

# TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS

## 1 Introduction

This document is designed to standardise and explain the common terms and abbreviations used in athletics, mostly at international level and mainly focused on World Athletics events.

## 2 Event titles and order

This list comprises all events staged in the World Athletics Series (WAS) competitions. Listing of events should be according to the following order. When listed separately, men's events are listed before women's events (for competition abbreviations see section 8).

EVENT	Abbreviation	M/W	WCH	WIC	WU20	WXC	WRW	WHM	WRE
60 Metres	60m	M/W		✓					
100 Metres	100m	M/W	✓		✓				
200 Metres	200m	M/W	✓		✓				
400 Metres	400m	M/W	✓	✓	✓				
800 Metres	800m	M/W	✓	✓	✓				
1500 Metres	1500m	M/W	✓	✓	✓				
3000 Metres	3000m	M/W		✓	✓				
5000 Metres	5000m	M/W	✓		✓				
10,000 Metres	10,000m	M/W	✓						
Half Marathon (21.0975 km)	HMar	M/W						✓	
Marathon (42.195 km)	Mar	M/W	✓						
3000 Metres Steeplechase	3000mSC	M/W	✓		✓				
60 Metres Hurdles	60mH	M/W		✓					
110 Metres Hurdles	110mH	M	✓		✓				
100 Metres Hurdles	100mH	W	✓		✓				
400 Metres Hurdles	400mH	M/W	✓		✓				
High Jump	HJ	M/W	✓	✓	✓				
Pole Vault	PV	M/W	✓	✓	✓				
Long Jump	LJ	M/W	✓	✓	✓				
Triple Jump	TJ	M/W	✓	✓	✓				
Shot Put	SP	M/W	✓	✓	✓				
Discus Throw	DT	M/W	✓		✓				
Hammer Throw	HT	M/W	✓		✓				
Javelin Throw	JT	M/W	✓		✓				
Pentathlon	Pen	W		✓					
Heptathlon	Hep	M/W	W	M	W				
Decathlon	Dec	M	✓		✓				
10,000 Metres Race Walk	10,000mRW	M/W			✓				

EVENT	Abbreviation	M/W	WCH	WIC	WU20	WXC	WRW	WHM	WRE
10 Kilometres Race Walk	10kmRW	M/W					✓		
20 Kilometres Race Walk	20kmRW	M/W	✓				✓		
35 Kilometres Race Walk	35kmRW	M/W	✓						
50 Kilometres Race Walk	50kmRW	M/W	✓				✓		
4 × 100 Metres Relay	4 × 100mR	M/W	✓		✓				✓
4 × 200 Metres Relay	4 × 200mR	M/W							✓
4 × 400 metres Relay	4 × 400mR	M/W/X	✓	M/W	✓				✓
2 × 2 × 400m Relay		X							✓
Shuttle Hurdles Relay		X							✓
Mixed Relay	MixedR	X				✓			
Senior Race 10km	SM	M				✓			
Under-20 Race 8km	U20M	M				✓			
Senior Race 10km	SW	W				✓			
Under-20 Race 6km	U20W	W				✓			

### 3 Competitions

International Competitions are defined in the in the Generally Applicable Definitions of the Book of Rules. For the purpose of this document, competitions either organised directly by World Athletics, or where World Athletics has direct control, are listed below.

#### 3.1 World Athletics Series and Olympic Games – definition 1.1 (a) and (b)

Competition	Abbreviation	Comments
<i>WORLD ATHLETICS SERIES</i>	WAS	
World Athletics Championships	WCH	
World Athletics Indoor Championships	WIC	
World Athletics U20 Championships	WU20	
World Athletics Cross-Country Championships	WXC	
World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships	WRW	
World Athletics Half Marathon Championships	WHM	
World Athletics Relays	WRE	
<i>OLYMPIC GAMES</i>	OG	
Olympic Games	OG	WA responsible for the organisation of the athletics competition
Youth Olympic Games	YOG	

### 3.2 International Invitation Meetings and competitions which are categorised by World Athletics as part of the global structure and approved by the Council – paragraph 1.5 of the International Competition definition.

