

**Proposals from the Council to the European Athletics Congress
Amendment of the Constitution
(in accordance with Article 15.1.h) and Article 16)**



European Athletics Congress
Prague/CZE, 13 April 2019
To point 10.a

FOR DECISION

1. Proposal to amend the European Athletics competition programme

Article 40 EAA Competitions

1. Pursuant to its Purposes, the EAA shall organise the following Official Competitions:
 - a) The European Athletics Championships (incorporating the European Marathon/Half Marathon Team Championships, respectively in the non-Olympic and the Olympic year);
 - b) The European Athletics Indoor Championships;
 - c) The European Cross Country Championships;
 - d) The European Athletics U23 Championships;
 - e) The European Athletics U20 Championships;
 - f) The European Athletics U18 Championships;
 - g) The European Athletics Team Championships;
 - ~~h) The European Combined Events Team Championships;~~
 - i) The European Race Walking Cup;
 - j) The European 10,000m Cup;
 - k) The European Throwing Cup;
 - l) The European Mountain Running Championships;

Reasoning:

An expert review of European Athletics events found the following regarding the European Combined Events Team Championships (ETCH-CE):

- it is a non-essential part of major event preparation (only 32% of European World Athletics Championships medalists 2009-2017 competed in the ETCH-CE in the year of their medal);
- the combined events are part of the programme of the major athletics event every year (either European or World Championships - and every 4 years also of the Olympic Games)
- Top-20 athletes have a sufficient number of other competition opportunities with stronger competition than the ETCH-CE;
- there is an existing system of international Combined Events competition opportunities in Europe that can serve the Top-100 and age group development.

The Council agreed that the event, while useful for a number of federations, is not essential for the preparation of top-level athletes or the development of younger athletes and, therefore, the resources needed to organise it can be better used for other priorities.

In force from: Immediately, with effect from 2021

Council Recommendation:

The Council recommends that the Congress approves the proposal with a vote "In Favour".

2. Proposal to amend the European Athletics competition programme

Article 40 EAA Competitions

2. Pursuant to its Purposes, the EAA shall organise the following Official Competitions:
- a) The European Athletics Championships (incorporating the European Marathon/Half Marathon Team Championships, respectively in the non-Olympic and the Olympic year);
 - b) The European Athletics Indoor Championships;
 - c) The European Cross Country Championships;
 - d) The European Athletics U23 Championships;
 - e) The European Athletics U20 Championships;
 - f) The European Athletics U18 Championships;
 - g) The European Athletics Team Championships;
 - h) The European Combined Events Team Championships;
 - i) The European Race Walking ~~Cup~~ **Team Championships**;
 - j) The European 10,000m Cup;
 - k) The European Throwing Cup;
 - l) The European Mountain Running Championships;

Amendment of the Competition Regulations 801.1

The European Athletic Association (hereinafter European Athletics) shall promote a European Race Walking ~~Cup~~ **Team Championships** every uneven year.

Reasoning:

The event is a team competition and the new name would be in line with the corresponding event organised at the world level by the IAAF. To have this event in the "Championships" category would assist Member Federations in certain countries to obtain additional financial support from their national governments.

The proposed amendment implies no changes to the competition regulations except where the name of the event is referred.

In force from: 2021

Council Recommendation:

The Council recommends that the Congress approves the proposal with a vote "In Favour".

3. Proposal to amend the European Athletics competition programme

Article 40 EAA Competitions

- 3.** Pursuant to its Purposes, the EAA shall organise the following Official Competitions:
- a) The European Athletics Championships (incorporating the European Marathon/Half Marathon Team Championships, respectively in the non-Olympic and the Olympic year);
 - b) The European Athletics Indoor Championships;
 - c) The European Cross Country Championships;
 - d) The European Athletics U23 Championships;
 - e) The European Athletics U20 Championships;
 - f) The European Athletics U18 Championships;
 - g) The European Athletics Team Championships;
 - h) The European Combined Events Team Championships;
 - i) The European Race Walking Cup;
 - j) The European 10,000m Cup;
 - k) The European Throwing Cup;
 - l) The European ~~Mountain Running~~ **Athletics Off-Road** Championships;

Reasoning:

In the recent years the international trail and mountain running movement has developed significantly and the IAAF has created the IAAF World Trail and Mountain Running Championships to be staged from 2021. This creates expectations at the continental level. The biannual European Athletics Off-Road Championships would replace the current European Athletics Mountain Running Championships (last edition in 2020) offering the possibility for European Athletics to engage with the trail running movement and at the same time compensate for the limited interest in mountain running.

It would also create an opportunity to offer mass participation races in conjunction with the event (the integration of the mass participation athletes into the "athletics family" is a long standing wish of the governing bodies) and thereby increase the marketing value and financial sustainability of the championships.

