



Motions Congress

6th Congress

15th April 2023



MOTIONS

Tullamore Court Hotel
Co. Offaly

www.athleticsireland.com

MOTIONS

CONSTITUTION

Article 81 (e) iv

A High-Performance Committee which shall consist of a Chair elected at Congress and six (6) individuals, three (3) of whom shall be elected at Congress and three (3), at least one of whom shall be an international athlete who has represented Ireland in Senior Competition within five (5) years of the date of the immediately preceding Congress, shall be appointed by the Board. The Chair of the Coaching and Development Committee shall be, ex officio, a member of the High-Performance Committee with full voting rights.

1.

Revised to:

THAT: A High-Performance Committee which shall consist of a Chair elected at Congress and six (6) individuals, three (3) of whom shall be elected at Congress and three (3), one of whom shall be the Chair of the Athletes Commission, and at least one of whom shall be an independent high-performance expert shall be appointed by the Board. The Chair of the Coaching and Development Committee shall be, ex officio, a member of the High-Performance Committee with full voting rights.

BOARD

Rationale:

To ensure that the Sport Ireland requirement of an independent HP expert is met and to ensure that the Chair of the Athletes Commission is formally represented in our constitution.

Article 33 a (iv) (A) Delegate Numbers

The number of Delegates from each County Board shall be determined on the basis of 1 Delegate for each 200, or part 200, Registered Members of Affiliated clubs.

2.

Revised to:

THAT: the number of Delegates from each County Board shall be determined on the basis of one (1) Delegate for each 400, or part of 400, Registered Members of Affiliated clubs; County Boards with less than 400 members of Affiliated clubs shall be entitled to up to two (2) delegates in total.

BOARD

Rationale:

This motion is linked to cost and planning for each County Board trying to fill their quotas. For example, Dublin County Board with approx. 10,000 members currently has circa 50 delegates. With the passing of this motion the number would reduce to circa 25 delegates which is a much more realistic number for the County to source and to attend at Congress. Note that if a County with less than 400 members is present, they are entitled to have up to two delegates attend and each with a vote.

Article 48

Any motion, other than a motion from the Board, whether to amend the memorandum of association of the Association, these Articles, the Byelaws, the Rules of Competition or Other Rules or on any other topic, shall be notified to the CEO in writing not less than sixty (60) Clear Days before the date for holding the general meeting. Each such motion shall deal with one subject only.

3.

To include an additional clause;

THAT: No amendment to General Meeting Motions will be accepted from the floor of a General Meeting. All proposed motion amendments must be forwarded to the CEO 14 days in advance of a General Meeting. All proposed amendments will be redistributed to relevant stakeholders 7 days in advance of said General Meeting to enable all parties an opportunity to preview and discuss.

BOARD

Rationale:

MOTIONS

Include an additional clause allowing all parties the opportunity to discuss in advance the amendment with its constituent parties prior to General Meetings.

Article 4 (vi)

Commit the Association to the promotion of gender equality throughout all levels of the organisation.

4.

Revised to:

THAT: Commit the Association to the promotion of gender equality throughout all levels of the organisation. The Association will make its best efforts to achieve the required gender representation balance of Board membership, as per Government guidelines. The Governance Committee is the committee tasked with implementing these Government guidelines in a transparent and fair manner.

BOARD

Rationale:

To ensure the gender representation balance of the Board is as per Government Guidelines.

Article 81 (e) iii

A Finance and Risk Committee which shall consist of a Chair elected at Congress and six (6) individuals, three (3) of whom shall be elected at Congress and three (3), at least one of whom must be a Board Member, will be appointed by the Board.

5.

Revised to:

THAT: the Finance and Risk Committee shall consist of a Chair elected at Congress and six (6) individuals:
 - three (3) of whom shall be elected at Congress and
 - three (3) of whom shall be appointed by the Board.

In addition to the Chair and the President, at least one of the elected or appointed committee members shall also be a Board member.

BOARD

Rationale:

To ensure that AI meets the Sport Ireland Governance Code requirement 2.2 (e) of three or more Board Directors on the Finance/audit/risk committee.

