PART III - WORLD RECORDS

31. World Records

Submission and Ratification

31.1 A World Record shall be made in a bona fide competition which has been duly arranged, advertised and authorised before the day of the event by the Member in whose Country or Territory the event takes place and which has been conducted under and in compliance with the Rules. For individual events, at least three athletes and for relay events, at least two teams must be bona fide competitors in the event. Except for Field Events conducted as provided in Rule 9.4 of the Technical Rules and competitions held outside the stadium under Rules 54 and 55 of the Technical Rules, no performance set by an athlete will be ratified if it has been accomplished during a simultaneous competition.

Note: Women only Road Race records are subject to the conditions set out in Rule 32 of the Competition Rules.

31.2 The following categories of World Records are accepted by World Athletics:

31.2.1 World Records;

31.2.2 World U20 Records.

Note (i): For the purposes of these Rules, unless the context dictates otherwise, World Records refers to all categories of records under this Rule.

Note (ii): World Records under Rules 31.2.1 and 31.2.2 of the Competition Rules shall recognise the best ratified performances achieved at any facility complying with Rule 31.12 or 31.13 of the Competition Rules.

31.3 An athlete (or athletes in the case of a relay event) who sets a World Record must:

31.3.1 have been eligible to compete under the Rules;

31.3.2 have been under the jurisdiction of a Member;

31.3.3 in the case of a performance submitted under Rule 31.2.2 of the Competition Rules, unless the athlete's date of birth has been previously confirmed by the Chief Executive Officer, have their date of birth confirmed by their passport, birth certificate or similar official documentation, a copy of which, if not available to be attached to the application form, must be provided by the athlete or athlete's Member Federation to the Chief Executive Officer without delay;

31.3.4 in the case of relay events, must all be eligible to represent a single Member in accordance with Eligibility to Represent a Member Rules.

31.3.5 submit to doping control immediately after the end of the event, where the athlete has broken or equalled a World Record. No delays other than those identified in the Anti-Doping Rules (Appendix 5 – Article 5.4.4 (a)) shall be accepted. Doping controls for the ratification of a World Record shall be conducted in accordance with the Anti-Doping Rules and the sample(s) shall be sent for analysis to a WADA accredited laboratory as soon as possible after collection. Doping control samples collected for the ratification of World Records in endurance events from 400m upwards shall be analysed for

Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents (ESA). The doping control documentation (doping control form and corresponding laboratory results) shall be sent to World Athletics as soon as it is available and, ideally, together with the World Record Application Form (see CR 31.6). The doping control documentation will be reviewed by the Athletics Integrity Unit and the performance will not be ratified in the following circumstances:

a. if a doping control is not conducted, or

b. if the doping control has not been conducted in accordance with the Competition Rules or the Anti-Doping Rules, or

c. if the doping control sample is not suitable for analysis or has not been analysed for ESA (for endurance events from 400m upwards only), or

d. if the doping control results in an anti-doping rule violation.

Note (i): In the case of a Relay World Record, all members of the team must be tested.

Note (ii): If an athlete has admitted that, at some time prior to achieving a World Record, they had used or taken advantage of a substance or technique prohibited at that time, then, subject to the advice of the Athletics Integrity Unit, such record will not continue to be regarded as a World Record by World Athletics.

31.4 When a performance equals or betters an existing World Record, the Member of the Country where the performance was set shall collect together, without delay, all the information required for ratification of the Record by World Athletics. No performance shall be regarded as a World Record until it has been ratified by World Athletics. The Member should immediately inform World Athletics of its intention to submit the performance.

31.5 The submitted performance shall be better than or equal to the existing World Record for that event, as accepted by World Athletics. If a World Record is equalled, it shall have the same status as the existing World Record.

31.6 The official application form of World Athletics shall be completed and dispatched to the Office within 30 days. If the application concerns a foreign athlete (or a foreign team), a duplicate of the form shall be sent within the same period to the Member of the athlete (or team).

