

ABAF CHAMPIONSHIPS REGULATIONS

In force as of 1 January 2016

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1. BALKAN SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships will be staged on two days every year. The date shall be proposed by the candidate country, and must be approved at the relevant ABAF Congress.

1.1. Programme:

- 1.1.1. The programme shall comprise the below mentioned track events and the order shall normally be as follows:

First Day		Second Day	
Men	Women	Men	Women
400m Hurdles	400m Hurdles	110m Hurdles	100m Hurdles
100m	100m	800m	1500m
400m	400m	200m	200m
1500m	800m	3000m Steeple	5000m
5000m	3000m Steeple	3000m	3000m
4x100m relay	4x100m relay	4x400m relay	4x400m relay

- 1.1.2. The programme shall comprise the below mentioned field events, normally divided between the two days as follows:

First Day		Second Day	
Men	Women	Men	Women
High Jump	Pole Vault	Pole Vault	High Jump
Long Jump	Triple Jump	Triple Jump	Long Jump
Shot Put	Discus Throw	Discus Throw	Shot Put
Hammer Throw	Javelin Throw	Javelin Throw	Hammer Throw

- 1.1.3. The programme shall comprise Combined Events as well, held over the two days: Decathlon for the men and Heptathlon for the women.

1.2. Entries:

- 1.2.1. The Championships is an individual competition. Team Medal and Team Placing tables up to the 8th place shall be made for statistical purpose only.
- 1.2.2. Each country may compete with two athletes per event and one team in each relay.
- 1.2.3. There will be no "out of competition" athletes.
- 1.2.4. Subject to the exceptions stated below, only athletes aged at least 16 (sixteen) years on 31 December of the year of the competition may participate in the Balkan Senior Championships.
- 1.2.5. Only athletes aged at least 18 (eighteen) years on 31 December of the year of the competition may participate in the Shot Put (men) and Hammer Throw (men).
- 1.2.6. Preliminary entries: Not later than 2 (two) months before the first day of the Balkan Championships, each Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a preliminary list of athletes and the numbers of accompanying officials.
- 1.2.7. Final Entries: Not later than 10 (ten) days before the first day of the Balkan Championships, each European Athletics Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a final list of its athletes, plus the names of accompanying officials.

- 1.2.8. Entries shall be made by National Federations only. Any changes after the deadline for the Final entries shall not exceed 1% of the participants.

1.3. Financial Obligations:

- 1.3.1. The hosting Federation shall cover the board and lodging expenses for a maximum of 3 nights of a maximum of 50 persons, among which no more than 15 officials. If the team is travelling by bus, the drivers shall not count in the above quota, but their accommodation shall be covered by the hosting country as well.

Accommodation for the teams should be offered as much as possible in twin rooms. Triple rooms are also acceptable but in limited numbers. Each participating team shall be allocated a number of single rooms according to the availability of the hotel; ideally the number of single rooms should be equal to 10% of the number of team members. Special consideration must be given to the very small teams so that every team has at least one single room.

- 1.3.2. Additional participants (both athletes and officials) can be entered, on the cost of the respective visiting federation. Those additional participants shall benefit from a preferential fixed rate for accommodation, payable to the hosting federation as follows:

For any persons exceeding the above quota, or for any stay exceeding the number of days covered by the LOC, the visiting federation shall pay a fixed rate of €50 (fifty Euros) per person per day full board accommodation.

- 1.3.3. The visiting delegations shall pay their travel expenses in both directions to and from the venue of the competition.
- 1.3.4. Local transportation between the hotels and the various venues related to the event, as well as transfers from the airport in case of teams travelling by plane, shall be arranged and paid for by the hosting Federation.
- 1.3.5. The hosting Federation shall also cover the board and lodging expenses for Balkan Athletics President and/or General Secretary should they attend the event.
- 1.3.6. A Technical Delegate shall be appointed by the Council. The Technical Delegate will be responsible for ensuring that all technical arrangements are in conformity with the IAAF Rules and also act as a Doping Control Delegate. In case the Technical Delegate and the hosting Federation mutually agree on a site visit before the Championships, the Delegate's board and lodging expenses shall be covered by the hosting Federation.
- 1.3.7. The travelling expenses of Balkan Athletics President, General Secretary and Technical Delegate, including a site visit, shall be covered by the ABAF.
- 1.3.8. The hosting Federation will cover all expenses related to the doping control.

1.4. Awards:

- 1.4.1. First three placed athletes in each event shall receive medals.

1.5. Ceremonies:

- 1.5.1. An Opening Ceremony shall be held on the first day of the Championships. The order of the Opening Ceremony shall be at the discretion of the hosting Federation.
- 1.5.2. At individual victory ceremonies, the first three placed athletes shall mount on the podium. The flags of their respective countries shall be hoisted when the conditions are conducive. Playing of national anthems is also optional at the discretion of the hosting Federation.
- 1.5.3. No Closing Ceremony shall be held infield. A Closing Banquet in the evening of the competition for all participants is traditional but not compulsory.

1.6. Doping Control:

- 1.6.1. Doping control shall be conducted for 3 men and 3 women.
- 1.6.2. The Technical Delegate will decide, in accordance with IAAF Rules and Guidelines for Doping Control, which placings from which events are to be selected for doping control.
- 1.6.3. The host Federation must provide the technical and medical facilities to carry out the doping control.

1.7. Technical Aspects:

- 1.7.1. The allocation of lanes and the order of the competition in field events shall normally be determined according to the season bests of the participating athletes.
- 1.7.2. In the throwing events and the horizontal jumps, the athletes will have six attempts where there are eight competitors or fewer. Where there are more than eight athletes, each athlete shall be allowed three attempts and the eight athletes with best valid performances shall have three additional attempts in conformity with the IAAF Competition Rules.
- 1.7.3. Starting heights and the bar raising increments for high jump and pole vault shall be proposed at the Technical Meeting considering the season bests of the participating athletes. The decision taken at the Technical Meeting shall be final.
- 1.7.4. The Technical Meeting shall be held in the morning of the first competition day or the day before as appropriate, and shall be chaired by the Technical Delegate.

