

IAAF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

1. INTRODUCTION

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

2. EVENT TITLES AND ORDER

This list comprises all events staged in IAAF 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/F	WCH	WIC	WJC	WYC	ICC	WXC	WRW	WHM	IWR
60 Metres	60m	M/F		✓							
100 Metres	100m	M/F	✓		✓	✓	✓				
200 Metres	200m	M/F	✓		✓	✓	✓				
400 Metres	400m	M/F	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
800 Metres	800m	M/F	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
1500 Metres	1500m	M/F	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
3000 Metres	3000m	M/F		✓	✓	F	✓				
5000 Metres	5000m	M/F	✓		✓		✓				
10,000 Metres	10,000m	M/F	✓		M						
Half Marathon (21.0975 km)	HMar	M/F								✓	
Marathon (42.195 km)	Mar	M/F	✓								
2000 Metres Steeplechase	2000mSC	M/F				✓					
3000 Metres Steeplechase	3000mSC	M/F	✓		✓		✓				
60 Metres Hurdles	60mH	M/F		✓							
110 Metres Hurdles	110mH	M	✓		✓	✓	✓				
100 Metres Hurdles	100mH	F	✓		✓	✓	✓				
400 Metres Hurdles	400mH	M/F	✓		✓	✓	✓				
High Jump	HJ	M/F	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Pole Vault	PV	M/F	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Long Jump	LJ	M/F	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Triple Jump	TJ	M/F	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Shot Put	SP	M/F	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Discus Throw	DT	M/F	✓		✓	✓	✓				
Hammer Throw	HT	M/F	✓		✓	✓	✓				
Javelin Throw	JT	M/F	✓		✓	✓	✓				
Pentathlon	Pen	F		✓							
Heptathlon	Hep	M/F	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Decathlon	Dec	M	✓		✓						
5000 Metres Race Walk	5000mRW	M/F				✓					
10,000 Metres Race Walk	10,000mRW	M/F			✓	✓					
10 Kilometres Race Walk	10kmRW	M/F							✓		

EVENT	Abbreviation	M/F	WCH	WIC	WJC	WYC	ICC	WXC	WRW	WHM	IWR
20 Kilometres Race Walk	20kmRW	M/F	✓						✓		
50 Kilometres Race Walk	50kmRW	M	✓						✓		
4 x 100 Metres Relay	4 x 100mR	M/F	✓		✓		✓				✓
4 x 200 Metres Relay	4 x 200mR	M/F									✓
4 x 400 metres Relay	4 x 400mR	MF	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
4 x 800 Metres Relay	4 x 800mR	M/F									✓
4 x 1500 Metres Relay	4 x 1500mR	M/F									✓
Medley Relay	MedleyR	M/F				✓					
Senior Race 12km	SM	M						✓			
Junior Race 8km	JM	M						✓			
Senior Race 8km	SW	F						✓			
Junior Race 6km	JW	F						✓			

3. COMPETITIONS

International Competitions are defined in Rule 1.1. For the purpose of this document, competitions either organised directly by the IAAF, or where the IAAF has direct control, are listed below.

3.1 IAAF World Athletics Series and Olympic Games – IAAF Rule 1.1 (a)

Competition	Abbreviation	Comments
IAAF World Championships	WCH	
IAAF World Indoor Championships	WIC	
IAAF World Junior Championships	WJC	
IAAF World Youth Championships	WYC	
IAAF Continental Cup	ICC	Participating Teams: Africa (AFR), Americas (AME), Asia-Pacific (APA), Europe (EUR)
IAAF World Cross Country Championships	WXC	
IAAF World Race Walking Cup	WRW	
IAAF World Half Marathon Championships	WHM	
IAAF World Relays	IWR	A pioneer (new) event (not an official WAS event)
Olympic Games	OG	IAAF responsible for the organisation of the athletics competition
Youth Olympic Games	YOG	IAAF responsible for the organisation of the athletics competition