Competition	Abbreviation	Comments
<b><i>One-Day Meeting Circuits</i></b>		
Diamond League	DL	
World Athletics Continental Tour (Gold, Silver, Bronze)	WACT	
World Athletics Indoor Tour	WIT	
<b><i>Road Race Labels</i></b>		
World Athletics Label Road Races (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze)		
<b><i>Challenges</i></b>		
World Athletics Combined Events Challenge	CEC	Limited to the World Athletics Permit Meetings
World Athletics Race Walking Challenge	RWC	
<b><i>Permits</i></b>		
World Athletics Cross Country Permit Meetings		

### 3.3 International Competitions conducted by World Athletics Partner Organisations under World Athletics Permit

- Mountain Running Championships and Meetings
- Trail World Championships (TWC)
- Ultradistance Running Championships
- Masters Athletics Championships

## 4 Stages of the competition

### 4.1 Track Events

**Track Events with four phases are referred to as:**

- Stage 1: Preliminary Qualification Round – when applicable
- Stage 2: Round 1 (R1)
- Stage 3: Semi-Final (SF)
- Stage 4: Final (F)

**Track Events with three phases are referred to as:**

- Stage 1: Round 1 (R1)
- Stage 2: Semi-Final (SF)
- Stage 3: Final (F)

**Track Events with two phases are referred to as:**

- Stage 1: Round 1 (R1)
- Stage 2: Final (F)

**Track Events with one stage only are called:**

- Final(F)
- Final B (FB)
- Final A (FA) or Final (F)

The Preliminary Qualification Round, Round 1 and Semi-Finals comprise Heats.

*Note: The opening stage of a Track Event shall always be called Round 1 (not Semi-Final) except in the case of a straight Final or when a Preliminary Round is held.*

## 4.2 Field Events

Field Events with **two phases** are referred to as:

- Stage 1: Qualification Round (Q) (can comprise one Group or two Groups: Group A – QA and Group B – QB)
- Stage 2: Final (F)

Field Events with **one stage** only are called Final (F).

## 4.3 Combined Events

Combined Events comprise a number of different Track and Field Events.

Track Events within Combined Events shall be called Heats (Heat 1 – h1, Heat 2 –h2).

Field Events within Combined Events shall be called Groups (Group A – A and Group B – B).

## 4.4 Road Events

Road Events and Cross-Country Events are conducted with **one stage** only called Final (F).

# 5 Performances

## 5.1 Time Performances

A colon between hours and minutes and minutes and seconds.

- Example: 2:04:55 (2 hours, 4 minutes and 55 seconds)

A decimal point between seconds and tenths / hundredths.

- Example: 9.92 (9 seconds and 92/100ths)
- Example: 1:41.73 (1 minute, 41 seconds and 73/100ths)
- Example: 10.2 (10 seconds and 2/10ths)
- Example: 1:45.8 (1 minute, 45 seconds and 8/10ths)

## 5.2 Distance / Height Performances

All distances and heights shall be expressed in metres and decimals of metres.

- Examples: 2.35, 5.95, 7.95, 17.35, 21.92, 70.65, 86.94

## 5.3 Special Performance Codes

Performances may be achieved in special conditions. In these cases, special codes are associated to the performance to explain the specific characteristics:

i	Indoors
wo	Women-only race
mx	Mixed race
e	Exhibition
A	Altitude (over 1000m)
w	Wind-assisted (>2 m/s)
W	Wind-assisted Combined Event score (>4 m/s)
UNC	Uncertified (for road races without an international measurement certificate)

When no performance is recorded, the following codes are used:

x	Failed trial
-	Passed trial
NM	No valid trial recorded
DNS	Did not start
DNF	Did not finish (Running or Race Walking Events)
DQ	Disqualified
r	Retired from competition (Field or Combined Events)