1.8. Printed Materials and Announcements:

- 1.8.1. Every kind of printed material intended for distribution to participants such as invitation letters, information notes, bulletins, competition documents, official result sheets as well as the announcements during the competition shall be either in English, or in both English and in the language of the host country. All printed materials must contain the official ABAF logo and the logo of the ABAF General Sponsor.
- 1.8.2. Whenever possible the bib numbers of the athletes shall bear the logo of the General Sponsor.
- 1.8.3. Balkan Athletics may appoint a professional announcer if considered appropriate, to carry out the event presentation in English along with the local announcer on the Stadium. The accommodation cost of the announcer shall be covered by the hosting federation. The international travel cost shall be covered by ABAF.
- 1.8.4. The hosting federation shall send a full set of results immediately after the end of each competition day to ABAF headquarters and to the ABAF statistician.

2. BALKAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships will be staged on two days every year. The date shall be proposed by the candidate country, and must be approved at the relevant ABAF Congress.

2.1. Programme:

2.1.1. The programme shall comprise the below mentioned track events and the order shall normally be as follows:

First Day		Second Day	
Men	Women	Men	Women
400m Hurdles	400m Hurdles	110m Hurdles	100m Hurdles
100m	100m	800m	1500m
400m	400m	200m	200m
1500m	800m	3000m Steeple	5000m
5000m	3000m Steeple	3000m	3000m
4x100m relay	4x100m relay	4x400m relay	4x400m relay

2.1.2. The programme shall comprise the below mentioned field events, normally divided between the two days as follows:

First Day		Second Day	
Men	Women	Men	Women
High Jump	Pole Vault	Pole Vault	High Jump
Long Jump	Triple Jump	Triple Jump	Long Jump
Shot Put	Discus Throw	Discus Throw	Shot Put
Hammer Throw	Javelin Throw	Javelin Throw	Hammer Throw

2.1.3. The programme shall comprise Combined Events as well, held over the two days: Decathlon for the men and Heptathlon for the women.

2.2. Entries:

2.2.1. The Championships is an individual competition. Team Medal and Team Placing tables up to the 8th place shall be made for statistical purpose only.

2.2.2. Each country may compete with two athletes per event and one team in each relay.

2.2.3. There will be no "out of competition" athletes.

2.2.4. Only athletes aged no more than 19 (nineteen) years on 31 December of the year of the competition may participate in the Balkan Junior Championships.

2.2.5. Only athletes aged at least 16 (sixteen) and not more than 19 (nineteen) years on 31 December of the year of the competition may participate in the Balkan Junior Championships

Upon arrival, Team Leaders must present athletes' passports or other official documents indicating the year of birth, in order for them to be photocopied by the organisers.

2.2.6. Preliminary entries: Not later than 2 (two) months before the first day of the Balkan Championships, each Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a preliminary list of athletes and the numbers of accompanying officials.

2.2.7. Final Entries: Not later than 10 (ten) days before the first day of the Balkan Championships, each European Athletics Member Federation shall send to the hosting

country and to ABAF Headquarters a final list of its athletes, plus the names of accompanying officials.

- 2.2.8. Entries shall be made by National Federations only. Any changes after the deadline for the Final entries shall not exceed 1% of the participants.

2.3. Financial Obligations:

- 2.3.1. The hosting Federation shall cover the board and lodging expenses for a maximum of 3 nights of a maximum of 50 persons, among which no more than 15 officials. If the team is travelling by bus, the drivers shall not count in the above quota, but their accommodation shall be covered by the hosting country as well.

Accommodation for the teams should be offered as much as possible in twin rooms. Triple rooms are also acceptable but in limited numbers. Each participating team shall be allocated a number of single rooms according to the availability of the hotel; ideally the number of single rooms should be equal to 10% of the number of team members. Special consideration must be given to the very small teams so that every team has at least one single room.

- 2.3.2. Additional participants (both athletes and officials) can be entered, on the cost of the respective visiting federation. Those additional participants shall benefit from a preferential fixed rate for accommodation, payable to the hosting federation as follows:

For any persons exceeding the above quota, or for any stay exceeding the number of days covered by the LOC, the visiting federation shall pay a fixed rate of €50 (fifty Euros) per person per day full board accommodation.

- 2.3.3. The visiting delegations shall pay their travel expenses in both directions to and from the venue of the competition.
- 2.3.4. Local transportation between the hotels and the various venues related to the event, as well as transfers from the airport in case of teams travelling by plane, shall be arranged and paid for by the hosting Federation.
- 2.3.5. The hosting Federation shall also cover the board and lodging expenses for Balkan Athletics President and/or General Secretary should they attend the event.
- 2.3.6. A Technical Delegate shall be appointed by the Council. The Technical Delegate will be responsible for ensuring that all technical arrangements are in conformity with the IAAF Rules and also act as a Doping Control Delegate. In case the Technical Delegate and the hosting Federation mutually agree on a site visit before the Championships, the Delegate's board and lodging expenses shall be covered by the hosting Federation.
- 2.3.7. The travelling expenses of Balkan Athletics President, General Secretary and Technical Delegate, including a site visit, shall be covered by the ABAF.
- 2.3.8. The hosting Federation will cover all expenses related to the doping control.

2.4. Awards:

- 2.4.1. First three placed athletes in each event shall receive medals.

2.5. Ceremonies:

- 2.5.1. An Opening Ceremony shall be held on the first day of the Championships. The order of the Opening Ceremony shall be at the discretion of the hosting Federation.
- 2.5.2. At individual victory ceremonies, the first three placed athletes shall mount on the podium. The flags of their respective countries shall be hoisted when the conditions are conducive. Playing of national anthems is also optional at the discretion of the hosting Federation.
- 2.5.3. No Closing Ceremony shall be held infield. A Closing Banquet in the evening of the competition for all participants is traditional but not compulsory.