Article 81 e (i)

A Coaching and Development Committee which shall consist of a Chair elected at Congress and ten (10) individuals, five (5) of whom shall be elected at Congress and five (5) appointed by the Board. The Chair of the High Performance Committee shall be, ex officio, a member of the Coaching and Development Committee with full voting rights.

6.

Revised to:

THAT: A Coaching and Development Committee which shall consist of a Chair elected at Congress and ten (10) individuals, five (5) of whom shall be elected at Congress and five (5) appointed by the Board. The Chair of the High Performance Committee and a member from the Juvenile Committee shall be, ex officio, members of the Coaching and Development Committee with full voting rights.

BOARD

Rationale: To ensure that the Juvenile Committee are represented at the Coaching and Development Committee level as has historically occurred.

MOTIONS

Article 80		
<p>No individual excluding the position of chair, may be a member on more than one Principal Committee and may not serve for more than 12 (twelve) years in total effective from April 2010.</p>	7.	<p>To be removed and replaced with the following two articles to be inserted after article 81 (d);</p> <p>THAT: 81 (e) No individual may be a member of more than one Principal Committee, except as described in 81 e (i) & 81 e (iv).</p> <p>THAT: 81 (f) No individual, may serve for more than 12 (twelve) years in total on each Principal Committee effective from April 2010. This includes time served as Chair of each such Principal Committee.</p> <p>BOARD</p>
<p>Rationale: 81 (e) This is to bring more clarity the current reading of Article 80. 81 (f) This clarifies that an individual can serve up to 12 years on one Principal Committee and can also serve 12 years on any other Principal Committee(s) at another time.</p>		
Partial Term		
	8.	<p>Article 53 to include an additional clause;</p> <p>THAT: should a new member be appointed to a Board position to fill a vacancy mid-term, that person is considered to have completed a full term, unless the member is appointed twenty-six weeks or less before the next Congress, in which case, those weeks will not be considered as a term of service.</p> <p>BOARD</p>
<p>Rationale: To enable more efficient operating of a Board, it is preferable that a member's eligibility does not expire mid-term through the Board's term because of a partial term of service.</p>		
	9.	<p>Article 81 to include an additional clause;</p> <p>THAT: should a new member be appointed to a Principal Committee position to fill a vacancy mid-term, that person is considered to have completed a full term, unless the member is appointed twenty-six weeks or less before the next Congress, in which case, those weeks will not be considered as a term of service.</p> <p>BOARD</p>
<p>Rationale: To enable more efficient operating of a Principal Committee, it is preferable that a member's eligibility does not expire mid-term through the Board's term because of a partial term of service.</p>		
Eligibility		
	10.	<p>Article 53 to include an additional clause;</p> <p>THAT: to be eligible for election or nomination to the Board, a person must be eligible to complete the full</p>

MOTIONS

		<p>term or remaining term of the Board if the appointment is during the term.</p> <p>BOARD</p>
<p>Rationale: It is preferable that a person joining the Board is eligible to complete the full two years of service. This reduces the likelihood of having to replace members during the term.</p>		
	<p>11.</p>	<p>Article 81 to include an additional clause;</p> <p>THAT: To be eligible for election or nomination to a Principal Committee, a person must be eligible to complete the full term or remaining term of the Principal Committee if the appointment is during the term.</p> <p>BOARD</p>
<p>Rationale: It is preferable that a person joining a Principal Committee is available to complete the full two years of service. This reduces the likelihood of having to replace members during the term.</p>		
<p>Terms versus Years</p>		
<p>53. No person may be a member of the Board for more than two (2) consecutive two-year terms in any one position, and no one may serve as a Board Member for more than twelve years (12) in total with effect from 24th April 2010.</p> <p>53 (j). In the event of Congress being, or having been, postponed by way of a Board Decision pursuant to Article 53 (f), the additional time during the postponed period between the original date of Congress and the rescheduled date shall not be taken into account in calculating the 12-year maximum period for Board Membership referred to in this Article.</p> <p>80. No individual excluding the position of chair, may be a member on more than one Principal Committee and may not serve for more than 12 (twelve) years in total effective from April 2010.</p>	<p>12.</p>	<p>THAT: all references in the Constitution to 12 years be replaced with the phrase six (6) terms.</p> <p>BOARD</p>
<p>Rationale: Consistency of referral to Board / Principal Committee terms not years.</p>		
<p>Article 47</p>		