Note: Forms are available, on request, from the World Athletics Office, or may be downloaded from the World Athletics website.

31.7 The Member of the Country where the performance was set shall send, with the official application form:

31.7.1 the printed programme of the competition (or electronic equivalent);

31.7.2 the complete results of the event, including all information required under this Rule;

31.7.3 in the case of a Track World Record where Fully Automatic Timing was in operation, the Photo Finish and zero control test images;

31.7.4 any other information required to be submitted by this Rule, where such information is or should be in its possession.

31.8 Performances made 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 Rule 18.7 of the Competition Rules or Rules 8.4.2, 17.1 or 25.20 of the Technical Rules, in Race Walking Events in which Rule 54.7.3 of the Technical Rules 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, may be submitted for ratification.

31.9 The President and the Chief Executive Officer of World Athletics together are authorised to ratify World Records. If they are in any doubt whether or not the performance should be ratified, the case shall be referred to Council for decision in accordance with the Governance Rules.

31.10 When a World Record has been ratified, the Chief Executive Officer will:

31.10.1 so inform the athlete's Member, the Member applying for the World Record and the relevant Area Association;

31.10.2 supply the official World Record Plaques, for presentation to World Record holders.

31.10.3 update the official List of World Records. This list shall represent the performances regarded by World Athletics as being, from the date of the list, the best ratified performances yet set by an athlete or team of athletes in each of the recognised events listed in Rule 32 of the Competition Rules.

31.11 If the performance is not ratified, the Chief Executive Officer will give the reasons.

Specific Conditions

31.12 For World Records on 400m Standard Oval Track:

31.12.1 The performance shall be made in a World Athletics certified athletics facility or at a competition area which conforms to Rule 2 of the Technical Rules or, where applicable, Rule 11.2 or 11.3 of the Technical Rules.

31.12.2 For any performance at any distance of 200m or more to be ratified, the track on which it was made shall not exceed 402.3m (440 yards) and the race shall have started on some part of the perimeter. This limitation does not apply to the Steeplechase Events where the water jump is placed outside a normal 400m track.

31.12.3 A performance in an oval Track Event shall be made in a lane where the running line radius does not exceed 50m, except where the bend is formed with two different radii, in which case the longer of the two arcs should not account for more than 60° of the 180° turn.

31.12.4 A performance in a Track Event on a 400m Standard Oval Track may be made only on a track which conforms to Rule 14 of the Technical Rules.

31.13 For World Records on 200m Standard Oval Track (Short Track):

31.13.1 The performance shall have been made in a World Athletics certified athletics facility or at a competition area, which complies with Rules 41 to 43 of the Technical Rules as applicable.

31.13.2 For races of 200m and over, the oval track may not have a nominal length of more than 201.2m (220 yards).

31.13.3 The performance may be made on an oval track with a nominal length less than 200m

provided that the distance run is within permitted tolerance for the distance.

31.13.4 The performance in an oval Track Event shall be made in a lane where the projected running line radius on the constant banked bend segment does not exceed 27m and, for multiple lap events, the two straights each are at least 30m long.

31.14 For World Records in Running and Race Walking Events:

31.14.1 The performance shall be timed by official Timekeepers, by a Fully Automatic Timing and Photo Finish System (for which a zero control test has been undertaken in accordance with Rule 19.19 of the Technical Rules) or by a Transponder System (see Rule 19.24 of the Technical Rules) complying with the Rules.

31.14.2 For races up to and including 800m (including 4 × 200m and 4 × 400m), only performances timed by a Fully Automatic Timing and Photo Finish System complying with the Rules shall be ratified.

31.14.3 For performances made outdoors up to and including 200m, except for 200m races on a 200m Standard Oval Track, information concerning wind velocity, measured as indicated in Rules 17.8 to 17.13 of the Technical Rules inclusive, shall be submitted. If the wind velocity, measured in the direction of running, averages more than 2 metres per second, the performance will not be ratified.

