

World Athletics Relays Gaborone 26

Qualification System



Entry Rules

Age Categories

Any athlete aged at least 16 on 31 December 2026 (born in 2010 or earlier) may compete. Athletes younger than 16 on 31 December 2026 (born in 2011 or later) may not compete.

Events

The program shall comprise six relay events:

Men

4x100m

4x400m

Women

4x100m

4x400m

Mixed (Universal)

4x100m

4x400m

Entries by Event

A maximum of one team from any one Member can compete in each relay event and a maximum of eight athletes may be entered for each Relay Team. Any four athletes among those entered for the competition, may then be used in the composition of the team, except for 4x400 mixed where only 1 substitution will be allowed (plus one possible injury replacement, certified by the Medical Delegate).

Entry Conditions

A maximum of 24 teams will be entered in each event.

Top 8 teams in Tokyo World Championships 25 are qualified for entry to Gaborone 26 World Athletics Relays.

For 4x100 Mixed, the top 24 teams listed in the Top List (as described below) are qualified to Gaborone 26 World Athletics Relays.

The Host Country may enter one team in each event regardless of any Entry Conditions.

The remaining Teams (up to 24 in total per event) will be determined through the Top Lists in the **qualification period** from 1 January 2025 to Sunday 5 April 2026.

Teams competing in 4x100 Mixed and 4x400 Mixed will have the chance to qualify for the first World Athletics Ultimate Championships in Budapest.

Starting 10 November 2025, World Athletics will maintain a weekly list of Relay Teams ranked by performance according to the above, the final version of which will be published on Tuesday 7 April 2026. In order to allow for the possible re-allocation of unused places, Member Federations must pre-enter the relay teams they intend to propose for participation by 11 April (midnight Monaco time). Relay Teams not pre-entered will NOT be considered. World Athletics will then notify the next best team(s) as required to complete the 24 spots.

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Member Federations will then be able to submit their Final Entries by Monday 13 April 2026.

Conditions for Validity of Performances

- All performances must be achieved during the period **1 January 2025 to Sunday 5 April 2026**.
Performances must be achieved in a competition conducted according to World Athletics Competition and Technical Rules, and authorised by World Athletics, its Area Associations or its National Member Federations, and published on the World Athletics Global Calendar: <https://www.worldathletics.org/competition/calendar-results>.
- At least **two different international teams, must compete in the event**, where “international teams” means at least two different national teams, or one team composed by athletes of different countries (e.g. a university or club team).
- **Short Track (indoor) performances** will be accepted.
- **Hand-timed performances** for the 4x100m will not be accepted.
- Performances achieved on **over-sized short tracks (indoor)** will be accepted.