

Authorised Neutral Athletes

2020 Guidance Note

1. Following the World Athletics Council's decision on 12 March 2020 to reinstate the Authorised Neutral Athlete process, this note is issued to provide guidance to athletes from Russia who seek to compete as Neutral Athletes in International Competitions taking place in 2020.
2. The note should be read in conjunction with the latest version of the Guidelines for Applications under Eligibility Rule 3.2 that were approved by the Doping Review Board in March 2020: [2020 Guidelines](#) ("the Guidelines").
3. Athletes granted Neutral Athlete status for 2019 who wish to re-apply for such status in 2020 should submit their applications on the following form: [2020 Application Form \(2019 ANA\)](#).
4. Athletes who were denied Neutral Athlete status for 2019 (or earlier) and wish to re-apply for 2020, or who are submitting an application for Neutral Athlete status for the first time for 2020, should submit their applications on the following form: [2020 Application Form \(Standard\)](#).
5. All applications should be submitted to the following e-mail address: applications.neutralathletes@worldathletics.org
6. No application will be processed unless the applicable application fee (if any)¹ has been received to the account below. Applicants must make sure when paying the application fee that the accompanying bank reference specifies that the payment is for ANA purposes and includes the athlete's name (in English). For example, "ANA: Name".

Account name: World Athletics – 765212202
Account number: 76521220411/USD
Bank: Barclays Bank PLC Monaco
IBAN number: MC58 1244 8610 1776 5212 2041 120
BIC number: BARCMCMX
Currency: USD

7. In accordance with paragraph 2 of the Guidelines, no application shall be reviewed by the Doping Review Board in 2020 unless it is accompanied by an official letter from each of RusAF and RUSADA, providing any relevant information that the federation or

¹ There is no application fee for ANA status to compete in U18 competitions. The application fee to compete in U20 competitions is USD100 per application. For all other applications, the application fee is USD250 per application.

RUSADA holds for the applicant, and specifically advising whether it agrees that the applicant meets all relevant requirements and whether it endorses the application.

8. In accordance with paragraphs 7.5 and 8 of the Guidelines, the following additional guidance is provided:
 - a. Any athlete seeking to compete as a Neutral Athlete in the **World U20 Championships** to be held in Nairobi, Kenya from 7 to 12 July 2020 must have been in a registered testing pool and subject to fully WADA Code-compliant drug-testing for a period of 6 continuous months prior to the competition, consistent with the Doping Review Board's practice for previous U20 events at World level.
 - b. Any athlete seeking to compete as a Neutral Athlete in the **European U18 Championships** to be held in Rieti, Italy from 16-19 July 2020 must have been in a registered testing pool and subject to fully WADA Code-compliant drug-testing for a period of 3 continuous months prior to the competition. Athletes not currently in a registered testing pool wishing to compete at the European U18 Championships must be added to the National Registered Testing Pool by no later than 1 April 2020 and enter their whereabouts directly into ADAMS from that date. A failure to provide updated whereabouts information in ADAMS from 1 April 2020, or a failure by an athlete to be available for testing on an unannounced basis at any time at the whereabouts provided, will be reported to the Doping Review Board and taken into consideration in their assessment of the athlete's application to compete in the European U18 Championships.
 - c. In all other cases, the Relevant Period i.e., the period under paragraph 7.5 of the Guidelines for which the applicant must have been in a registered testing pool and subject to fully WADA Code-compliant drug-testing shall be 12 continuous months prior to the competition for which approval is sought, consistent with the Doping Review Board's practice in 2018 and 2019.

Note: any applicant who is granted Neutral Athlete status to compete in the World U20 Championships or at the European U18 Championships on the basis set out in paragraph 7 above must apply separately to compete in other International Competitions and be able to establish a Relevant Period of 12 months for such purpose.

9. In accordance with the Guidelines, World Athletics will not process applications if they are submitted less than 4 weeks before the entry deadline for the International Competitions for which eligibility is sought. The relevant deadlines for submitting Neutral Athlete applications to compete in the key World and European competitions in 2020 are therefore as follows:

Competition	Date of competition	Deadline for Final Entries	Deadline for submitting ANA applications	Relevant Period (para 7.5)
World Athletics Half Marathon Championships	17 October 2020	27 September 2020	30 August 2020	12 months
European Athletics Cross Country Championships	13 December 2020	3 December 2020	5 November 2020	12 months

10. For International Competitions for which there are no entry deadlines (e.g., Diamond League, World Indoor Tour and other invitational one-day meetings), applications should be submitted as early as possible to ensure that they can be processed in time. If an applicant is granted Neutral Athlete status to compete in a one-day meeting, it is still for the relevant Meeting Director to decide if the applicant is invited to the meeting.

11. Applications that meet all the relevant requirements under the Guidelines shall be processed by the World Athletics Secretariat and referred to the Doping Review Board. The Doping Review Board shall conduct its review of the application in accordance with the Guidelines as soon as practicable but it cannot guarantee doing so by any particular deadline. In particular, and without limitation, the Doping Review Board reserves the right not to approve individual applications for Neutral Athlete status for 2020 until such time as any stored samples for the applicant have been subjected to re-analysis (at RusAF's cost) and it has thereby been able to satisfy itself that the applicant is not implicated (knowingly or unknowingly) in RusAF's failure to put in place adequate systems to protect and promote clean athletes, fair play, integrity and authenticity of sport.