Format:

The European Athletics Off-Road Championships shall integrate four races. However further to the below programme of the championships that shall be considered as a strong recommendation, the organisers (together with European Athletics) shall be granted with certain flexibility to decide on the eventual programme of the events, allowing the chance to add further races and/or sports (e.g. mountain bike) to offer additional possibility for generating revenue.

Expected programme of the European Athletics Off-Road Championships (for Men and Women):

- uphill mountain running race – distances according to IAAF competition rules
- up & downhill mountain running race – distances according to IAAF competition rules
- trail running race – long distance (40-45km; km-effort "S")
- trail running race – short distance (20-25km; km-effort "XXS or XS")

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The European Athletics Off-Road Championships should be staged over three days (Friday to Sunday) but if it is in the interest of the event, it could also stretch out to two weekends. The standard distribution of the events shall be as follows:

- Day 1 – Mountain Running (uphill)
- Day 2 – Trail races (long and short)
- Day 3 – Mountain Running (up & downhill)

The mass participation races will be open for all athletes over 18 year, while the elite races will be organised for the following age groups:

- mountain running - U20 & Senior
- trail running – Senior

There will be three results made available after the event (separate for Men and Women races):

- absolute/overall results – elite and mass participation athletes evaluated together
- individual elite results – listing only those entered for the elite race
- team elite results

All entries (both for elite and mass participation athletes) will be made through a system operated by European Athletics in order to keep ownership of the valuable data recorded. Member Federations would be registering the elite athletes and acknowledging the registration of the mass participation athletes (made by individuals) and being offered the possibility to engage mass participation with their activities.

The financial support offered to the Member Federations will follow the current policies for the European Mountain Running Championships, meaning that Member Federations would receive financial support for the following number of athletes and period:

- U20 events 3 athletes/ race; max 3 nights (max 12 athletes/MF – 6M/6W)
- Senior events 3 athletes/race; max 3 nights (max 24 athletes/MF – 12M/12W)

In force from: Immediately, with effect from 2021

Council Recommendation:

The Council recommends that the Congress approves the proposal with a vote “In Favour”.

4. Proposal on gender balance for the elections of the President, Vice-Presidents and other Council members

Article 17 Elections

5. Elections shall be conducted in compliance with the relevant provisions of the procedural regulations for the conduct of Congresses and the following gender balance principles:
- a) The President and the vice-presidents shall include both genders as follows:
 - at least ~~one~~ **two** of each gender; and
 - b) The thirteen other Council members shall include both genders as follows:
 - at least ~~three~~ **five** of each gender;

Reasoning:

Following two proposals regarding gender balance on the Council presented at the Congress 2017 in Vilnius, one by the European Athletics Council and the other by the Swedish Athletic association supported by the athletics federations from Norway, Finland, Iceland, Denmark and the Netherlands, the Congress agreed to appoint a Gender Balance Implementation Task Force to formulate a consensus proposal to be considered by the current Congress.

The Gender Balance Implementation Task Force reviewed several reports from other sports organisations, including documents and decisions by the International Olympic Committee, IAAF and selected Member Federations, and concluded that a balanced gender composition is defined by at least 40% of from each gender on any given group.

As a consequence, the proposal of the Task Force is to reach a total of seven per gender on the whole Council, which equals 41% (7/17).

Note: The representative of the Athletes' Committee is not included in the calculation.

In force from: Immediately.

Council Recommendation:

The Council recommends that the Congress approves the proposal with a vote "In Favour".

5. Proposal on gender balance for Commissions

Article 29 Role and Appointment of the Commissions

1. The role of the commissions is to serve as expert consulting bodies to the Executive Board and the Council, in accordance with Terms of Reference approved by the Council;
2. The following two commissions shall be established by the Council and maintained permanently:
 - a) A commission to provide advice to the Executive Board and Council on matters concerning the organisation and conduct of European Athletics' events and other competitions, including the calendar of events and lists of records;
 - b) A commission to provide advice to the Executive Board and Council on matters concerning the development of the Member Federations and their capability to govern and promote the sport of Athletics in their countries.
3. The Council may establish additional commissions at its discretion.
4. **The Council shall make its best efforts to apply the gender equity principle of at least 40% per gender in the composition of all the Commissions created under this article.**
5. The Chairperson and the members of such commissions shall be approved by the Council upon proposal by the President.
6. Members may nominate candidates with the necessary qualifications for such commissions to be considered by the President.

Reasoning:

Recommendation from the Gender Balance Implementation Task Force that further to the proposal on the gender balance for the Council elections, the Gender Balance Implementation Task Force also agreed to recommend to the Council the following two measures:

- a balanced gender composition (of at least 40% of each gender) should be implemented for all commissions and other official bodies in European Athletics,
- European Athletics to articulate a gender balance strategy and plan.

In force from: Immediately.

Council Recommendation:

The Council recommends that the Congress approves the proposal with a vote "In Favour".