MOTIONS

<p>The Board shall be responsible for arranging the timetable and order of business at the AGM, at Congress and at every EGM subject to standing orders adopted by the Board on the recommendation of the Governance Committee. All business shall be deemed special that is transacted at an EGM, and all that is transacted at an AGM shall also be deemed special, with the exception of the consideration of the accounts and balance sheet, and the reports of the Board and of the auditors and the fixing of the remuneration of the auditors and the election of Board Members.</p>	13.	<p>Revised to: THAT: the Board shall be responsible for arranging the timetable and order of business at the AGM, at Congress and at every EGM subject to standing orders adopted by the Board on the recommendation of the Governance Committee. All business shall be deemed special that is transacted at an EGM, and all that is transacted at an AGM shall also be deemed special, with the exception of the consideration of the accounts and balance sheet, and the reports of the Board and of the auditors and the appointment of the auditors and the election of Board Members. BOARD</p>
<p>Rationale: The remuneration of the auditors is subject to change at short notice due to the ever changing compliance requirements (financial and governance) and timescales. Hence the removal of the wording regarding ‘fixing of remuneration of the auditors’ is required.</p>		
<p>Article 33 (k)</p>		
<p>On the recommendation of the Board, in recognition of valued services given to the Association, Congress shall be entitled to elect Honorary Life Vice Presidents, without voting powers.</p>	14.	<p>Revised to: THAT: on the recommendation of the Board, in recognition of valued services given to the Association, Congress shall be entitled to elect Life Vice Presidents, without voting powers. BOARD</p>
<p>Rationale: Removal of Honorary. This Article was not amended at the previous Congress.</p>		

BYE-LAWS

- 15. THAT:** Athletics Ireland review the transfer system to include 1st January as a transfer date for juveniles.
SLIGO

ADMINISTRATION

- 16. THAT:** Athletics Ireland insurance includes Directors and Officers Liability Insurance cover for clubs, County Boards and Provinces.
SLIGO
RECOMMENDATION
- 17. THAT:** Athletics Ireland designate time, on the days of National competition, when training and development of officials will take place.
DUBLIN
- 18. THAT:** Athletics Ireland evaluate the benefit of developing a “pre-cursor” discipline for Pole-vault.
DUBLIN

MOTIONS

19. THAT: Athletics Ireland under the auspices of a single purpose committee, chaired by an independent expert and including but not limited to, members of the following:

- Juvenile Committee
- Competition Committee
- High-Performance Committee
- Coaching & Development Committee
- Irish Schools Athletic Association

evaluate the introduction of a multi-disciplinary Run-Jump-Throw, Sports-hall type, or Spraoi Games, team-based competition structure, for Juveniles below U13.

DUBLIN

20. THAT: That Athletics Ireland evaluates establishing and implementing a national education and certification pathway for technical officials.

DUBLIN

COMPETITION - SENIOR

21. THAT: weight for Height for National Junior, U23 & Senior Women Championships to be introduced.

MEATH/LEINSTER

22. THAT: the Women's Weight for Height competition be held, using the same weights used in weight for distance, for Junior, U23 & Senior categories.

DUBLIN

23. THAT: we introduce Weight Throw / Heavy Hammer for Outdoor National Seniors Champs (20lbs Women / 35lbs Men).

MEATH/LEINSTER

24. THAT: the Junior Women's Weight for Distance / Height to be 20lbs.

MEATH/LEINSTER

25. THAT: the Junior Women's Weight for Distance implement be changed to 20lb/9kg.

DUBLIN/LEINSTER

26. THAT: the Competition booklet be amended to clarify that the chain of the implements in weight throws, are 16" long (the booklet shows it as 12").

