay

2.5 Each team shall consist of one athlete in each discipline (Man and Woman), and to be represented with one team in each relay (Men, Women & Mixed).

2.4 The winner of each individual discipline and each relay in each match shall score as many points as there are teams competing in the respective Division, the second will score one fewer, and so on. Athletes or relay teams with no valid performance, disqualified or not finishing shall not score.

If two or more athletes tie for a place in any event, the attributable points shall be divided equally between them.

2.5 The team having the highest aggregate number of points shall be the winner of the Division, and so on. If two or more teams have the same aggregate number of points, the tie shall be decided in favour of the team having the greater number of event winners. If the tie remains it shall be decided in favour of the team having the greater number of second places, and so on.

2.6 After the conclusion of the European Games 2023, the following relegation and promotion is to be made for the next edition of the European Athletics Team Championships.

2.6.1 The three lowest ranked teams of the First Division are to be relegated to the Second Division.

2.6.2 The three highest ranked teams of the Second Division are to be promoted to the First Division, while the three lowest ranked teams are to be relegated to the Third Division.

2.6.3 The three highest ranked teams of the Third Division are to be promoted to the Second Division.

2.7 Special technical rules applicable to the European Athletics Team Championships are defined in Appendix 2.

3. Participation

3.1 All European Member Federations in good standing, hereafter called "MFs", shall be entitled to participate in the athletics programme of the European Games 2023 – the European Athletics Team Championships.

3.2 The quota of athletes for the European Games athletics competition has been set by European Athletics. Each team invited to participate, as per Appendix 1, is to have a maximum of 46 athletes, with one athlete per individual event and four per relay. The quota of officials has been set to 12.

4. Entries

4.1 No athlete may take part in the athletics competition of the European Games 2023 unless entered by the Member Federation, which he/she is eligible to represent in accordance with the relevant eligibility rules. The Member Federations must enter via European Athletics Entry System.

4.2 Subject to the exceptions stated below, only athletes aged at least sixteen (16) years on 31 December of the year of the competition may participate in the athletics competition of the European Games 2023.

Only athletes aged at least 18 (eighteen) years on 31 December of the year of the competition may participate in the Shot Put (men) and Hammer Throw (men).

4.3 Sport Entries:

Preliminary Entries: from 7 to 23 March 2023 for all divisions

Final Entries: from 30 May to 12 June 2023 for Second and Third Divisions

from 30 May to 15 June 2023 for the First Division.

In addition to quota mentioned above, the Member Federations will still be able to enter reserve athletes in the final entries system for replacements in case of medical or other relevant reasons.

- 4.4 Final Confirmation: Final Confirmation of athletes to compete shall be made according to the procedures and deadlines defined in the Team Manual.

For relays, four (4) athletes to participate must be nominated, at the time specified for the Final Confirmation, out of four (4) athletes entered for the relay and from any other athletes entered for any individual event and/or reserves athletes.

After the closure of final confirmation, the alterations may be allowed only for medical reasons. Each requested change due to the medical reason is to be confirmed by the appointed Medical Delegate. The procedures, including the deadline, for such alterations are to be defined in the Team Manual.

5. Delegates and Officials

5.1 General

- 5.1.1 The costs of the European Athletics Officiating Persons for the European Athletics Team Championships are defined in the respective Organiser Agreement; European Athletics Officiating Persons are divided into Core Production Team members and Other European Athletics Delegates and Officials as per point 5.2 for the purpose of the involvement in the preparations of the Athletics event.

The European Athletics Core Production Team and international technical officials shall arrive at least two days before the Competition (except for the European Athletics Core Production Team which may need to arrive earlier) until one day after the Competition. The Technical Delegates and European Athletics Competition Manager will take part in preliminary visits as required for the successful staging of the European Games 2023.

- 5.1.2 No European Athletics Core Production Team members and International and National Technical officials may be a member of his/her NOC's delegation.
- 5.1. All European Athletics Core Production Team members and International and National Technical officials shall act in conformity with current WA Rules, European Athletics Regulations and Guidelines, and the EOC Charter.
- 5.1.4 European Athletics Core Production Team members and Other European Athletics Delegates and Officials as hereunder shall be appointed at least 12 months before the Competition.

5.2 Event Production Core Team

- 2 Technical Delegates
- 1 Event Presentation Manager
- 1 TV Production Advisor
- 1 Competition Manager

5.3 Other European Athletics Delegates and Officials

- 1 Medical Delegate
- 1 Doping Control Delegate
- 8 International Technical Officials (ITOs), WA and/or Area Level;
- 1 International Starter;

1 International Photo Finish Judge;

5.4 National Technical Officials (NTOs)

The Host Authority for Athletics through the relevant National Member Federation is responsible for the appointment of all NTOs, whose competence must be guaranteed. The list of NTOs must be approved by European Athletics.

The National Member Federation shall plan and implement educational activities for NTOs with the support of European Athletics, where relevant.

6. Technical Matters and Requirements

6.1 Facilities

6.1.1 Main Stadium

The European Games 2023 Athletics Competition shall be held in a stadium conforming in all respects with the requirements of WA Track and Field Facilities Manual, WA Technical Rules and relevant sections of European Athletics Organisational Manual.