31.14.4 No performance will be ratified where the athlete has infringed Rule 17.3 of the Technical Rules except,

a. in cases covered in Rules 17.3.1 and 17.3.2 of the Technical Rules, or

b. in cases covered in Rules 17.3.3 and 17.3.4 of the Technical Rules, if it is the first infringement in the event,

nor in the case of an individual event where an athlete has recorded a false start as allowed under Rule 39.8.3 of the Technical Rules.

31.14.5 For performances up to and including 400m (including 4 × 200m and 4 × 400m) under Rule 32 of the Competition Rules, starting blocks linked to a World Athletics certified Start Information System under Rule 15.3 of the Technical Rules must have been used and have functioned correctly so that reaction times were obtained and are shown on the results of the event.

Note: This Rule 31.14.5 does not apply to World U20 Records.

The amendment to Rule 17.3 of the Technical Rules means for World Record ratification that if an athlete or relay team achieves a record time and, in that race, that athlete (or any athlete in the relay team) made a single infringement under Rules 17.3.3 or 17.3.4 of the Technical Rules, and in the case of an event with more than one round, it was the first infringement in the event, the record can stand. If the athlete or relay team achieves a record time and, in that race, an infringement occurred more than once or the athlete or relay team carried over such infringement from a previous round of the same event, the record cannot be ratified.

31.15 For World Records set over multiple distances in the same race:

31.15.1 A race shall be stated to be over one distance only.

31.15.2 A race based on the distance covered over a given time may be combined with a race over a fixed distance (for example, 1 Hour and 10,000m - see Rule 18.3 of the Technical Rules).

31.15.3 It is permissible for the same athlete to submit multiple performances for ratification in the same race.

31.15.4 It is permissible for several athletes to submit performances for ratification in the same race.

31.15.5 A performance will not be ratified at a shorter distance if the athlete did not finish the full distance of that race.

31.16 For World Records in Relay Events:

The time set by the first athlete in a relay team may not be submitted for ratification as a World Record.

31.17 For World Records in Field Events:

31.17.1 The performances shall be measured either by three Field Judges using a calibrated and verified steel tape or bar or by a scientific measuring apparatus, the accuracy of which has been confirmed in accordance with Rule 10 of the Technical Rules.

31.17.2 In the Long Jump and Triple Jump conducted outdoors, information concerning wind velocity, measured as indicated in Rules 29.10 to 29.12 of the Technical Rules shall be submitted. If the wind velocity, measured in the direction of jumping, averages more than 2 metres per second, the performance will not be ratified.

31.17.3 World Records may be credited for more than one performance in a competition, provided that each World Record so ratified shall have been equal or superior to the best previous performance at that moment.

31.17.4 In Throwing Events, the implement used shall have been checked prior to the competition in accordance with Rule 16 of the Competition Rules. If the Referee becomes aware during an event that a World Record has been equalled or bettered, they shall immediately mark the implement used and undertake a check to ascertain whether it still complies with the Rules or if there has been any change in characteristics. Normally, such implement shall be checked again after the event in accordance with Rule 16 of the Competition Rules.

31.18 For World Records in Combined Events:

The conditions as set out in Rule 39.8 of the Technical Rules shall have been complied with in each of the individual events. In addition, for those events where wind velocity is required to be measured, the average velocity (based on the algebraic sum of the wind velocities, as measured for each individual event, divided by the number of such events) shall not exceed plus 2 metres per second.

31.19 For World Records in Race Walking Events:

At least three Judges who are either World Athletics Gold or Silver Level Race Walking Judges shall be officiating during the competition and shall sign the application form.

31.20 For World Records in Road Race Walking Events:

31.20.1 The course must be measured by an "A" or "B" grade World Athletics/AIMS approved measurer who shall ensure that the relevant measurement report and any other information required by this Rule is available to World Athletics upon request.

