

Teams – Competition Information

as at 18/03/24

(updates are marked with two lines on the right margin)

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APPENDICES AND MAPS

1. COMPETITION DELEGATES AND WA COMPETITIONS UNIT

Competitions Delegates

Technical Delegate	Massimo MAGNANI
Medical Delegate	Stephane BERMON
Anti-Doping Delegate	Stefano LONGO
Press Delegate	Zacharias VAILAKIS
Advertising Commissioner	Karena VLECK
Secretary of the Jury	Pierce O'CALLAGHAN

WA Competitions Unit

Pierce O'CALLAGHAN - pierce.ocallaghan@worldathletics.org

Luca VERRASCINA - luca.verrascina@worldathletics.org

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2. INFORMATION CENTRES

2.1. Technical Information Centre (TIC)

The Technical Information Centre is located by the warm-up area.

The main task of the TIC is to ensure a smooth liaison between each Member Federation and the LOC, the World Athletics Technical Delegates, and the Competition Management of the Championships regarding technical matters.

From 28 March the Virtual TIC will be operating too and will cover all the main tasks of the TIC. Team Leaders will receive a link and credentials to access the service.

Final confirmations must be done by Member Federations using the Online Confirmation tool on the Virtual TIC platform by 12:00 (noon) on Friday, 29 March 2024

Virtual TIC will also provide all information normally shared by TIC in a dedicated section for downloads. It will also be possible to send general inquiries, withdrawal forms, doping control requests and written appeals.

The TIC is responsible for, but not limited to, the following:

- Displaying on the relevant notice board of official communications to the teams, including Start Lists and Results and Call Room reporting times will also be displayed at the Warm-up Area
- Distribution of urgent notices to the delegations from the Technical Delegates and Competition Management; it is the Team Leader's duty to report regularly to the TIC to collect this kind of information
- Receipt of written questions for the Technical Briefing (deadline 28 February, 18:00)
- Assistance on Final Confirmation
- Receipt of Withdrawal Forms

Teams – Competition Information

- Managing National Record Doping Control requests
- Written Appeals
- TIC General Enquiries

The TIC will be the main centre for technical information, although certain documents produced in the TIC will also be distributed to the Championships Information Desks (CID) for circulation. All the above communications and information will be available on the Online TIC platform as well.

The TIC will open from Thursday 28 March. The TIC's opening hours are:

Thursday, 28 th March	9:00-19:00
Friday, 29 th March	8:30-21:00
Saturday, 30 th March	8:30-19:00

2.2. Competition Information Desks (CID)

There will be a CID in all Team Hotels, which will be linked to the TIC. It will be responsible for, but not limited to, the following:

- Display relevant notices and official communications to the teams, including start lists, results and call room reporting times.
- Distribution of urgent notices to the delegations from the technical delegates and competition management. It is the Team Leader's duty to collect this kind of information in due time.
- Receipt of written questions for the Technical Briefing (deadline: 28 March, 18:00)
- Assistance on Final Confirmation
- It will also be possible to submit general enquiries to the TIC through these CIDs.
- Distribution of information and answering queries relating to accommodation, meals, transport and the Championships in general.

CIDs will be open from 27th to 30th March from 08:00 to 22:00

There will be a reduced CID service prior to 27 March, for teams that arrive earlier.

2.3 WA Competitions Department Offices

Staff from the WA Competitions Department will be in Belgrade to assist the LOC with the final preparation and conduct of the Championships and the teams with their participation.

They can be contacted as follows:

27 to 29 March	WA Administrative Office at Crowne Plaza Hotel (meeting room Tisa)
30 March	WA Competitions Office at competition venue – can be contacted Through the TIC

2.4 Document Distribution and Support Desks

Document Distribution

Sustainability is a key commitment for WXC Belgrade24 and together we are trying to do our part providing information as paperless as possible.

