

## **OAMA BY-LAWS**

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## 1. AUTHORITY

- 1.1 These By-Laws are made under Clause 5.15 of the OAMA Constitution, are not part of the OAMA Constitution and are subordinate to the Constitution.
- 1.2 The By-laws provide further detail or expand on elements of the Constitution or address matters not specifically dealt with in the Constitution, and should be read in conjunction with the OAMA Constitution and Policies, and WMA Competition rules and technical specifications.
- 1.3 Any By-Laws shall be approved or altered by a simple majority of those present and entitled to vote at an Assembly General Meeting.
- 1.4 The Appendices to these By-Laws are not part of the By-Laws, but provide additional information relevant to or in support of the By-Laws.

## 2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 All names and terms used in these By-Laws have the same meaning as those defined in the Constitution:

**Affiliate** means an organization or association representing masters athletes of a country, nation or territory which is a registered Affiliate member of OAMA under Clause 6 of the Constitution.

**Age- Band** means combined age bands for competitors competing in the relay events as specified in part 7.8 of these By-laws and determined by adding the actual ages of competitors of each relay team; **it also means** the age bands for the half marathon, 10km road walk and 8 km Cross Country teams events as specified in part 7.11 of these By-laws.

**Age Group** means the WMA five year age groups for male and female competitors as identified in part 4.5 of these By-laws.

**Associate** means an organization or association representing masters athletes of a country, nation or territory which is a registered Associate member of OAMA under Clause 7.1 of the Constitution.

**Association** also means the Oceania Association of Masters Athletes.

**Athletics** means the sport of Track and Field, Cross Country Running, Road Running, Race Walking and related athletic events.

**Championships** means the biennial Oceania Region Masters Athletics Championships that include Track & Field, Road Walk, Cross Country and Half Marathon events.

**Constitution** means the Constitution of OAMA.

**Local Organising Committee** means the committee specifically established to plan and organise an OAMA Championships on behalf of an Affiliate or Associate.

**OAMA** means the Oceania Association of Masters Athletes.

**Group** means more than one island Affiliate or Associate combining for a particular purpose.

**WMA** means World Masters Athletics.

**IAAF** means International Association of Athletics Federations.

**Island Affiliate or Associate** means any Affiliate or Associate of OAMA other than Australia and New Zealand.

## 3. MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHAMPIONSHIP FEES

- 3.1 There are no joining fees or annual membership fees payable by Affiliate and Associate Members to the Association.
- 3.2 The amount of any voluntary financial contribution from larger Affiliates to assist in the running of the Association, its method of determination and the method of its payment shall be determined from time to time by Council and specified in the OAMA Policies.

## **OAMA BY-LAWS (cont.)**

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- 3.3 The Affiliate or Associate member hosting the OAMA Regional Championships is required to charge each masters athlete competing in the Championships an OAMA Participation Fee.
- 3.4 The amount of the Participation Fee for each athlete competing at the OAMA Championships shall be determined from time to time by Council and specified in OAMA Policies.
- 3.5 OAMA may require the payment of a Sanction Fee payable to OAMA for the hosting of the Oceania Regional Championships. The amount of the Sanction Fee or the circumstances where it would not be required for any particular Championships will be determined by the OAMA Council.
- 3.6 Affiliates or Associates shall facilitate the payment of the OAMA Championship Sanction Fee, and competitor Participation Fees collected on behalf of OAMA by the Local Organising Committee under their jurisdiction within one month of completion of the Championships.

### **4. COMPETITION**

- 4.1 The OAMA Regional Championships and any other OAMA sanctioned championships shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules of WMA as expressed in an OAMA Competition Organisation Manual, the OAMA Handbook and these By-Laws. This provision shall not prevent the Association from conducting or encouraging any sporting activity which is consistent with the Constitution of WMA.
- 4.2 OAMA shall encourage its Affiliates and Associates to promote regular national, inter-territorial or group masters championships, within the age groups identified in By-Law 4.5 for all athletics events, including the events identified in By-Law 6.1.
- 4.3 An athlete's age group shall be determined by the age of the athlete on the first official day of competition of an Oceania Championship or OAMA sanctioned championships.
- 4.4 Two or more age groups may compete together provided that there shall be separate results and awards for each age group.
- 4.5 Competition shall be conducted in the age groups denominated as follows:

<b>Age</b>	<b>Male Age Group</b>	<b>Female Age Group</b>
30-34	M30	W30
35-39	M35	W35
40-44	M40	W40
45-49	M45	W45
50-54	M50	W50
55-59	M55	W55
60-64	M60	W60
65-69	M65	W65
70-74	M70	W70
75-79	M75	W75
80-84	M80	W80
85-89	M85	W85
90-94	M90	W90
95-99	M95	W95
100+	M100	W100

### **5. OAMA CHAMPIONSHIPS - ORGANISATION**

- 5.1 OAMA shall sanction an Oceania Region Masters Athletics Championships, normally in each even-numbered year.
- 5.2 The Oceania Championships are to be held sequentially in a cycle consisting of New Zealand, Australia, and an island Affiliate or Associate. This cycle may be varied by Council where an island Affiliate or Associate cannot be found to host the Championships.
- 5.3 Championship entries shall not be subject to prior achievement of qualifying standards.

## OAMA BY-LAWS (cont.)

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- 5.4 All athletes competing in an Oceania Championships must be **current** members of their national association, and the Local Organising Committee must include this requirement on their Oceania Championship Entry Form and on any Confirmation of Entry.
- 5.5 The Local Organising Committee must progressively provide a list of received Australian and New Zealand entries to the national body of each of these Affiliates so that the eligibility of those athletes can be confirmed.
- 5.6 The Local Organising Committee must ensure that confirmation of membership for each entrant is received from each national body; and that ineligible entrants are not permitted to compete.
- 5.7 The time period for the holding of the Oceania Championships should be not less than five days and not more than seven days, and should include a one-day break which should be used for the Oceania Assembly General Meeting.
- 5.8 Affiliate or Associate approved national uniforms must be worn by all competitors in an OAMA Championship, and must clearly identify the country represented by the competitor.
- 5.9 WMA Guidelines for Health and Safety must be implemented for all Oceania Championships. Affiliates and Associates are strongly encouraged to implement the Guidelines for competitions under their jurisdiction.
- 5.10 The Local Organising Committee must collect on behalf of OAMA a fee from each entrant at the Oceania Championships. The amount of the fee is to be set by OAMA Council, with any goods & services tax or similar taxes or levies imposed by Governments added to the fee collected from entrants, so that the full fees set out can be remitted to OAMA.
- 5.11 The Local Organising Committee must present two special awards at the end of the Championships, which must be included in the Official Championships Results:
- The Clem Green 1500m Trophy is to be awarded to the athlete with the highest age-graded performance in the 1500m event at the Championship. However, previous winners of the award are not eligible to win the trophy again, and the trophy must then be awarded to the individual with the next best age-graded performance.
  - The Inter-Island Challenge Shield is awarded to the best island Affiliate or Associate (excluding New Zealand and Australia), scored on the basis of 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 respectively for the highest ranked island performances in each event summed over all events. With the winner decided on total points divided by the number of athletes, provided at least 3 athletes represent the Affiliate or Associate at the Championships.
- 5.12 OAMA will not accept any other trophies, however, Council may, in exceptional circumstances approve the naming of selected events after persons of high standing and eminence in the OAMA movement.
- 5.13 The OAMA Flag must be flown at each OAMA Championships, and must be formally handed by representatives of the current Championship host to a representative from the next host of the Championships at the end of the Championships. The flag is to be held in safe keeping between Championships by the OAMA Secretary.
- 5.14 The Local Organizing Committee of an Oceania Masters Athletics Championships shall send electronic and hard copies of the **certified** results to the OAMA Secretary who shall forward a copy to each affiliate of OAMA and to Council members. The certified results **must** include the individual events comprising a combined event.
- 5.15 The Local Organizing Committee shall also implement the OAMA, Emergency Policy and the OAMA Code of Behavior, and other relevant policies that OAMA may develop from time to time (see Appendix-G of these By-Laws).
- 5.16 Any Oceania Championship records set at a Championship will be provisional until endorsed by the OAMA statistician.
- 6. OAMA CHAMPIONSHIP PROGRAM**
- 6.1 Each Oceania Masters Athletics Championships shall include a comprehensive schedule of track and field, and long-distance events for both men and women as specified below in the age groups as specified in By-Law 4.5:

## OAMA BY-LAWS (cont.)

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60m	Discus
100m	Javelin
200m	Hammer
400m	Weight
800m	Throws Pentathlon
1500m	Pentathlon
5000m	4 x 100m Relay
Short Hurdles	Medley Relay (800m, 400m, 200m, 200m)
Long Hurdles	Half Marathon - non stadia
3000m walk	10km Road Walk - non stadia
5000m walk	8km Cross Country - non stadia
Long Jump	Steeplechase - to be held if facilities available
Triple Jump	Pole Vault - to be held if facilities available
High Jump	Decathlon - optional
Shot Put	Heptathlon - optional