The main stadium must be fully equipped with the equipment and implements for which a current WA Certificate of Approval exists. The track must hold Class 1 WA Athletics Facility Certificate.

6.1.2 Warm-Up & Training Area

Adequate training and warm-up facilities must be provided to ensure training and warm-up possibilities, according to the requirements of European Athletics, for all events at appropriate times. European Athletics Technical Delegates shall inspect and decide upon the most suitable facilities during the Site Visit(s).

6.1.3 Technical Offices and Rooms

The technical and functional offices and rooms must be provided as per European Athletics requirements. European Athletics Technical Delegates shall inspect and decide upon the most suitable facilities during the Site Visit(s).

6.2 Technical Services

6.2.1 Timing

A Fully Automatic Timing and Photo Finish system must be used.

WA certified Start Information System (SIS) is to be provided.

6.2.2 Measurement

Video Distance Measuring (VDM) and Electronic Distance Measuring (EDM) equipment must be provided and shall be used as appropriate for the field events.

6.2.3 Video Recording

It is mandatory that a dedicated video system to be provided to record all events and ensure correct decisions taken by the Video Referee (s). The system shall enable Video Referee (s) to take 'live' decisions. The system is to be according to the requirements of European Athletics.

6.2.4 Video Board

At least three (3) video boards in the stadium shall be provided: one for permanent team ranking, one for data (e.g. results) and one for video. The location, size and technical specifications of the video screens must be approved by European Athletics.

In addition, LED screens are to be provided for Athletes Introduction Gate and Long Jump/Triple Jump ruler board.

6.2.5 Public Address System

The main stadium must be provided with a suitable sound system for public address and event presentation purposes to be approved by European Athletics.

6.3 Lane Draw and Starting Order

The draw for lanes in track events is to be done by European Athletics Technical Delegates separately for each division. Please, refer to Appendix 3 for more information.

6.4 Protests

Any protest shall be made orally to the relevant Referee in the infield by an athlete or someone acting on behalf of an athlete, during the event or immediately after the event. The decision of the Referee will be final, and no further appeals will be allowed. Video Recording and Control System will be used extensively to support immediate decisions by the Referee.

6.5 Coaches and Teams Areas

To facilitate communication between team members and encourage teams support and engagement, there will be designated team zone close to the competition area. The exact location of the zone will be specified in the Team Manual and/or at the Technical Briefing.

In addition, there will be designated zones for the coaches of the field events (one coach per team for each field event).

7. Protocol, Medals, Ceremonies

7.1 All matters concerning protocol, ceremonies, awards, and related matters shall be in accordance with the European Athletics regulations and procedures and respective manuals and guidelines.

7.2. Medals

7.2.1 The first, second and third placed teams in the First Division shall receive gold, silver and bronze medals respectively provided by the Host Authority for Athletics. Meaning, all members of the first, second and third placed teams in the First Division shall receive gold, silver, and bronze medals respectively.

In addition, the winning team of the First Division shall receive the European Athletics Team Championships Trophy to be provided by European Athletics. The second and third finishing teams in that division shall receive a plaque to be provided by European Athletics.

7.2.2 The first three teams in each match of the Second and Third Divisions shall receive a plaque from European Athletics.

7.2.3 There will be also winners and medallists in the individual disciplines and relays, as part of the European Games 2023 programme. The medals are to be provided by the European Games 2023 OC, and the ceremonies organised as per EOC regulations and procedures.

The winners and medallists of individual events and relays will be identified based on the best performances achieved in the First Division only.

In case of a tie for the individual events' position in track events, including relays, the tie is to be decided by the Chief Photo Finish Judge considering the actual times recorded by the athletes to .001 second. If it is still equal, the tie shall remain, and the athletes concerned get the same medals.

In case of a tie for the individual events' position in the field events, the tie shall be decided based on WA TR 25.22. If following the WA TR 25.22, the tie remains, the athletes concerned shall get the same medals.

Consequently, the athletics programme of the European Games 2023 is to include 38 medal events (37 individual/relays and one (1) for the team's final standing of the First Division) and to be counted in the overall Medal Standing of the European Games 2023.

8. Teams Uniform

As per European Athletics- EOC agreement, the participating teams should participate in their respective Federation official team clothing/uniform. World Athletics Rule 5 of the Technical Rules will be strictly applied. Member Federations shall confirm their Team Vests to European Athletics via the process to be described at the Team Manual in due time.

At the same time, the team vests, to be worn at the medal ceremonies, are to be the official team vests of the respective National Olympic Committees (NOCs).

Appendix 1 – Grouping

The distribution of the MFs below is made based on the Teams ranking following European Athletics Team Championships 2021 results (including relegation of several teams due to non-participation).