World Athletics has established a Virtual TIC to reduce the amount of printed material distributed to the Teams at the TIC at the Stadium or at the CID at the Team Hotels

Team Leaders are also strongly encouraged to download the WhatsApp application. In practice this means that the distribution of competition related information at the TIC and CID will not be

made through printouts but will be distributed via the Virtual TIC, displayed on the notice boards (also available at the Warm-up Area) and (for the more urgent matters) sent by WhatsApp group to the Team Leaders (their mobile number must be entered in Event Entry System).

Important notices (e.g., changes to the timetable) will also be distributed via the Virtual TIC and displayed on the Posting Board while individual communications to specific teams will be posted at the TIC and sent by e-mails.

3. Competition Course and Competition Facilities

3.1 Course

WXC Belgrade 24 Course is a loop of 1,887m with start and finish straight being 270m and 320m respectively (not included in the loop).

The terrain is mostly grass intersected by pedestrian walking paths which will be covered with both dirt and sand. As the terrain is mostly flat, a section of the course will present two arch bridges. The course also incorporates a hay maze and classic cross-country hurdle. On both turning points of the loop, there will be a music station.

Alongside the course, traditional and countryside motifs will be displayed.

3.2 Warm-up Area

A large area is located near the team area and will serve as warm-up area prior to the event. Access will be reserved to team members only.

3.3 Team Area

Tents will be available for the Teams and there will be also additional space dedicated for the Team physios.

3.3 Start/Finish Areas

All necessary facilities will be located between the bus drop-off point and the start area. After the race, and after having passed through the mixed zone, athletes will return the transponders and collect their accreditation, at the Post Event Area where their clothing will be waiting for them.

4. Entry Rules, Qualification System, Entry Standards, Final Entries, Final Confirmation and Athlete's Agreement

4.1 Entry Rules

In all races (except the Mixed Relay) a Member may enter a maximum of eight athletes; no more than six will be allowed to start in the race with four to score.

In the Mixed Relay, a Member may enter a maximum of four men and four women; of whom two men and two women will compete.

Individual entries are admitted in any race (except in the Mixed Relay) and the finishing athletes will be eligible for the corresponding individual awards.

4.4 Final Entries

The Final Entries must also be submitted online using the online EES, by **18 March 2024** midnight, Monaco time (see note above). Final Entries may be submitted starting 17 February 2024.

4.5 Final Confirmations

Final confirmations must be done by Member Federations using the Online Confirmation tool on the Virtual TIC platform by 12:00 (noon) on Friday, 29 March 2024

Should you encounter difficulties when submitting your Entries electronically, please contact the World Athletics Team Services for assistance by email: teamservices@worldathletics.org.

4.6 Athlete Agreement

Each athlete competing in a World Athletics Series Competition must sign the Athlete Agreement electronically. To do so Member Federations must enter in the online EES the individual email address of each participating athlete from their team beforehand.

If on EES an athlete is indicated as:

- a. already signed the Athlete Agreement electronically then no further action is required;
- b. **not signed** the Athlete Agreement electronically, then World Athletics will directly email each athlete to sign their Athlete Agreement electronically. World Athletics will send specific instructions concerning the electronic signature process separately.

The Athlete Agreement must be signed by no later than Monday 18 March 2024 (the same deadline as Final Entries).

If an athlete or Member Federation experiences any issue with the process, they should contact athleteagreement@worldathletics.org. Please note that paper forms of the Athlete Agreement will **NOT** be collected on site except for Athlete Agreements concerning under 18s.

PLEASE NOTE: We **may** directly e-mail the athletes concerning essential and practical information they need to know about the World Athletics Cross Country Championships when they are on site. We intend to send 1 or 2 e-mails approximately in the week prior to the start of the World Athletics Cross Country Championships, that's all. The content of the e-mail may cover what athletes cannot take on the field of play, reminder them about their kit and logos, how to engage with social media or information on activities and things of interest during their down time. We will NOT continuously send messages to athletes throughout the World Athletics Cross Country Championships. We will copy in Team Leaders to all e-mails we directly send to athletes.

5. COMPETITION PROCEDURES

5.1 Course Inspection

Guided tours of the course will be conducted on Friday 29 March. Guides will be available to conduct tours at 14:00. LOC personnel will be available at the start/finish line during the whole period to assist with questions. Athletes and team officials may inspect the course unaccompanied.