31.20.2 The circuit shall be no shorter than 1km and no longer than 2km with a possible start and finish in a stadium.

31.20.3 Any course measurer who originally measured the course or other suitably qualified official designated by the measurer (after consulting the relevant body) with a copy of the documentation detailing the officially measured course must validate that the course covered by the athletes conforms to the course measured and documented by the official course measurer.

31.20.4 The course must be verified (i.e. re-measured) as late as possible before the race, on the day of the race or as soon as practical after the race, by a different "A" grade measurer from any of those who did the original measurement.

Note: If the course was originally measured by at least two "A" or one "A" and one "B" grade measurers, no verification (re-measurement) under this Rule 31.20.4 will be required.

31.20.5 World Records in Road Race Walking Events set at intermediate distances within a race must comply with the conditions set under Rule 31 of the Competition Rules. The intermediate distances must have been measured, recorded and subsequently marked as part of the course measurement and must have been verified in accordance with Rule 31.20.4 of the Competition Rules.

31.21 For World Records in Road Running Events:

31.21.1 The course must be measured by an "A" or "B" grade World Athletics/AIMS approved measurer who shall ensure that the relevant measurement report and any other information required by this Rule is available to World Athletics upon request.

31.21.2 The start and finish points of a course, measured along a theoretical straight line between them, shall not be further apart than 50% of the race distance.

31.21.3 The overall decrease in elevation between the start and finish shall not exceed 1:1000, i.e. 1m per km (0.1%).

31.21.4 Any course measurer who originally measured the course or other suitably qualified official designated by the measurer (after consulting the relevant body) with a copy of the documentation detailing the officially measured course shall in advance of the race check that the course is laid out in conformity with the course measured and documented by the official course measurer. They shall then ride in the lead vehicle during the competition or otherwise validate that the same course is run by the athletes.

31.21.5 The course must be verified (i.e. re-measured) as late as possible before the race, on the day of the race or as soon as practical after the race, by a different "A" grade measurer from any of those who did the original measurement.

Note: If the course was originally measured by at least two "A" grade or one "A" and one "B" grade measurers, no verification (re-measurement) under this Rule 31.21.5 will be required.

31.21.6 World Records in Road Running Events set at intermediate distances within a race must comply with the conditions set under Rule 31 of the Competition Rules. The intermediate

distances must have been measured, recorded and subsequently marked as part of the course measurement and must have been verified in accordance with Rule 31.21.5 of the Competition Rules.

31.21.7 For the Road Relay, the race shall be run in stages of 5km, 10km, 5km, 10km, 5km, 7.195km. The stages must have been measured, recorded and subsequently marked as part of the course measurement with a tolerance of ± 1% of the stage distance and must have been verified in accordance with Rule 31.21.5 of the Competition Rules.

Note: It is recommended that national governing bodies and Area Associations adopt similar rules to the above for the recognition of their own records.

32. Events for which World Records and World U20 Records are Recognised

Event		Men	Women	U20 Men	U20 Women	Timing
Running Events	50m	✓	✓			FAT
	60m	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
	100m	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
	200m	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
	200m sh	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
	400m	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
	400m sh	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
	800m	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
	800m sh	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
	1000m	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
	1000m sh	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
	1500m	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
	1500m sh	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
	1 Mile	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
	1 Mile sh	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
	2000m	✓	✓			FAT or HT
	3000m	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
	3000m sh	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
	5000m	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
	5000m sh	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
	10,000m	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
	1 Hour	✓	✓			FAT or HT
	3000m SC	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
Hurdle Races	50m Hurdles	✓	✓			FAT
	60m Hurdles	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
	100m Hurdles		✓		✓	FAT
	110m Hurdles	✓		✓		FAT
	400m Hurdles	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
Field Events	High Jump	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a
	Pole Vault	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a
	Long Jump	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a
	Triple Jump	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a
	Shot Put	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a
	Discus Throw	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a
	Hammer Throw	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a
	Javelin Throw	✓	✓	✓	✓	n/a
Combined Events	Pentathlon sh		✓		✓	FAT
	Heptathlon		✓		✓	FAT
	Heptathlon sh	✓		✓		FAT
	Decathlon	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
Race Walking Events	3000m sh		✓			FAT or HT