2.6. Doping Control:

- 2.6.1. Doping control shall be conducted for 3 junior men and 3 junior women.
- 2.6.2. The Technical Delegate will decide, in accordance with IAAF Rules and Guidelines for Doping Control, which placings from which events are to be selected for doping control.
- 2.6.3. The host Federation must provide the technical and medical facilities to carry out the doping control.

2.7. Technical Aspects:

- 2.7.1. The allocation of lanes and the order of the competition in field events shall normally be determined according to the season bests of the participating athletes.
- 2.7.2. In the throwing events and the horizontal jumps, the athletes will have six attempts where there are eight competitors or fewer. Where there are more than eight athletes, each athlete shall be allowed three attempts and the eight athletes with best valid performances shall have three additional attempts in conformity with the IAAF Competition Rules.
- 2.7.3. Starting heights and the bar raising increments for high jump and pole vault shall be proposed at the Technical Meeting considering the season bests of the participating athletes. The decision taken at the Technical Meeting shall be final.
- 2.7.4. The use of multiple take-off boards at the triple jump competitions shall be decided at the Technical Meeting according to such demands.
- 2.7.5. The height of the hurdles and the weight of the throwing implements will be according to the IAAF Rules.
- 2.7.6. The Technical Meeting shall be held in the morning of the first competition day or the day before as appropriate, and shall be chaired by the Technical Delegate.

2.8. Printed Materials and Announcements:

- 2.8.1. Every kind of printed material intended for distribution to participants such as invitation letters, information notes, bulletins, competition documents, official result sheets as well as the announcements during the competition shall be either in English, or in both English and in the language of the host country. All printed materials must contain the official ABAF logo and the logo of the ABAF General Sponsor.
- 2.8.2. Whenever possible the bib numbers of the athletes shall bear the logo of the General Sponsor.
- 2.8.3. Balkan Athletics may appoint a professional announcer if considered appropriate, to carry out the event presentation in English along with the local announcer on the Stadium. The accommodation cost of the announcer shall be covered by the hosting federation. The international travel cost shall be covered by ABAF.
- 2.8.4. The hosting federation shall send a full set of results immediately after the end of each competition day to ABAF headquarters and to the ABAF statistician.

3. BALKAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships will be staged on one day every year. The date shall be proposed by the candidate country, and must be approved at the relevant ABAF Congress.

3.1. Programme:

The programme shall comprise the below mentioned events:

Boys: 100m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 3000m, 110m hurdles, 2000m steeple, 4x100m, high jump, long jump, triple jump, shot put, discus throw, javelin throw.

Girls: 100m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 3000m, 100m hurdles, 2000m steeple, 4x100m, high jump, long jump, triple jump, shot put, discus throw, javelin throw.

3.2. Entries:

3.2.1. The Championships is an individual competition. Team Medal and Team Placing tables up to the 8th place shall be made for statistical purpose only

3.2.2. Each country may compete with two athletes per event and one team in each relay.

3.2.3. There will be no "out of competition" athletes.

3.2.4. Only athletes aged at least 16 (sixteen) and not more than 17 (seventeen) years on 31 December of the year of the competition may participate in the Balkan Youth Championships.

Upon arrival, Team Leaders must present athletes' passports or other official documents indicating the year of birth, in order for them to be photocopied by the organisers.

3.2.5. Preliminary entries: Not later than 2 (two) months before the first day of the Balkan Youth Championships, each Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a preliminary list of athletes and the numbers of accompanying officials.

3.2.6. Final Entries: Not later than 10 (ten) days before the first day of the Balkan Youth Championships, each European Athletics Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a final list of its athletes, plus the names of accompanying officials.

3.2.7. Entries shall be made by National Federations only. Any changes after the deadline for the Final entries shall not exceed 1% of the participants.

3.3. Financial Obligations:

3.3.1. The hosting Federation shall cover the board and lodging expenses for a maximum of 2 nights of a maximum of 38 persons, that is 30 athletes and 8 officials in principle. If the team is travelling by bus, the drivers shall not count in the above quota, but their accommodation shall be covered by the host country.

Accommodation for the teams should be offered as much as possible in twin rooms. Triple rooms are also acceptable but in limited numbers. Each participating team shall be allocated a number of single rooms according to the availability of the hotel; ideally the number of single rooms should be equal to 10% of the number of team members. Special consideration must be given to the very small teams so that every team has at least one single room.

3.3.2. Additional participants (both athletes and officials) can be entered, on the cost of the respective visiting federation. Those additional participants shall benefit from a preferential fixed rate for accommodation, payable to the hosting federation as follows:

For any persons exceeding the above quota, or for any stay exceeding the number of days covered by the LOC, the visiting federation shall pay a fixed rate of €50 (fifty Euros) per person per day full board accommodation.

- 3.3.3. The visiting delegations shall pay their travel expenses in both directions to and from the venue of the competition.
- 3.3.4. Local transportation between the hotels and the various venues related to the event, as well as transfers from the airport in case of teams travelling by plane, shall be arranged and paid for by the hosting Federation.
- 3.3.5. The hosting Federation shall also cover the board and lodging expenses for Balkan Athletics President and/or General Secretary should they attend the event.
- 3.3.6. The travelling expenses of Balkan Athletics President and General Secretary shall be covered by the ABAF.

3.4. Awards:

- 3.4.1. First three placed athletes in each event shall receive medals.

3.5. Ceremonies:

- 3.5.1. An Opening Ceremony shall be held at the beginning of the Championships. The order of the Opening Ceremony shall be at the discretion of the hosting Federation.
- 3.5.2. At individual victory ceremonies, the first three placed athletes shall mount on the podium. The flags of their respective countries shall be hoisted when the conditions are conducive. Playing of national anthems is also optional at the discretion of the host Federation.
- 3.5.3. No Closing Ceremony shall be held infield. A Closing Banquet in the evening of the competition for all participants is traditional but not compulsory.

3.6. Doping Control:

No doping controls will be conducted at the Balkan Youth Championships.