The official training will be on Friday 29 March from 13:00 to 16:00.

5.2 Timetable

The timetable for Belgrade was approved by World Athletics Council and is provided below:

Saturday 30 March 2024

11:00 W U20 Race – 6km
11:35 M U20 Race – 8km
12:15 X Mixed Relay – 4x2
12:45 W Senior Race – 10km
13:30 M Senior Race – 10km

Medal Ceremonies:

14:20 W U20
14:26 W U20 Team
14:33 M U20
14:39 M U20 Team
14:46 X Mixed Relay
14:53 W Senior
14:59 W Senior Team
15:06 M Senior
15:12 M Senior Team

Any change to the schedule of the races or of the medal ceremonies shall be communicated on site.

5.3 Mixed Relay

The relay will consist of teams of 2 men and 2 women each running one loop of the course (first and last loop are a little bit longer than the others, approx. 200m more). The order of running is Man-Woman-Man-Woman. The final composition of the team and the running order must be declared at the TIC by **10:40 on 30 March** (no later than one hour before the Call room time for the Relay). The Declaration Forms will be distributed at the Accreditation Centre and will also be available at the TIC on the day of the event.

All the athletes of a team will enter the Call Room at the same time.

Athletes must carry on their wrist or in their hands a wristband that will be transferred to the next athlete within the takeover zone.

The takeover zone will be 20m long of which the scratch line is the centre. Entrance and exit of the takeover zone will be marked with small flags or cones.

5.4 Athletes' Bibs

All athletes will receive 3 bibs, each one carrying the athlete's name.

All the bibs for each athlete shall be distributed during the Accreditation procedure. Bibs which are not collected shall be taken to the Call Room on Saturday morning.

The bibs for the relays (carrying the country code – (e.g. SRB) will be handed out at the call room and placed on the back.

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Bibs must be worn in accordance with World Athletics Rules and must not be cut, folded or obscured in any way. Failure to comply with the Rules may result in a disqualification or sanction.

5.5 Team Kit

All national team kit (i.e. whether Member Federations have a national sponsor on their national team kit or not) must be submitted via the online form. Please [complete the online kit approvals form](#) and [upload images of your kit](#). It is preferable that the images of the kit are contained in one pdf file. If you plan to have the same kit throughout 2024 then you can complete the relevant option in the online form. See Circular M/04/24 for further information.

Please note, where World Athletics approves the national team kit (including any accessories) it is on the condition and expectation that a Member Federation's athletes will wear the approved kit (including any accessories) issued to its team. Member Federations must remind athletes if they wear any other kit (including accessories) (e.g. personal kit) then all logos (including the brand) on that kit may either be taped over or the athlete, at any time, may be instructed by any official (not just the call room officials) to remove the accessory or take other action so that the logo(s) on that kit is (are) not visible.

If you have not done so already for the World Athletics Cross Country Championships [please complete the kit approvals form](#) by 04 March 2024. We will notify you by email if the kit has been approved or if we have further points of clarification.

Please contact kitapprovals@worldathletics.org with any questions.

For WXC Belgrade 24 the Official Partners are the following:

- World Athletics Partners: ASICS, SEIKO, SONY
- World Athletics Supplier: Deloitte
- World Athletics Media and Media Distribution Partners: TBS
- World Athletics Suppliers: Mondo, Pinsent Masons

Bib Sponsor: Seiko – mens bibs / NTN – female bibs

Any infringement of the Rules may result in the disqualification of the athlete. Athletes not wearing their official team uniform will be required to acquire the correct attire before they progress through the Call Room.