	5000m sh	✓				FAT or HT
	10,000m		✓	✓	✓	FAT or HT
	10km			✓	✓	FAT or HT or TT
	20,000m	✓	✓			FAT or HT
	20km	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
	Half Marathon (track)	✓	✓			FAT or HT
	Half Marathon (road)	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
	30,000m	✓				FAT or HT
	35,000m	✓	✓			FAT or HT
	35km	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
	Marathon (track)	✓	✓			FAT or HT
	Marathon (road)	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
	50,000m	✓	✓			FAT or HT
	50km	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
Road Races	Road Mile	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
	5km	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
	10km	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
	Half Marathon	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
	Marathon	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
	50km	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
	100km	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
	Road Relay (42.195km)	✓	✓			FAT or HT or TT
Relay Races	4 × 100m	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
	4 × 100m Mixed*	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
	4 × 200m	✓	✓			FAT
	4 × 200m sh	✓	✓			FAT
	4 × 400m	✓	✓	✓	✓	FAT
	4 × 400m sh	✓	✓			FAT
	4 × 400m Mixed*	✓	✓			FAT
	4 × 400m Mixed sh*	✓	✓			FAT
	4 × 800m	✓	✓			FAT or HT
	4 × 800m sh	✓	✓			FAT or HT
	4 × 1500m	✓	✓			FAT or HT
	Distance Medley	✓	✓			FAT or HT

*Mixed event

sh = Short Track (200m Standard Oval Track – Part V of the Technical Rules)

Fully Automatically Timed performances (FAT)
Hand Timed performances (HT)
Transponder Timed performances (TT)

Note (i): Except Race Walking and Road Mile competitions, World Athletics shall keep two World Records for women in Road Races: a World Record for performance achieved in mixed gender ("Mx") races and a World Record for performance achieved in single gender ("Women only" or "Wo") races.

In Race Walking, only one World Record is kept, and it can be achieved either in a mixed gender or Women only race. In the Road Mile, only single gender World Records are kept.

For the purpose of this Rule, mixed gender races include mixed competitions under Rule 9.1 of the Technical Rules as well as simultaneous competitions under Rule 9.3 of the Technical Rules.

Note (ii): A women only road race can be staged by having separate women's and men's start times. The time differential should be chosen to prevent any possibility of assistance, pacing or interference, especially on courses involving more than one lap of the same section of the course.

Note (iii): For the Road Mile, either Fully Automatic Times to 0.01 second accuracy or Hand / Transponder Times to 0.1 second accuracy will be accepted.

Decathlon U20 Women: Only ratified if over 7300 points.

Half-Marathon Race Walk: Initial records to be recognised after 1 January 2026. The performance shall be better than 1:21:30 for men and 1:30:30 for women.

The 30,000m for men shall be deleted from the list upon ratification of the initial record for 35,000m.

35,000m Race Walk: Initial records to be recognised after 1 January 2023. The performance shall be better than 2:22:00 for men and 2:38:00 for women.

Marathon Race Walk: Initial records to be recognised after 1 January 2026. The performance shall be better than 2:56:30 for men and 3:17:00 for women.

50,000m Race Walk Women: Initial record to be recognised after 1 January 2019. The performance shall be better than 4:20:00.

4 × 100m Mixed: Initial records to be recognised after 1 January 2026. The performance shall be better than the recognised world best performance as of the end of 2025.

4 × 400m Mixed sh: Initial record to be recognised after 1 March 2025. The performance shall be equal to or better than 3:12.44.

33. Other Records

33.1 Games, championships, meeting and other similar records may be established by the relevant body having control over the competition or by the organisers.

33.2 The record should recognise the best performance achieved at any edition of the applicable competition in accordance with the Rules, with the exception that wind velocity readings may be ignored, if so stated in the applicable regulations for the competition.