3.7. Technical Aspects:

- 3.7.1. The allocation of lanes and the order of the competition in field events shall be determined by draw. The draw shall be made together by the Competition Director and the relevant member of the Organising Committee before the Technical Meeting.
- 3.7.2. In the throwing events and the horizontal jumps, the athletes will have six attempts where there are eight competitors or fewer. Where there are more than eight athletes, each athlete shall be allowed three attempts, and the eight scoring athletes with best valid performances shall have three additional attempts in conformity with the IAAF Competition Rules.
- 3.7.3. Starting heights and the bar raising increments for high jump and pole vault shall be proposed at the Technical Meeting considering the season bests of the participating athletes. The decision taken at the Technical Meeting shall be final.
- 3.7.4. The use of multiple take-off boards at the triple jump competitions shall be decided at the Technical Meeting according to such demands.
- 3.7.5. The height of the hurdles and the weight of the throwing implements will be according to the IAAF Rules.
- 3.7.6. The Technical Meeting shall be held the day before the first day of the competition, and shall be chaired by the Competition Director.

3.8. Printed Materials and Announcements:

- 3.8.1. Every kind of printed material intended for distribution to participants such as invitation letters, information notes, bulletins, competition documents, official result sheets as well as the announcements during the competition shall be either in English, or in both English and in the language of the host country. All printed materials must contain the official ABAF logo.

4. BALKAN INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships will be staged on one day in February every year.

4.1. Programme:

The programme shall comprise the below mentioned events for both men and women:

60m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 3000m, 4x400 relay, 60m hurdles, high jump, pole vault, long jump, triple jump, shot put.

4.2. Entries:

- 4.2.1. The Championships is an individual competition. Team Medal and Team Placing tables up to the 8th place shall be made for statistical purpose only.
- 4.2.2. Each country may compete with two athletes per event.
- 4.2.3. There will be no “out of competition” athletes.
- 4.2.4. Subject to the exceptions stated below, only athletes aged at least 16 (sixteen) years on 31 December of the year of the competition may participate in the Balkan Indoor Championships.
- 4.2.5. Only athletes aged at least 18 (eighteen) years on 31 December of the year of the competition may participate in the Shot Put (men).
- 4.2.6. Preliminary entries: Not later than 2 (two) months before the first day of the Balkan Indoor Championships, each Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a preliminary list of athletes and the numbers of accompanying officials.
- 4.2.7. Final Entries: Not later than 10 (ten) days before the first day of the Balkan Indoor Championships, each European Athletics Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a final list of its athletes, plus the names of accompanying officials.
- 4.2.8. Entries shall be made by National Federations only. Any changes after the deadline for the Final entries shall not exceed 1% of the participants.

4.3. Financial Obligations:

- 4.3.1. The hosting Federation shall cover the board and lodging expenses for a maximum of 2 nights of a maximum of 33 persons, that is 25 athletes and 8 officials in principle. If the team is travelling by bus, the drivers shall not count in the above quota, but their accommodation shall be covered by the hosting country as well.

Accommodation for the teams should be offered as much as possible in twin rooms. Triple rooms are also acceptable but in limited numbers. Each participating team shall be allocated a number of single rooms according to the availability of the hotel; ideally the number of single rooms should be equal to 10% of the number of team members. Special consideration must be given to the very small teams so that every team has at least one single room.

- 4.3.2. Additional participants (both athletes and officials) can be entered, on the cost of the respective visiting federation. Those additional participants shall benefit from a preferential fixed rate for accommodation, payable to the hosting federation as follows:

For any persons exceeding the above quota, or for any stay exceeding the number of days covered by the LOC, the visiting federation shall pay a fixed rate of €50 (fifty Euros) per person per day full board accommodation.

- 4.3.3. The visiting delegations shall pay their travel expenses in both directions to and from the venue of the competition.

- 4.3.4. Local transportation between the hotels and the various venues related to the event, as well as transfers from the airport in case of teams travelling by plane, shall be arranged and paid for by the hosting Federation.
- 4.3.5. The hosting Federation shall also cover the board and lodging expenses for Balkan Athletics President and/or General Secretary should they attend the event
- 4.3.6. A Technical Delegate shall be appointed by the Council. The Technical Delegate will be responsible for ensuring that all technical arrangements are in conformity with the IAAF Rules and also act as a Doping Control Delegate. In case the Technical Delegate and the hosting Federation mutually agree on a site visit before the Championships, the Delegate's board and lodging expenses shall be covered by the hosting Federation.
- 4.3.7. The travelling expenses of Balkan Athletics President, General Secretary and Technical Delegate, including a site visit, shall be covered by the ABAF.
- 4.3.8. The hosting Federation will cover all expenses related to the doping control.

4.4. Awards:

- 4.4.1. First three placed athletes in each race shall receive medals.

4.5. Ceremonies:

- 4.5.1. An Opening Ceremony shall be held on the first day of the Championships. The order of the Opening Ceremony shall be at the discretion of the hosting Federation.
- 4.5.2. At individual victory ceremonies, the first three placed athletes shall mount on the podium. The flags of their respective countries shall be hoisted when the conditions are conducive. No national anthems are played.
- 4.5.3. No Closing Ceremony shall be held infield. A Closing Banquet in the evening of the competition for all participants is traditional but not compulsory.

4.6. Doping Control:

- 4.6.1. Doping control shall be conducted for 2 men and 2 women.
- 4.6.2. The Technical Delegate will decide, in accordance with IAAF Rules and Guidelines for Doping Control, which placings from which events are to be selected for doping control.
- 4.6.3. The hosting Federation must provide the technical and medical facilities to carry out the doping control.

4.7. Technical Aspects:

- 4.7.1. The allocation of lanes and the order of the competition in field events shall normally be determined according to the season bests of the participating athletes.
- 4.7.2. In the shot put and the horizontal jumps the athletes will have six attempts where there are eight competitors or fewer. Where there are more than eight athletes, each athlete shall be allowed three attempts and the eight athletes with best valid performances shall have three additional attempts in conformity with the IAAF Competition Rules.
- 4.7.3. Starting heights and the bar raising increments for high jump and pole vault shall be proposed at the Technical Meeting considering the season bests of the participating athletes. The decision taken at the Technical Meeting shall be final.
- 4.7.4. The Technical Meeting shall be held the morning of the competition day as appropriate, and shall be chaired by the Technical Delegate.