Other standard abbreviations and symbols:

o	Valid trial in High Jump and Pole Vault
DOB	Date of Birth
YOB	Year of Birth
Q	Qualified by place in Track Events or by standard in Field Events
q	Qualified by time in Track Events or without standard in Field Events
qR	Advanced to next round by Referee
qJ	Advanced to next round by Jury of Appeal
YC	Yellow Card
YRC	Second Yellow Card (and Red Card as a consequence)
RC	Red Card
>	Bent knee (Race Walking)
~	Loss of contact (Race Walking)
CR	Competition Rule
TR	Technical Rule

## 6 Records and Statistical Information

There are performances which are statistically significant because they represent an improvement compared to the previous performance in the same event. In this case, they are identified with a code and can be of three types detailed below. If a performance is equal to a previously recognised mark, an equal sign is inserted before the abbreviation without space (e.g. =WR, =WIR, =WB, =WL).

### 6.1 Records

Can be outdoor or indoor, can be geographical (World, Area, National), in relation to a type of competition (Olympic Games, Championships, Meetings, Indoor) or to an age group (U20).

In the case of **World Records**, these are recognised for a limited number of events and age groups (CR31-35).

RECORD Performances	Outdoor			Indoor	
	Senior	U20	U18	Senior	U20
World	WR	WU20R		WIR	WU20IR
Olympic	OR		YOR		
Area	AR	AU20R		AIR	AU20IR
National	NR	NU20R		NIR	NU20IR
Championship	CR				
Meeting	MR				

## 6.2 Best Performances

Are used for those events and/or age category where official world records are not recognised or for individual events of Combined Events and for individual athletes' performances also in relation to an identified period (qualification, season).

BEST Performances	Outdoor			Indoor	
	Senior	U20	U18	Senior	U20
World	WB	WU20B	WU18B	WIB	WU20IB
World (Dec/Hep/Pen)	WDB/WHB	WD20B/WH20B	WD18B/WH18B	WHIB/WPIB	WH20IB/WP20IB
Olympic (Dec/Hep)	ODB/OHB				
Area	AB	AU20B	AU18B	AIB	AU20IB
Area (Dec/Hep/Pen)	ADB/AHB	AD20B/AH20B	AD18B/AH18B	AHIB/APIB	AH20IB/AP20IB
National	NB	NU20B	NU18B	NIB	NU20IB
National (Dec/Hep/Pen)	NDB/NHB	ND20B/NH20B	ND18B/NH18B	NHIB/NPIB	NH20IB/NP20IB
Championships Dec/Hep/Pen)	CDB/CHB	CDB/CHB	CDB/CHB	CHB/CPB	CHB/CPB
Personal	PB				
Season	SB				
Qualification	QB				

## 6.3 Leading Performances

Used to indicate the best performance in the world in the year.

LEADING Performances	Senior	U20	U18
World	WL	WU20L	WU18L

## 7 Dates

Should be given as day, month and year (last two digits) - Examples:

- 15 Mar 09
- Day: 1, 5, 10, 15, 21, 31 (not 01, 05, etc.)
- Month: Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec
- Year: 98, 99, 00, 01, 08, etc.