DUBLIN

27. THAT: the inter-club Relay for the National Junior & U23s Indoors Championships be changed to 4x400m.

MEATH/LEINSTER

28. THAT: a separate 4x400m inter-club relay be added to the National Indoor Championships.

MEATH/LEINSTER

MOTIONS

29. **THAT:** Athletics Ireland introduce a Mixed Inter-Club 4x400m Relay for the Outdoors National Senior Championships.
MEATH/LEINSTER
30. **THAT:** Athletics Ireland introduce a Mixed Club Relay National Cross-Country Championship.
BOARD/LEINSTER/MEATH
31. **THAT:** Mixed Relays be added to the list of Relay events at Senior Championships from 2023; the age groups and distances to be determined by the Competition Committee.
CONNACHT
32. **THAT:** the Junior & Senior Cross-Country championships reflect the principle of equal distances for men & women as recommended by European Athletics for the European Cross-Country Championships. NB Under 23 men & women will continue to run the senior championship distances.
BOARD/LEINSTER/MAYO
33. **THAT:** underage Cross Country distances be revised to reflect the principle of equal distances for boys & girls in line with the recommended distances by European Athletics for the European Cross Country Championships.
BOARD/MAYO
34. **THAT:** U17s & U18s be allowed compete as Junior for the National Combined Events both Indoor & Outdoors.
MEATH/LEINSTER
35. **THAT:** U17 and U18 athletes are given the option to compete in the National Indoors and Outdoors Decathlon.
CONNACHT
36. **THAT:** national Indoor and Outdoor Championships contested by athletes in the under-20 age category (19 years old or younger on 31 December in the year of the competition) be re-named National Under-20 Championships and National Under-20 Indoor Championships in line with World Athletics naming conventions.
DUBLIN
37. **THAT:** Athletics Ireland introduce a 10km National Junior Road Race-Walking Championship.
BOARD/LEINSTER/MEATH

COMPETITION - JUVENILE

38. **THAT:** Athletics Ireland introduce U15 Triple Jump both Indoor & Outdoor for Boys & Girls for National Juveniles.
MEATH/LEINSTER
39. **THAT:** the National Children's Games for U9s, U10s and U11s be expanded to include an individual competition in addition to the existing team competition.
CONNACHT/MAYO

MOTIONS

40. THAT: Mixed Relays be added to the list of Relay events at Juvenile Championships from 2023; the age groups and distances to be determined by the Juvenile and Competition Committees.
CONNACHT

41. THAT: Athletics Ireland introduce a mixed relay in U11, U 13, U15 & U17 in Juvenile relays in both Cross Country and Track & Field.
WEXFORD

COMPETITION - MASTERS

42. THAT: Athletics Ireland when conducting Masters track & field championships (Indoor & outdoor) shall apply the World Masters Athletics Rule 15 starting blocks: Rule 16 False Start.
DUBLIN/WESTMEATH/DONEGAL/MEATH

43. THAT: the standard men's outdoor pentathlon (long jump, javelin, 200m, discus, 1500m – as recognised by both World Masters Athletics and World Athletics), rather than the current non-standard pentathlon (short hurdles, long jump, shot putt, high jump, 1500m), be contested in the National Masters Combined Events Championships (for men outdoors).
LOUTH

44. THAT: the standard pentathlon events (as recognised by World Masters Athletics), rather than the current quadrathlon events, be contested for the age groups from M60/W60 upwards in the National Masters Combined Events Championships (for men and women, both outdoors and indoors).
LOUTH

45. THAT: Mixed Relays be added to the list of Relay events at Master Championships from 2023; the age groups and distances to be determined by the Competition Committee.
CONNACHT

46. THAT: the implement for Women Over 75 Weight for Distance be reduced to 7.26kg.
DUBLIN

47. THAT: over 75 women Weight for Distance be 16lbs.
MEATH/LEINSTER

15th April 2023

We thank you for your ongoing support of Athletics Ireland

Athletics Ireland

Unit 19, Northwood, Court Northwood
Business Campus, Santry, Dublin 9, Ireland

www.athleticsireland.ie

@irishathletics