4.8. Printed Materials and Announcements:

- 4.8.1. Every kind of printed material intended for distribution to participants such as invitation letters, information notes, bulletins, competition documents, official result sheets as well as the announcements during the competition shall be either in English, or in both

English and in the language of the host country. All printed materials must contain the official ABAF logo and the logo of the ABAF General Sponsor.

- 4.8.2. Whenever possible the bib numbers of the athletes shall bear the logo of the General Sponsor.
- 4.8.3. Balkan Athletics may appoint a professional announcer if considered appropriate, to carry out the event presentation in English along with the local announcer on the Stadium. The accommodation cost of the announcer shall be covered by the hosting federation. The international travel cost shall be covered by ABAF.
- 4.8.4. The hosting federation shall send a full set of results immediately after the end of each competition day to ABAF headquarters and to the ABAF statistician.

5. BALKAN CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships will be staged on one day in March, three weeks before the European Cross Country Championships in principle, every year.

5.1. Programme:

The races shall be held in principle in the following order. The distances should be approximately:

Junior Women	:	4 km
Junior Men	:	6 km
U23 Women	:	6 km
U23 Men	:	8 km
Senior Women	:	8 km
Senior Men	:	10 km

5.2. Entries:

- 5.2.1. The Championships is a team and individual competition.
- 5.2.2. Four (4) athletes from each team may start in each race of whom the best three (3) will score.
- 5.2.3. "Out of competition" athletes are not accepted.
- 5.2.4. Countries which do not have a complete team may enter individual athletes in any category.
- 5.2.5. No athlete aged less than 16 (sixteen) years on 31 December of the year of the competition may participate in the Balkan Cross Country Championships. Each athlete may only be entered in one race of the Championships and he/she can only compete in the race for which he/she was entered.
- 5.2.6. Youth athletes (aged 16 or 17 years on 31 December of the year competition) may compete in the Junior race only.
- 5.2.7. Junior athletes (aged 18 or 19 years on 31 December of the year of the competition) may compete in the Junior, the U23 or the Senior race.
- 5.2.8. U23 athletes (aged 20, 21 or 22 years on 31 December of the year of the competition) may compete in the U23 or the Senior race.

Upon arrival, Team Leaders must present the passports or other official documents of the youth, junior and U23 athletes indicating the year of birth, in order for them to be photocopied by the organisers.

- 5.2.9. Preliminary entries: Not later than 2 (two) months before the first day of the Balkan Cross Country Championships, each Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a preliminary list of athletes and the numbers of accompanying officials.
- 5.2.10. Final Entries: Not later than 10 (ten) days before the first day of the Balkan Cross Country Championships, each European Athletics Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a final list of its athletes, plus the names of accompanying officials.
- 5.2.11. Entries shall be made by National Federations only. Any changes after the deadline for the Final entries shall not exceed 1% of the participants.

5.3. Scoring:

- 5.3.1. Each race shall be scored separately.
- 5.3.2. The team results shall be decided by the aggregate of placings of the best three athletes of each team. The team with the lowest total points will be the winner.
- 5.3.3. If a team finishes with less than three athletes, it will not be classified in the team result. The finishing athletes shall be eligible for individual ranking as well.
- 5.3.4. No adjustment to the placings shall be made in respect of non-scoring or individual athletes.
- 5.3.5. In case of a tie, it shall be resolved in favour of the team whose last scoring athlete finishes nearest to the first place.

5.4. Financial Obligations:

- 5.4.1. The host Federation shall cover the board and lodging expenses for a maximum of 2 nights of a maximum of 33 persons, that is 24 athletes and 9 officials in principle. If the team is travelling by bus, the drivers shall not count in the above quota, but their accommodation shall be covered by the hosting country as well.

Accommodation for the teams should be offered as much as possible in twin rooms. Triple rooms are also acceptable but in limited numbers. Each participating team shall be allocated a number of single rooms according to the availability of the hotel; ideally the number of single rooms should be equal to 10% of the number of team members. Special consideration must be given to the very small teams so that every team has at least one single room.

- 5.4.2. Additional participants (both athletes and officials) can be entered, on the cost of the respective visiting federation. Those additional participants shall benefit from a preferential fixed rate for accommodation, payable to the hosting federation as follows:

For any persons exceeding the above quota, or for any stay exceeding the number of days covered by the LOC, the visiting federation shall pay a fixed rate of €50 (fifty Euros) per person per day full board accommodation.

- 5.4.3. The visiting delegations shall pay their travel expenses in both directions to and from the venue of the competition.
- 5.4.4. Local transportation between the hotels and the various venues related to the event, as well as transfers from the airport in case of teams travelling by plane, shall be arranged and paid for by the hosting Federation.
- 5.4.5. The host Federation shall also cover the board and lodging expenses for Balkan Athletics President and/or General Secretary should they attend the event.
- 5.4.6. A Technical Delegate shall be appointed by the Council. The Technical Delegate will be responsible for ensuring that all technical arrangements are in conformity with the IAAF Rules. In case the Technical Delegate and the hosting Federation mutually agree on a site visit before the Championships, the Delegate's board and lodging expenses shall be covered by the hosting Federation.
- 5.4.7. The travelling expenses of Balkan Athletics President, General Secretary and Technical Delegate, including a site visit, shall be covered by the ABAF.

5.5. Awards:

- 5.5.1. First three placed athletes in each race shall receive medals.
- 5.5.2. First three placed teams of each race shall receive trophies.

5.6. Ceremonies:

- 5.6.1. An Opening Ceremony shall be held where conditions are conducive. The order of the Opening Ceremony shall be at the discretion of the host Federation.