3.2 International Invitation Meetings and competitions which are categorised by the IAAF as part of the global structure and approved by the IAAF Council – IAAF Rule 1.1 (e)

Competition	Abbreviation
IAAF Diamond League	IDL
IAAF World Challenge	IWC
IAAF Combined Events Challenge	
IAAF Hammer Throw Challenge	
IAAF Race Walking Challenge	
IAAF Indoor Permit Meetings	
IAAF Cross Country Permit Meetings	
IAAF Road Race Labels (Gold, Silver, Bronze)	

3.3 International Competitions conducted by IAAF Partner Organisations under IAAF Permit.

- Mountain Running Championships and Meetings
- 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 Round – when applicable (Prelim.)
- 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.

The Preliminary Round, Round 1 and Semi-Finals comprise two or more 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: Qualifying Round (can comprise one Group or two Groups: Group A and Group B)
- Stage 2: Final

Field Events with **one stage** only are called Final.

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, Heat 2).

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

4.4 Road Events

Road Events and Cross Country Events are conducted with **one stage** only called Final.

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:

- A Altitude over 1000m
- DOB Date of birth
- i Indoors
- o High Jump or Pole Vault clearance
- Q Qualified by right (achieved qualifying place or standard)
- q Qualified on time (Track Events) or distance / height (Field Events)
- w Wind-assisted (>2 m/s)
- W Wind-Assisted Combined Event score (>4 m/s)
- e Exhibition

When no performance is recorded the following codes are used:

- Pass in Field Event trials
- DNS Did not start
- DNF Did not finish
- DQ Disqualified
- NM No mark recorded
- r Retired (abandoned competition)
- x Failure in Field Events

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:

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 (Junior).

In the case of **World Records**, these are recognised for a limited number of events and age groups

(Rules 260 - 264).

e.g.: WJR = **World Junior Record**; AJR = **Area Junior Record**; CR = **Championship Record**

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)
e.g.: WYB = **World Youth Best**; PB = **Personal Best**

6.3 Leading Performances

Used to indicate the best performance in the world in the year
e.g.: WL = **World Leading**; WYL = **World Youth Leading**

RECORD Performances	Outdoor			Indoor	
	Senior	Junior	Youth	Senior	Junior
World	WR	WJR		WIR	WJIR
Olympic	OR		YOR		
Area	AR	AJR		AIR	AJIR
National	NR	NJR		NIR	NJIR
Championship (or Competition)	CR	CR	CR	CR	
Meeting	MR				
BEST Performances	Outdoor			Indoor	
	Senior	Junior	Youth	Senior	Junior
World	WB	WJB	WYB	WIB	WJIB
World (Dec/Hep/Pen)	WDB/WHB	WDJB/WHJB	WDYB/WHYB	WHIB/WPIB	WHJIB/WPJIB
Olympic (Dec/Hep)	ODB/OHB				
Area	AB	AJB	AYB	AIB	AJIB
Area (Dec/Hep/Pen)	ADB/AHB	ADJB/AHJB	ADYB/AHYB	AHIB/APIB	AHJIB/APJIB
National	NB	NJB	NYB	NIB	NJIB
National (Dec/Hep/Pen)	NDB/NHB	NDJB/NHJB	NDYB/NHYB	NHIB/NPIB	NHJIB/NPJIB
Championships (Dec/Hep/Pen)	CDB/CHB	CDB/CHB	CDB/CHB	CHB/CPB	CHB/CPB
Personal	PB				
Season	SB				
Qualification	QB				
LEADING Performances	Senior	Junior	Youth		
World	WL	WJL	WYL		

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 the IAAF.
Area Association		An Area Association of the IAAF responsible for fostering Athletics in one of the six areas into which the Members are divided in the IAAF Constitution. The six Area Associations of the IAAF are: AFRICA, ASIA, CONSUDATLE, EUROPE, NACAC, OCEANIA
Association of International Marathons and Distance Races	AIMS	A member-based organisation of more than 350 of the world's leading distance races from over 98 countries & territories
Bib Number	Bib	An athlete's number, name or other suitable identification during the competition