Division I	Division II	Division III
Poland	Norway	Luxembourg
Italy	Romania	Bosnia Herzegovina
Great Britain & NI	Estonia	Malta
Germany	Hungary	Montenegro
Spain	Denmark	Georgia
France	Slovenia	Armenia
Portugal	Lithuania	Andorra
Czech Republic	Bulgaria	Republic of North Macedonia
Belarus*	Slovakia	San Marino
Netherlands	Latvia	Albania
Switzerland	Croatia	AASSE
Turkey	Iceland	Azerbaijan
Finland	Serbia	Kosovo
Sweden	Cyprus	Austria
Greece	Rep. of Moldova	Ireland
Belgium	Ukraine	Israel
		Russian Federation*

*Participation of BLR and RUS is subject to the lifting of the current sanctions.

Note: the order of MFs in each Division and across divisions is presented in the order of the ranking based on the Team Championships 2021 edition. If any of the MFs is not taking part in the Team Championships 2023 (regarding Division I and Division II), for whatever reason, the replacement will be done by the MF first in the ranking order of the next division, and so on. E.g.: In case of no participation of BLR, the first team in the ranking of the next Division (i.e., NOR) will take its place in the First Division.

Appendix 2 – Special Technical Rules

1. The recommended distribution of the disciplines per day for each respective division as the following:

Day/Session 1	Day/Session 2	Day/Session 3
100m W	100mH W	200m W
100m M	110mH M	200m M
400m W	400mH W	1500m W
400m M	400mH M	3000mSC W
800m M	800m W	5000m M
3000mSC M	1500m M	4 x 400m X
5000m W	4 x 100m W	Long Jump W
Triple Jump M	4 x 100m M	High Jump W
Pole Vault M	Pole Vault W	High Jump M
Shot Put W	Long Jump M	Shot Put M
Hammer W	Triple Jump W	Javelin W
Discus W	Hammer M	Javelin M
	Discus M	

2. Specific Technical Regulations

- 2.1 The horizontal field events will be held as straight final with 16 (or more) athletes.

All participating athletes will have three attempts (rounds 1, 2 & 3). Then, the best 8 athletes will have two more attempts (round 4 & 5). Finally, the best 4 athletes will have the final attempt (round 6).

WA TR 25.22 will apply for ties.

- 2.2 In the vertical jumps, the athletes will be divided in two groups (A & B). Both groups are to be held simultaneously. The overall standing of the competition will be based on the combined results of both groups.

The WA TR 26.2 shall be respected. Furthermore, each competitor is limited to a maximum of 4 (four) fouls throughout the whole competition. After the fourth foul he/she may not jump further unless he/she has won the competition. The rule of 4 (four) maximum fouls does not apply in case of the jump-off for the first place.

The time permitted for each attempt shall be always 1 (one) minute, except the consecutive attempts by the same athlete, or if only the winner is competing, in which case WA TR 25.17 shall apply.

The winner of the competition is allowed to continue according to WA TR 26.4. WA TR 26.8 will apply for placing.

The starting heights and the progression in both groups are to be decided by the Technical Delegates considering relevant information (i.e. personal & seasonal bests of the participating athletes). Each group may have a different starting height, but the progression should be similar.

2.3 For the First & Second Divisions, the track events from 100m to 800m inclusively and all the relays are to be held in two heats. 1500m, 5000m & 3000m SC are to be held with one heat only.

The above could be adapted if necessary for the Third Division in case there are more than 16 teams.

2.4 For 4x400m Mixed Relay, the order is defined as man - woman - man - woman.

Appendix 3 – Lane Draw and Starting Order

1. Field Events

- 1.1 The order of attempts in the horizontal field events shall be decided by a draw conducted by European Athletics for each respective discipline separately.

In the horizontal field events, the starting order of attempts is to be held for the first three rounds. The order of the attempts for 4th & 5th rounds is to be in the reverse order based on the ranking after the 3rd round. The order of attempts for the last (6th) round is to be in the reverse order based on the ranking after the 5th round.

- 1.2 The distribution of the athletes in between Group A and Group B in the vertical jumps is to be done by the Technical Delegates based on the personal bests of the participating athletes. Once the distribution of the athletes is done, the starting order is to be decided by draw for each group and for each respective discipline separately.

2. Track events

- 2.1 The heats for the track events from 100m to 800m inclusively are to be arranged by the Technical Delegates considering as much information as possible about the performances of the participating athletes. Normally, the best performers are to compete in the same heat. A seeding list is to be defined by the Technical Delegate for that purpose.

- 2.2 Once the heats are arranged, the lane distribution is to be conducted by the Technical Delegates as per the WA TR 20.4.2, with the required adaptations, and using the seeding list mentioned above.

- 2.2 The results of the two heats are amalgamated, with the athletes' times determining their placing. In case of a tie between athletes in the different heats for races up to 800m inclusively and the relays, the photo finish judge shall consider the actual times to the 1/1000th of a second. If the tie cannot be broken the attributable points shall be divided equally between them.

- 2.3 For 4x100m and 4x400m Mixed relays, the teams' distribution per heat will be according to the teams scoring standings 1 (one) hour before the scheduled time for each event. The best scored teams will compete in the same heat which shall be the last event of the session of track events. The results of the two heats are amalgamated, as according to the clause 2.2 above.

- 2.4 For 1500m, 5000m and 3000m SC, the lanes distribution is to be done by draw for each respective discipline separately.