- 5.6.2. At individual victory ceremonies, the first three placed athletes shall mount on the podium. The flags of their respective countries shall be hoisted when the conditions are conducive. Playing of national anthems is optional at the discretion of the hosting Federation.
- 5.6.3. At team victory ceremonies, all athletes (including the non-scoring ones) of the first three placed teams shall mount on the podium. The flags of their respective countries shall be hoisted when the conditions are conducive. Playing of national anthems is optional at the discretion of the hosting Federation.
- 5.6.4. No Closing Ceremony shall be held infield. A Closing Banquet in the evening of the competition for all participants is traditional but not compulsory.
- 5.7. Doping Control:**
- No doping control shall be conducted.
- 5.8. Printed Materials and Announcements:**
- 5.8.1. Every kind of printed material intended for distribution to participants such as invitation letters, information notes, bulletins, competition documents, official result sheets as well as the announcements during the competition shall be either in English, or in both English and in the language of the host country. All printed materials must contain the official ABAF logo and the logo of the ABAF General Sponsor.
- 5.8.2. Whenever possible the bib numbers of the athletes shall bear the logo of the General Sponsor.
- 5.8.3. Balkan Athletics may appoint a professional announcer if considered appropriate, to carry out the event presentation in English along with the local announcer on the Stadium. The accommodation cost of the announcer shall be covered by the hosting federation. The international travel cost shall be covered by ABAF.
- 5.8.4. The hosting federation shall send a full set of results immediately after the end of each competition day to ABAF headquarters and to the ABAF statistician.

6. BALKAN RACE WALKING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships will be staged on one day in April every year.

6.1. Programme:

The categories and the distances are as follows:

Youth Girls	:	5 km
Youth Boys	:	10 km
Junior Women	:	10 km
Junior Men	:	10 km
Senior Women	:	20 km
Senior Men	:	20 km

6.2. Entries:

- 6.2.1. Two (2) athletes from each team may compete in each race.
- 6.2.2. "Out of competition" athletes are accepted. Such athletes will not be eligible for medals.
- 6.2.3. Only athletes aged from 15 to 19 may compete in junior races. No athletes younger than 18 years on 31 December of the year of the competition shall be accepted in the senior races.
- 6.2.4. No athlete aged less than 16 (sixteen) years on 31 December of the year of the competition may participate in the Balkan Race Walking Championships.
- 6.2.5. Youth athletes (aged 16 or 17 years on 31 December of the year competition) may compete in the Youth or the Junior race only.
- 6.2.6. Junior athletes (aged 18 or 19 years on 31 December of the year of the competition) may compete in the Junior or the Senior race.

Upon arrival, Team Leaders must present the passports or other official documents of the youth and junior athletes indicating the year of birth, in order for them to be photocopied by the organisers.

- 6.2.7. Preliminary entries: Not later than 2 (two) months before the first day of the Balkan Race Walking Championships, each Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a preliminary list of athletes and the numbers of accompanying officials.
- 6.2.8. Final Entries: Not later than 10 (ten) days before the first day of the Balkan Race Walking Championships, each European Athletics Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a final list of its athletes, plus the names of accompanying officials.
- 6.2.9. Entries shall be made by National Federations only. Any changes after the deadline for the Final entries shall not exceed 1% of the participants.

6.3. Scoring:

- 6.3.1. There will be one classification based on the combination of results of each race.
- 6.3.2. The team results shall be decided by the aggregate of points awarded to the scoring athletes. The team with the highest total points will be the winner.
- 6.3.3. If a country enters athletes in less than four categories, the athletes are still eligible for team points.
- 6.3.4. "Out of competition" athletes are not awarded any points.
- 6.3.5. In the event of two or more teams gaining the same number of points in the competition, the tie will be decided in favour of the team with the greater number of first places. Should the tie then still remain, the team with the greater number of second places will

be given the higher position and this system will be applied, if necessary, to subsequent placings until the tie is decided.

6.4. Financial Obligations:

- 6.4.1. The hosting Federation shall cover the board and lodging expenses for a maximum of 2 nights of a maximum of 16 persons, that is 12 athletes and 4 officials (including 1 race walking judge). The race walking judges should be appointed from those with the highest level of race walking judging in each country. If the team is travelling by bus, the drivers shall not count in the above quota, but their accommodation shall be covered by the host country.

Accommodation for the teams should be offered as much as possible in twin rooms. Triple rooms are also acceptable but in limited numbers. Each participating team shall be allocated a number of single rooms according to the availability of the hotel; ideally the number of single rooms should be equal to 10% of the number of team members. Special consideration must be given to the very small teams so that every team has at least one single room.

- 6.4.2. Additional participants (both athletes and officials) can be entered, on the cost of the respective visiting federation. Those additional participants shall benefit from a preferential fixed rate for accommodation, payable to the hosting federation as follows:

For any persons exceeding the above quota, or for any stay exceeding the number of days covered by the LOC, the visiting federation shall pay a fixed rate of €50 (fifty Euros) per person per day full board accommodation.

- 6.4.3. The visiting delegations shall pay their travel expenses in both directions to and from the venue of the competition.
- 6.4.4. Local transportation between the hotels and the various venues related to the event, as well as transfers from the airport in case of teams travelling by plane, shall be arranged and paid for by the hosting Federation.
- 6.4.5. The host Federation shall also cover the board and lodging expenses for Balkan Athletics President and/or General Secretary should they attend the event.
- 6.4.6. The travelling expenses of Balkan Athletics President and General Secretary shall be covered by the ABAF.

6.5. Awards:

- 6.5.1. First three placed athletes in each race shall receive medals.
- 6.5.2. First three placed teams in overall scoring shall receive trophies.

6.6. Ceremonies:

- 6.6.1. An Opening Ceremony shall be held where conditions are conducive. The order of the Opening Ceremony shall be at the discretion of the host Federation.
- 6.6.2. At individual victory ceremonies, the first three placed athletes shall mount on the podium. The flags of their respective countries shall be hoisted when the conditions are conducive. Playing of national anthems is optional at the discretion of the host Federation.
- 6.6.3. At teams' victory ceremony, the captains of the first three placed teams shall mount on the podium. The flags of their respective countries shall be hoisted when the conditions are conducive. Playing of national anthems is optional at the discretion of the host Federation.
- 6.6.4. A Closing Ceremony may be held at the competition venue at the discretion of the host Federation. A Closing Banquet in the evening of the competition for all participants is traditional but not compulsory.