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Boys	B	Male athletes aged 16 or 17 on December 31 of the current calendar year. (See also Youth)
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)
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 championships
Event Entry System	EES	The IAAF's internet based entry system where Member Federations submit final entries for a specific WAS event, except the ICC.
False Start	Fn	Starting a race before the starter's gun is fired or with a reaction time of less than 0.100s. (See also IAAF Rule 162)
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
Girls	G	Female athletes aged 16 or 17 on December 31 of the current calendar year. (See also Youth)
Heat	h	An individual race within any stage of an event other than the Final
International Association of Athletics Federations	IAAF	The world governing body for athletics
International Association of Ultrarunners	IAU	Governing body for Ultradistance Running
IAAF Top Lists		Best legal performances in the year in a single event compiled by IAAF
International Paralympic Committee	IPC	The international governing body of the Paralympic Movement
Junior	Jr	An athlete aged 18 or 19 on December 31 of the current calendar year
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 35 th 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 the IAAF
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 the IAAF's definition of race walking. (See IAAF Rule 230)
Rank		Placing in an event. Athletes are ranked according to IAAF Rules.
Reaction Time		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
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

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Round 1	R1	The opening stage of a multi-round Track Event (unless a Preliminary Round is held)
Session		A sequence of events in a timetable held on one particular part of the day
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
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
World Athletics Series	WAS	The Championships and Cups organised directly by the IAAF in the four-yearly official competition programme
World Masters Athletics	WMA	Governing body for Masters athletics
World Mountain Running Association	WMRA	Governing body for Mountain Running
Youth		An athlete (male or female) aged 16 or 17 on December 31 of the current calendar year

COUNTRY CODES – in code order (GBR)