## 8 Glossary

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Area		The geographical area comprising all of the Countries and Territories affiliated to one of the six Area Associations of World Athletics.
Area Association		An Area Association of World Athletics responsible for fostering Athletics in one of the six areas into which the Members are divided in the World Athletics Constitution.  The six Area Associations are: Confederation of African Athletics (CAA), Asian Athletics Association (AAA), South American Athletics Confederation (CONSUDATLE), European Athletics (EA), North American, Central American and Caribbean Athletic Association (NACAC), Oceania Athletics Association (OAA).
Association of International Marathons and Distance Races	AIMS	A member-based organisation of more than 475 of the world's leading distance races from over 120 countries & territories
Bib Number / Athlete Bib	Bib	An athlete's number, name or other suitable identification during the competition
Book of Rules		New, restructured online home of all World Athletics Rules, Regulations and Guidelines
Call Room		A room or area where the athletes report and undergo certain checking procedures prior to their event
Combined Event	CE	An event comprising several Track and Field Events in which an athlete scores points for his performances (e.g. Decathlon, Heptathlon)
Commentator Information System	CIS	Competition Data Information Monitor or web service
Competition and Technical Rules	CR, TR	New format of the former rules' handbook extracted from the Book of Rules
Disqualification	DQ	A ruling by officials that an athlete or team has broken the rules of the sport and cannot be considered for placing in the competition
Entry Standard	ES	A performance which needs to be achieved in order for an athlete to qualify for entry to a championship
Event Entry System	EES	World Athletics' internet based entry system where Member Federations submit final entries for a specific WAS event.
False Start	Fn (e.g.:Fn1)	Starting a race before the starter's gun is fired or with a reaction time of less than 0.100s. (See also TR 16)
Field		Collective term for the athletes within any particular event
Field Events		Jumping and Throwing Events of an athletics programme
Final	F	The ultimate stage of an event
Heat	h	An individual race within any stage of an event other than the Final
International Association of Ultrarunners	IAU	Governing body for Ultradistance Running

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
International Trail Running Association	ITRA	Governing body for Trail Running
International Paralympic Committee	IPC	The international governing body of the Paralympic Movement
Local Organising Committee	LOC	A group or entity responsible for the organisation of an event in the host city
Master		Any athlete who has reached his/her 35th birthday
Medal Ceremony	MC	The ceremony of presenting medals to the top three placed athletes or teams
Member Federation	MF	National governing body for Athletics affiliated to World Athletics
Milliseconds	ms	Shown when more competitors finish with same time down to hundredths of a second (0.xxx)
Mixed Race	mx	See TR9 (147)
Progression		Track / Field progression through preliminary rounds The pre-determined sequence of heights to be attempted in a High Jump or Pole Vault contest (height progression)
Qualifying Conditions		The conditions which need to be achieved in order for an athlete to progress to the next stage of an event
Qualifying Group	Gr	Identifies the athletes competing in one of the two Field Event qualifications
Qualifying Round		The preliminary stage of a Field Event
Qualifying Standard		A performance which needs to be achieved in a Qualifying Round for an athlete to progress to the Final by right
Race Walking	RW	Track or Road Events in which the athlete must fulfil World Athletics' definition of race walking. (See TR 54)
Rank	Rk	Placing in an event. Athletes are ranked according to World Athletics Rules.
Reaction Time	RT	The time taken between the start signal and athlete's reaction according to sensors in their starting blocks
Relay	R	A running event contested by teams of four or more athletes who each run successive Relay legs. Can be a <b>2 × 2 distance</b> relay with 2 athletes running alternatively 2 legs each
Relay Leg		The section of a Relay run by one team member
Road Events		Events contested largely or entirely on the road
Round		A stage of a Track or Field Event
Round of Trials		The segment of a Horizontal Jump or Throw where each athlete in turn takes a trial
Round 1	R1	The opening stage of a multi-round Track Event (unless a Qualification Round is held)
Session		A sequence of events in a timetable held on one particular part of the day



Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Start Information System	SIS	Start Information System device
Splits		Intermediate times taken during a longer race or the time taken by an athlete to complete their Relay leg
Standings		The order of athletes during a Field Event or Combined Events contest
Start List		A document showing the athletes confirmed to start in a particular event and the order in which they are to compete
Track Event		Event contested on a running track
Under-18 Men / Women	U18	An athlete (male or female) aged 16 or 17 on December 31 of the current calendar year
Under-20 Men / Women	U20	An athlete aged 18 or 19 on December 31 of the current calendar year
Wind Speed		The average wind velocity over a period of time during an outdoor running race of up to 200m or an outdoor horizontal jump competition
Women-Only Race	wo	Term used in Road Events when Women have a separate start so that pacing by Men cannot happen
World Athletics Season Top Lists		Best legal performances in the year in a single event compiled by World Athletics
World Athletics Series	WAS	The Championships organised directly by World Athletics in the four-year official competition programme
World Masters Athletics	WMA	Governing body for Masters athletics
World Mountain Running Association	WMRA	Governing body for Mountain Running
World Rankings	WRk	A global ranking system created by World Athletics where athletes score points based on the combination of result and place depending on the level of competition in a defined period of time

## 9 Member Federation Codes

Country	Code	Area	Country	Code	Area	Country	Code	Area
Afghanistan	AFG	AS	Germany	GER	EU	Nigeria	NGR	AF
Albania	ALB	EU	Ghana	GHA	AF	Norfolk Island	NFI	OC
Algeria	ALG	AF	Gibraltar	GIB	EU	North Macedonia	MKD	EU
American Samoa	ASA	OC	Great Britain & Northern Ireland	GBR	EU	Northern Mariana Islands	NMI	OC
Andorra	AND	EU	Greece	GRE	EU	Norway	NOR	EU
Angola	ANG	AF	Grenada	GRN	NA	Oman	OMA	AS
Anguilla	AIA	NA	Guam	GUM	OC	Pakistan	PAK	AS
Antigua & Barbuda	ANT	NA	Guatemala	GUA	NA	Palau (Republic of)	PLW	OC
Argentina	ARG	SA	Guinea	GUI	AF	Palestine	PLE	AS
Armenia	ARM	EU	Guinea-Bissau	GBS	AF	Panama	PAN	SA
Aruba	ARU	NA	Guyana	GUY	SA	Papua New Guinea	PNG	OC
Australia	AUS	OC	Haiti	HAI	NA	Paraguay	PAR	SA
Austria	AUT	EU	Honduras	HON	NA	Peru	PER	SA
Azerbaijan	AZE	EU	Hong Kong, China	HKG	AS	Philippines	PHI	AS
Bahamas, The *	BAH	NA	Hungary	HUN	EU	Poland	POL	EU
Bahrain	BRN	AS	Iceland	ISL	EU	Portugal	POR	EU
Bangladesh	BAN	AS	India	IND	AS	Puerto Rico	PUR	NA
Barbados	BAR	NA	Indonesia	INA	AS	Qatar	QAT	AS
Belarus	BLR	EU	Iran	IRI	AS	Romania	ROU	EU
Belgium	BEL	EU	Iraq	IRQ	AS	Russia	RUS	EU
Belize	BIZ	NA	Ireland	IRL	EU	Rwanda	RWA	AF