5.6 Call Room Procedures

The Call Room is situated close to the start/finish area on the way from the Team tents. All athletes must present themselves at the Call Room not later than 25 minutes before the start of each race and according to the scheduled reporting times as noted below:

Event	Call Room		All Athletes in Holding Area	Arrival at Start Area	Start
	Open	Close			
U20 Women (6000m)	10:24	10:44	10:49	10:54	11:00
U20 Men (8000m)	10:59	11:19	11:24	11:29	11:35
Mixed Relay (8000m)	11:39	11:59	12:04	12:09	12:15
Women (10000m)	12:09	12:29	12:34	12:39	12:45

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Men (10000m)	12:54	13:14	13:19	13:24	13:30
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Athletes who fail to appear on time at the Call Room without a valid reason may be excluded from participating.

Team officials are not allowed to enter the Call Room.

The procedures to enter the Call Room shall be as follows:

- Identification of Athletes by means of their accreditation and bib number
- Athletes' accreditation will be retained by the Officials
- Athletes will have to show their competition shoes with the transponders attached
- Checking of Athletes' Uniform

Athletes will be allowed to bring small bags and get changed in the Call Room. In case of cold weather athletes shall be allowed to take with them their uniform's track suit top and / or trousers which they will then have to drop-off at the start area. Athletes will have to collect their clothes and belongings in the Post Event Area after their competition (see).

After leaving the Call Room, athletes will move directly towards the Start Area where there will be the opportunity for a last warm-up on the course.

5.7 Line up for the Start

The Technical Delegate will determine the teams and athletes who will be in the front row. The remaining teams and athletes shall line up behind the front row at random.

There will be pre-calls at 5 minutes, 3 minutes and 1 minute before the start.

5.8 Starter's Commands

The starter's commands will be given in English. The following commands will be used:

- "On your marks"
- Firing the gun

5.9 Timing

Official timing will be provided by SEIKO with transponders, which will be delivered at the Team area. Athletes must wear one transponder on each competition shoe. At the exit of the Call Room, a control mat will be placed in order to check the good functioning and placement of the transponders.

There will be two split timing points provide by SEIKO at beginning of take over zone location and before the second bridge 50 m before the split lap/finish split point. – these will be reference locations based on points of interest on the course – not at particular distance intervals.

5.10 Post Competition Procedures

All athletes, upon completion of their event, must proceed to the Mixed Zone located just ahead of the finish line, where they will meet with media for flash interviews.

After the Mixed Zone:

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- Athletes shall be asked to return the transponder at the Post Event Area to get their accreditation back (or to a Competition Official if this is impractical). Member Federations will be invoiced for any transponder not returned.
- Athletes selected for doping control shall be notified by a doping control officer.
- Medal winners shall be notified accordingly and eventually escorted to the Medal Ceremonies waiting area (see 5.14)

Flash interviews with TV and radio will be conducted immediately after each race in the Mixed Zone, followed by short interviews with written press.

5.11 Scoring and Ties

In all races (except the mixed relay) four finishers will score.

Each race will be scored separately. The team results will be decided by the aggregate of places recorded by the scoring athletes of each team. The team with the lowest aggregate of points will be judged the winner. If a team fails to finish with a complete scoring team, the runners finishing will be counted as individuals in the race result and be eligible for the individual awards.

In assessing the aggregate, no adjustment to the scoring of the finishing teams will be made in respect of any non-scoring team runners or of individual entries.

In the event of a tie, it will be resolved in favour of the team whose last scoring member finishes nearer to the first place.

Scoring for the Mixed Relay will be by finishing order of the team.

5.12 Medal Ceremonies

The first three athletes in each individual event and the first three teams will each be presented with a gold, silver and bronze medal respectively. In all cases, the medals will be presented in ascending order: third, second, first.

Individual and Team Athletes shall wear their Member Federation presentation kit/official uniform as approved by World Athletics (see 5.14)

5.13 Protests and Appeals

Protests and Appeals will be handled according to Rule 8 of the Technical Rules. Protests and appeals have to be submitted via the Virtual TIC and be handled by the TIC at the course.

5.13.1 Protests

Protests concerning the result or conduct of an event shall be made within 30 minutes of the official announcement of the result of that event. The Organising Committee of the competition shall be responsible for ensuring that the time of the announcement of all results is recorded.