6.7. Doping Control:

No doping control shall be conducted.

6.8. Printed Materials and Announcements:

- 6.8.1. Every kind of printed material intended for distribution to participants such as invitation letters, information notes, bulletins, competition documents, official result sheets as well as the announcements during the competition shall be either in English, or in both English and in the language of the host country. All printed materials must contain the official ABAF logo and the logo of ABAF General Sponsor.
- 6.8.2. Whenever possible the bib numbers of the athletes shall bear the logo of the General Sponsor.
- 6.8.3. Balkan Athletics may appoint a professional announcer if considered appropriate, to carry out the event presentation in English along with the local announcer on the Stadium. The accommodation cost of the announcer shall be covered by the hosting federation. The international travel cost shall be covered by ABAF.
- 6.8.4. The hosting federation shall send a full set of results immediately after the end of each competition day to ABAF headquarters and to the ABAF statistician.

7. BALKAN MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships will be a part of an international marathon held in any one of the Balkan countries. It will be staged every year.

7.1. Entries:

- 7.1.1. The Championships is an individual and team competition.
- 7.1.2. Two (2) male and two (2) female athletes from each country may compete. The athletes must be named by their Federation to be eligible for Balkan classification.
- 7.1.3. No athletes younger than 20 years on 31 December of the year of the competition shall be accepted.
- 7.1.4. Preliminary entries: Not later than 2 (two) months before the day of the Balkan Marathon Championships, each Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a preliminary list of athletes and the numbers of accompanying officials.
- 7.1.5. Final Entries: Not later than 10 (ten) days before the day of the Balkan Marathon Championships, each European Athletics Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a final list of its athletes, plus the names of accompanying officials.

7.2. Financial Obligations:

- 7.2.1. The host Federation shall cover the board and lodging expenses for a maximum of 2 nights of a maximum of 4 athletes and 1 official.
- 7.2.2. The visiting delegations shall pay travelling expenses in both directions to and from the venue of the competition.
- 7.2.3. Local transportation between the hotels and the various venues related to the event, as well as transfers from the airport in case of teams travelling by plane, shall be arranged and paid for by the hosting Federation.
- 7.2.4. The hosting Federation shall also cover the board and lodging expenses for Balkan Athletics President and/or General Secretary should they attend the event.
- 7.2.5. The travelling expenses of Balkan Athletics President and General Secretary shall be covered by the ABAF.

7.3. Awards:

- 7.3.1. First three placed athletes shall receive medals.
- 7.3.2. First three placed teams in overall scoring shall receive trophies.
- 7.3.3. There shall be prize money for Balkan individual classification when possible.

7.4. Ceremonies:

There shall be no opening/closing ceremonies, other than the victory ceremonies where the first three placed athletes and teams shall mount on the podium.

7.5. Doping Control:

No particular doping control for the championships. The procedures of the marathon organisers shall apply.

7.6. Printed Materials and Announcements:

- 7.6.1. Every kind of printed material intended for distribution exclusively to the participants of the Balkan Marathon Championships as well as the announcements during the competition shall be either in English, or in both English and in the language of the host country. All printed materials must contain the official ABAF logo.
- 7.6.2. The hosting federation shall send a full set of results immediately after the end of each competition day to ABAF headquarters and to the ABAF statistician.

8. BALKAN HALF MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships will be a part of an international half marathon held in any one of the Balkan countries. It will be staged every year.

8.1. Entries:

- 8.1.1. The Championships is an individual and team competition.
- 8.1.2. Two (2) male and two (2) female athletes from each country may compete. The athletes must be named by their Federation to be eligible for Balkan classification.
- 8.1.3. No athletes younger than 18 years on 31 December of the year of the competition shall be accepted.
- 8.1.4. Preliminary entries: Not later than 2 (two) months before the day of the Balkan Marathon Championships, each Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a preliminary list of athletes and the numbers of accompanying officials.
- 8.1.5. Final Entries: Not later than 10 (ten) days before the day of the Balkan Marathon Championships, each European Athletics Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a final list of its athletes, plus the names of accompanying officials.

8.2. Financial Obligations:

- 8.2.1. The host Federation shall cover the board and lodging expenses for a maximum of 2 nights of a maximum of 4 athletes and 1 official.
- 8.2.2. The visiting delegations shall pay travelling expenses in both directions to and from the venue of the competition.
- 8.2.3. Local transportation between the hotels and the various venues related to the event, as well as transfers from the airport in case of teams travelling by plane, shall be arranged and paid for by the hosting Federation.
- 8.2.4. The hosting Federation shall also cover the board and lodging expenses for Balkan Athletics President and/or General Secretary should they attend the event.
- 8.2.5. The travelling expenses of Balkan Athletics President and General Secretary shall be covered by the ABAF.

8.3. Awards:

- 8.3.1. First three placed athletes shall receive medals.
- 8.3.2. First three placed teams in overall scoring shall receive trophies.
- 8.3.3. There shall be prize money for Balkan individual classification when possible.

8.4. Ceremonies:

There shall be no opening/closing ceremonies, other than the victory ceremonies where the first three placed athletes and teams shall mount on the podium.

8.5. Doping Control:

No particular doping control for the championships. The procedures of the half marathon organisers shall apply.

8.6. Printed Materials and Announcements:

- 8.6.1. Every kind of printed material intended for distribution exclusively to the participants of the Balkan Half Marathon Championships as well as the announcements during the competition shall be either in English, or in both English and in the language of the host country. All printed materials must contain the official ABAF logo.
- 8.6.2. The hosting federation shall send a full set of results immediately after the end of each competition day to ABAF headquarters and to the ABAF statistician.