Benin	BEN	AF	Israel	ISR	EU	Saint Kitts & Nevis	SKN	NA
Bermuda	BER	NA	Italy	ITA	EU	Saint Lucia	LCA	NA
Bhutan	BHU	AS	Jamaica	JAM	NA	Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	VIN	NA
Bolivia	BOL	SA	Japan	JPN	AS	Samoa	SAM	OC
Bosnia & Herzegovina	BIH	EU	Jordan	JOR	AS	San Marino	SMR	EU
Botswana	BOT	AF	Kazakhstan	KAZ	AS	Sao Tomé e Príncipe	STP	AF
Brazil	BRA	SA	Kenya	KEN	AF	Saudi Arabia	KSA	AS
British Virgin Islands	VB	NA	Kingdom of Eswatini	SWZ	AF	Senegal	SEN	AF
Brunei	BRU	AS	Kiribati (Republic of)	KIR	OC	Serbia	SRB	EU
Bulgaria	BUL	EU	Korea	KOR	AS	Seychelles	SEY	AF
Burkina Faso	BUR	AF	Korea (Democratic People's Republic of)	PRK	AS	Sierra Leone	SLE	AF
Burundi	BDI	AF	Kosovo	KOS	EU	Singapore	SGP	AS
Cabo Verde	CPV	AF	Kuwait	KUW	AS	Slovakia	SVK	EU
Cambodia	CAM	AS	Kyrgyzstan	KGZ	AS	Slovenia	SLO	EU
Cameroon	CMR	AF	Laos	LAO	AS	Solomon Islands	SOL	OC
Canada	CAN	NA	Latvia	LAT	EU	Somalia	SOM	AF
Cayman Islands	CAY	NA	Lebanon	LBN	AS	South Africa	RSA	AF
Central African Republic	CAF	AF	Lesotho	LES	AF	South Sudan	SSD	AF
Chad	CHA	AF	Liberia	LBR	AF	Spain	ESP	EU
Chile	CHI	SA	Libya	LBA	AF	Sri Lanka	SRI	AS
China (People's Republic of)	CHN	AS	Liechtenstein	LIE	EU	Sudan	SUD	AF
Colombia	COL	SA	Lithuania	LTU	EU	Suriname	SUR	SA
Comoros	COM	AF	Luxembourg	LUX	EU	Sweden	SWE	EU
Congo	CGO	AF	Macao, China	MAC	AS	Switzerland	SUI	EU
Congo (Democratic Republic of the)	COD	AF	Madagascar	MAD	AF	Syria	SYR	AS
Cook Islands	COK	OC	Malawi	MAW	AF	Taipei, China	TPE	AS
Costa Rica	CRC	NA	Malaysia	MAS	AS	Tajikistan	TJK	AS
Cote d'Ivoire	CIV	AF	Maldives	MDV	AS	Tanzania	TAN	AF
Croatia	CRO	EU	Mali	MLI	AF	Thailand	THA	AS
Cuba	CUB	NA	Malta	MLT	EU	Timor-Leste	TLS	AS
Cyprus	CYP	EU	Marshall Islands	MHL	OC	Toogo	TOG	AF
Czech Republic	CZE	EU	Mauritania	MTN	AF	Tonga	TGA	OC
Denmark	DEN	EU	Mauritius	MRI	AF	Trinidad & Tobago	TTO	NA
Djibouti	DJI	AF	Mexico	MEX	NA	Tunisia	TUN	AF
Dominica	DMA	NA	Micronesia (Federated States of)	FSM	OC	Turkey	TUR	EU
Dominican Republic	DOM	NA	Moldova	MDA	EU	Turkmenistan	TKM	AS
Ecuador	ECU	SA	Monaco	MON	EU	Turks & Caicos Islands	TKS	NA
Egypt	EGY	AF	Monqolia	MGL	AS	Tuvalu	TUV	OC
El Salvador	ESA	NA	Montenegro	MNE	EU	Uganda	UGA	AF
Equatorial Guinea	GEQ	AF	Montserrat	MNT	NA	Ukraine	UKR	EU
Eritrea	ERI	AF	Morocco	MAR	AF	United Arab Emirates	UAE	AS
Estonia	EST	EU	Mozambique	MOZ	AF	United States of America	USA	NA
Ethiopia	ETH	AF	Myanmar	MYA	AS	Uruguay	URU	SA
Fiji	FU	OC	Nambia	NAM	AF	Uzbekistan	UZB	AS
Finland	FIN	EU	Nauru (Republic of)	NRU	OC	Vanuatu	VAN	OC
France	FRA	EU	Nepal	NEP	AS	Venezuela	VEN	SA
French Polynesia	PYF	OC	Netherlands	NED	EU	Vietnam	VIE	AS
Gabon	GAB	AF	New Zealand	NZL	OC	Virgin Islands (US)	ISV	NA
Gambia, The *	GAM	AF	Nicaragua	NCA	NA	Yemen	YEM	AS
Georgia	GEO	EU	Niger	NIG	AF	Zambia	ZAM	AF
						Zimbabwe	ZIM	AF