Any protest shall be made verbally to the referee, by an athlete, by someone acting on his behalf or by an official representative of a team. Such person or team may protest only if they are competing in the same round of the event to which the protest (or subsequent appeal) relates. To arrive at a fair decision, the referee should consider any available evidence which he thinks necessary, including a film or picture produced by an official video recorder, or any other available video evidence. The referee may decide on the protest or may refer the matter to the jury.

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If the referee makes a decision, there shall be a right of appeal to the jury. Where the referee is not accessible or available, the protest should be made to him through the Technical Information Centre.

5.13.2 Appeals

An appeal to the Jury of Appeal must be made within 30 minutes:

- of the official announcement of the amended result of an event arising from the decision made by the referee; or
- of the advice being given to those making the protest, where there is no amendment of any result.

It shall be in writing, signed by a responsible official on behalf of the athlete or team. In case of appeals lost, the USD \$100 fee will be deducted by World Athletics from the Member Federation's account.

Note: The relevant referee shall, after his decision on a protest, immediately inform the TIC of the time of the decision. If the referee was unable to communicate this verbally to the relevant team(s) /athlete(s), the official time of the announcement will be that of the posting of the amended results or of the decision at the TIC.

5.14 Competition Awards

The Prize Money at the World Athletics Cross Country Championships will be as follows:

Senior Races:

<u>Individual</u>				<u>Team</u>			
1 st	USD 30,000	4 th	USD 7,000	1 st	USD 20,000	4 th	USD 10,000
2 nd	USD 15,000	5 th	USD 5,000	2 nd	USD 16,000	5 th	USD 8,000
3 rd	USD 10,000	6 th	USD 3,000	3 rd	USD 12,000	6 th	USD 4,000

Mixed Relay (per Team)

1 st	USD 12,000
2 nd	USD 8,000
3 rd	USD 6,000
4 th	USD 4,000

Payments will be made following confirmation of doping control tests and submission of complete Award Forms, with full bank details.

The Award Form for Individual Events can be found in Appendix C. It must be returned to awards@worldathletics.org.

Rights and Obligations in Relation to the Prize Money

Athletes confirm that they will make themselves available to World Athletics for promotional activities as set out in the athlete agreement.

If an athlete's Doping Control results return positive, the awards and bonuses won will be withheld. **Payment of prize money are subject to athletes' attendance and participation in the medal ceremony(ies) which includes wearing Member Federation presentation kit/official uniform as approved by World Athletics).**

Appendix A

Team hotels to Competition venue distances

	COMPETITION / TRAINING VENUE	
	Distance	Travel time
Crowne Plaza Belgrade	2.2 km	5 mins
Radisson Collection Belgrade	4.3 km	8 mins
Mona plaza Belgrade	3.9 km	9 mins
IN Belgrade	2.1 km	6 mins



World Athletics Cross Country Championships Belgrade 2024

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INDIVIDUAL AWARD

Appendix C

WORLD ATHLETICS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS - BELGRADE, 30 MARCH 24

NAME OF AWARD WINNER					
EVENT					
POSITION					
COUNTRY					
I would like my Belgrade World Athletics Cross Country Championships' Award to be paid to (please tick the box corresponding to your choice)					
1.	My Authorised Athletes' Representative	<input type="checkbox"/>	NAME::		
2.	Me personally (please provide details below)	<input type="checkbox"/>			
3.	My National Member Federation	<input type="checkbox"/>			
In case of choice 1 or 2 (above), please fill in below in block letters the bank details hereunder					
BANK NAME					
BANK BRANCH ADDRESS (street and number)					
City		Country		Postal code	
ACCOUNT OWNER (Beneficiary, pay to:)					
ACCOUNT NUMBER					
IBAN CODE					
BANK CODE					
SWIFT CODE					
I confirm that I will make myself available for promotional activities as set out in the athlete agreement. I will be solely responsible for the payment of any taxes, duties and/or levies of any nature and will agree to hold World Athletics and its partner(s) harmless in this regard.					
Signature of the Athlete (Digital signature allowed)					
Please return this form before 30 April 2024 to World Athletics Email: awards@worldathletics.org					