9. BALKAN MOUNTAIN RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships will be staged on one day every year. The date shall be proposed by the candidate country, and must be approved at the relevant ABAF Congress.

9.1. Programme:

- 9.1.1. The course profile is subject to the decision of the organiser, however, it shall be uphill/downhill in even years and mainly uphill in odd numbered years in principle. The categories and the distances shall be as follows:

In even years:

Men:	Uphill and downhill:	Approximately 12 km (750m climbing)
Women:	Uphill and downhill:	Approximately 8 km (500m climbing)
Junior Men:	Uphill and downhill:	Approximately 8 km (500m climbing)
Junior Women:	Uphill and downhill:	Approximately 4 km (250m climbing)

In uneven years:

Men:	Uphill:	Approximately 12 km (1200m climbing)
Women:	Uphill:	Approximately 8 km (800m climbing)
Junior Men:	Uphill:	Approximately 8 km (800m climbing)
Junior Women:	Uphill:	Approximately 4 km (400m climbing)

9.2. Entries:

- 9.2.1. The Championships is a team and individual competition.
- 9.2.2. A maximum of 4 athletes from each team may start in each race of whom the best 3 will score.
- 9.2.3. There will be no "out of competition" athletes.
- 9.2.4. Countries which do not have a complete team may enter individual athletes in any category.
- 9.2.5. No athlete aged less than 16 years on 31 December of the year of the competition may participate in the event. No athletes younger than 18 years on 31 December of the year of the competition shall be accepted in the senior races.
- 9.2.6. Preliminary entries: Not later than 2 (two) months before the first day of the Balkan Mountain Running Championships, each Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a preliminary list of athletes and the numbers of accompanying officials.
- Upon arrival, Team Leaders must present the passports or other official documents of the junior athletes indicating the year of birth, in order for them to be photocopied by the organisers.
- 9.2.7. Final Entries: Not later than 10 (ten) days before the first day of the Balkan Mountain Running Championships, each European Athletics Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a final list of its athletes, plus the names of accompanying officials.
- 9.2.8. Entries shall be made by National Federations only. Any changes after the deadline for the Final entries shall not exceed 1% of the participants.

9.3. Scoring:

- 9.3.1. Each race shall be scored separately.

- 9.3.2. The team results shall be decided by the aggregate of placings of the best three athletes of each team. The team with the lowest total points will be the winner.
- 9.3.3. If a team finishes with less than three athletes, it will not be classified in the team result. The athletes finishing shall be eligible for individual placings.
- 9.3.4. No adjustment to the placings shall be made in respect of non-scoring or individual athletes.
- 9.3.5. In case of a tie, it shall be resolved in favour of the team whose last scoring athlete finishes nearest to the first place.

9.4. Financial Obligations:

- 9.4.1. The hosting Federation shall cover the board and lodging expenses for a maximum of 2 nights of a maximum of 19 persons, that is 16 athletes and 3 officials. If the team is travelling by bus, the drivers shall not count in the above quota, but their accommodation shall be covered by the host country.

Accommodation for the teams should be offered as much as possible in twin rooms. Triple rooms are also acceptable but in limited numbers. Each participating team shall be allocated a number of single rooms according to the availability of the hotel; ideally the number of single rooms should be equal to 10% of the number of team members. Special consideration must be given to the very small teams so that every team has at least one single room.

- 9.4.2. Additional participants (both athletes and officials) can be entered, on the cost of the respective visiting federation. Those additional participants shall benefit from a preferential fixed rate for accommodation, payable to the hosting federation as follows:

For any persons exceeding the above quota, or for any stay exceeding the number of days covered by the LOC, the visiting federation shall pay a fixed rate of €50 (fifty Euros) per person per day full board accommodation.

- 9.4.3. The visiting delegations shall pay their travel expenses in both directions to and from the venue of the competition.
- 9.4.4. Local transportation between the hotels and the various venues related to the championships, as well as transfers from the airport in case of teams travelling by plane, shall be arranged and paid for by the hosting Federation.
- 9.4.5. The host Federation shall also cover the board and lodging expenses for Balkan Athletics President and/or General Secretary should they attend the event.
- 9.4.6. The travelling expenses of Balkan Athletics President and General Secretary shall be covered by the ABAF.

9.5. Awards:

- 9.5.1. First three placed athletes in each race shall receive medals.
- 9.5.2. First three placed teams in each race shall receive trophies.

9.6. Ceremonies:

- 9.6.1. An Opening Ceremony shall be held where conditions are conducive. The order of the Opening Ceremony shall be at the discretion of the host Federation.
- 9.6.2. At individual victory ceremonies, the first three placed athletes shall mount on the podium. The flags of their respective countries shall be hoisted when the conditions are

conducive. Playing of national anthems is also optional at the discretion of the host Federation.

- 9.6.3. At team victory ceremonies, all athletes (including the non-scoring ones) of the first three placed teams shall mount on the podium. The flags of their respective countries shall be hoisted when the conditions are conducive. Playing of national anthems is optional at the discretion of the hosting Federation.
- 9.6.4. A Closing Ceremony may be held at the competition venue at the discretion of the host Federation. A Closing Banquet in the evening of the competition for all participants is traditional but not compulsory.

9.7. Doping Control:

No doping control shall be conducted.

9.8. Printed Materials and Announcements:

- 9.8.1. Every kind of printed material intended for distribution to participants such as invitation letters, information notes, bulletins, competition documents, official result sheets as well as the announcements during the competition shall be either in English, or in both English and in the language of the host country. All printed materials must contain the official ABAF logo and the logo of the ABAF General Sponsor.
- 9.8.2. Whenever possible the bib numbers of the athletes shall bear the logo of the General Sponsor.
- 9.8.3. Balkan Athletics may appoint a professional announcer if considered appropriate, to carry out the event presentation in English along with the local announcer on the Stadium. The accommodation cost of the announcer shall be covered by the hosting federation. The international travel cost shall be covered by ABAF.
- 9.8.4. The hosting federation shall send a full set of results immediately after the end of each competition day to ABAF headquarters and to the ABAF statistician.