AFG	AFGHANISTAN	GEO	GEORGIA	NIG	NIGER
AIA	ANGUILLA	GEQ	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	NMI	NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS
ALB	ALBANIA	GER	GERMANY	NOR	NORWAY
ALG	ALGERIA	GHA	GHANA	NRU	NAURU
AND	ANDORRA	GIB	GIBRALTAR	NZL	NEW ZEALAND
ANG	ANGOLA	GRE	GREECE	OMA	OMAN
ANT	ANTIGUA	GRN	GRENADA	PAK	PAKISTAN
ARG	ARGENTINA	GUA	GUATEMALA	PAN	PANAMA
ARM	ARMENIA	GUI	GUINEA	PAR	PARAGUAY
ARU	ARUBA	GUM	GUAM	PER	PERU
ASA	AMERICAN SAMOA	GUY	GUYANA	PHI	PHILIPPINES
AUS	AUSTRALIA	HAI	HAITI	PLE	PALESTINE
AUT	AUSTRIA	HKG	HONG KONG - CHINA	PLW	PALAU
AZE	AZERBAIJAN	HON	HONDURAS	PNG	PAPUA NEW GUINEA
BAH	BAHAMAS	HUN	HUNGARY	POL	POLAND
BAN	BANGLADESH	INA	INDONESIA	POR	PORTUGAL
BAR	BARBADOS	IND	INDIA	PRK	DPR KOREA
BDI	BURUNDI	IRI	ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN	PUR	PUERTO RICO
BEL	BELGIUM	IRL	IRELAND	PYF	TAHITI
BEN	BENIN	IRQ	IRAQ	QAT	QATAR
BER	BERMUDA	ISL	ICELAND	ROU	ROMANIA
BHU	BHUTAN	ISR	ISRAEL	RSA	SOUTH AFRICA
BIH	BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA	ISV	US VIRGIN ISLANDS	RUS	RUSSIA
BIZ	BELIZE	ITA	ITALY	RWA	RWANDA
BLR	BELARUS	IVB	BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	SAM	SAMOA
BOL	BOLIVIA	JAM	JAMAICA	SEN	SENEGAL
BOT	BOTSWANA	JOR	JORDAN	SEY	SEYCHELLES
BRA	BRAZIL	JPN	JAPAN	SIN	SINGAPORE
BRN	BAHRAIN	KAZ	KAZAKHSTAN	SKN	SAINT KITTS & NEVIS
BRU	BRUNEI	KEN	KENYA	SLE	SIERRA LEONE
BUL	BULGARIA	KGZ	KYRGYZSTAN	SLO	SLOVENIA
BUR	BURKINA FASO	KIR	KIRIBATI	SMR	SAN MARINO
CAF	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	KOR	KOREA	SOL	SOLOMON ISLANDS
CAM	CAMBODIA	KSA	SAUDI ARABIA	SOM	SOMALIA
CAN	CANADA	KUW	KUWAIT	SRB	SERBIA
CAY	CAYMAN ISLANDS	LAO	LAOS	SRI	SRI LANKA
CGO	CONGO	LAT	LATVIA	STP	DEM. REP. OF SAO TOME E PRINCIPE
CHA	CHAD	LBA	LIBYA	SUD	SUDAN
CHI	CHILE	LBR	LIBERIA	SUI	SWITZERLAND
CHN	CHINA PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF	LCA	SAINT LUCIA	SUR	SURINAM
CIV	IVORY COAST	LES	LESOTHO	SVK	SLOVAK REPUBLIC
CMR	CAMEROONS	LIB	LEBANON	SWE	SWEDEN
COD	DEM. REP. OF CONGO	LIE	LIECHTENSTEIN	SWZ	SWAZILAND
COK	COOK ISLANDS	LTU	LITHUANIA	SYR	SYRIA
COL	COLOMBIA	LUX	LUXEMBOURG	TAN	TANZANIA
COM	COMOROS	MAC	MACAO	TGA	TONGA
CPV	CAPE VERDE ISLANDS	MAD	MADAGASCAR	THA	THAILAND
CRC	COSTA RICA	MAR	MOROCCO	TJK	TAJIKISTAN
CRO	CROATIA	MAS	MALAYSIA	TKM	TURKMENISTAN
CUB	CUBA	MAW	MALAWI	TKS	TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS
CYP	CYPRUS	MDA	MOLDOVA	TLS	EAST TIMOR
CZE	CZECH REPUBLIC	MDV	MALDIVES	TOG	TOGO
DEN	DENMARK	MEX	MEXICO	TPE	CHINESE TAIPEI
DJI	DJIBOUTI	MGL	MONGOLIA	TTO	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
DMA	DOMINICA	MHL	MARSHALL ISLANDS	TUN	TUNISIA
DOM	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	MKD	FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA	TUR	TURKEY
ECU	ECUADOR	MLI	MALI	TUV	TUVALU
EGY	EGYPT	MLT	MALTA	UAE	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
ERI	ERITREA	MNE	MONTENEGRO	UGA	UGANDA
ESA	EL SALVADOR	MNT	MONTserrat	UKR	UKRAINE
ESP	SPAIN	MON	MONACO	URU	URUGUAY
EST	ESTONIA	MOZ	MOZAMBIQUE	USA	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ETH	ETHIOPIA	MRI	MAURITIUS	UZB	UZBEKISTAN
FIJ	FIJI	MTN	MAURITANIA	VAN	VANUATU
FIN	FINLAND	MYA	MYANMAR	VEN	VENEZUELA
FRA	FRANCE	NAM	NAMIBIA	VIE	VIETNAM
FSM	MICRONESIA	NCA	NICARAGUA	VIN	SAINT VINCENT
GAB	GABON	NED	NETHERLANDS	YEM	REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
GAM	GAMBIA	NEP	NEPAL	ZAM	ZAMBIA
GBR	GB & NI	NFI	NORFOLK ISLAND	ZIM	ZIMBABWE
GBS	GUINEA-BISSAU	NGR	NIGERIA		