- 6.2 The Decathlon and Heptathlon are optional Championships events, however, where they are included they must be held outside the official program of events, so as to ensure the duration of the Championships is not lengthened and affect all competitors' travel and accommodation requirements.
- 6.3 The draft program of events by day and the conditions for Oceania Championship events shall be in the hands of Secretaries of Affiliates and Associates not later than nine months before the commencing date of the Championships. This shall be the responsibility of the Local Organizing Committee.
- 6.4 Modifications to the intended program by the Local Organizing Committee of Oceania Championships shall be in the hands of the OAMA Secretary not later than four months before their commencement. This shall not prevent further limited modification in consultation with OAMA Council if circumstances make this unavoidable.
- 6.5 Competitors shall be advised, preferably in the program, of the reporting time for each event. No round or stage of any event shall commence at a time earlier than that shown in the printed program. In the case of field events these may be held earlier but only with the agreement of all entered athletes.
- 6.6 There shall be no team competition at the Championships other than in relays specified in By-Law 7.7, the non-stadia teams events set out in By-Law 7.11, and the Inter-Island Challenge Shield set out in By-Law 5.12.
- 6.7 IAAF Rules as modified by WMA apply to the OAMA Championships and all OAMA sanctioned competitions, except where they have been modified by these By-Laws. A summary of the key differences between IAAF and WMA laws are provided in Appendix-E of these By-Laws.

## 7. OAMA CHAMPIONSHIPS - TECHNICAL

- 7.1 This section shall apply to all sanctioned OAMA Championships.
- 7.2 The specifications for hurdles, steeplechase and throwing events shall be the same as specified in the WMA Rules (see Appendices A, B & C of these By-Laws).
- 7.3 The scoring system for the Pentathlon, Throws Pentathlon, Decathlon and Heptathlon shall be as set out in Appendix-D of these By-Laws.
- 7.4 The Competition Director may alter the composition of heats depending on the number of competitors, but this shall not be construed to permit the bringing forward of any event or part of that event to a time earlier than that shown on the printed program.
- 7.5 For bend races which are run entirely in lanes, lane assignments in rounds after the first round shall be based on competitors' performances at the most recent stage of the event and shall be as shown below. Where two or more competitors have recorded the same time at the most recent stage, those competitors may draw for, or mutually agree upon, the lanes involved.

Fastest	Lane 4
2nd fastest	Lane 5
3rd fastest	Lane 3
4th fastest	Lane 6
5th fastest	Lane 2
6th fastest	Lane 7
7th fastest	Lane 1
8th fastest	Lane 8

- 7.6 In track events longer than 1500 metres the Competition Director may restrict competitors to the two outer lanes if he/she considers other events will be unduly delayed by allowing the remaining competitors to use the inside lanes. This should be used sparingly.
- 7.7 Track relay events at OAMA Championships, i.e. the 4 x 100m and Medley (800m / 400m / 200m / 200m) relays shall be conducted between single teams representing a Country, Territory or Group of island nations. The Competition Director or his/her delegate should be notified of the teams' composition two hours before the advertised start time of the relay.
- 7.8 The track relay events are to be held on the basis of age-bands, being the combined ages of the four members of the team on the first day of Championship competition. The combined age-bands are as follows:
- Women:**    **Band 1:** 150-194 years      **Band 2:** 195-229 years      **Band 3:** 230 years & over
- Men:**        **Band 1:** 150-199 years      **Band 2:** 200-239 years      **Band 3:** 240 years & over
- 7.9 An athlete may compete in only one age band in the 4 x 100m relays, and in the Medley relays; however, these age bands may be different in each relay event.
- 7.10 The Competition Director of an Oceania Masters Athletics Championship shall appoint a suitably qualified Safety Officer with the authority to withdraw from competition any athlete whose continued participation in that competition would, in the opinion of the Safety Officer, endanger the athlete's health or does not meet the technical requirements of the event. The Safety Officer may exercise his/her authority through deputies and both the Safety Officer and any deputies shall be clearly identifiable as such.
- 7.11 The Half-Marathon, 10 km Road Walk and 8 km Cross-Country events shall also incorporate 3-person teams competition between Countries, Territories or Groups of island nations. The competitions shall normally be held in following age-band categories, but which may be varied by Council, depending on entry numbers:
- Women:**                    **W30 to 54**                    **W55+**
- Men**                            **M30 to 49**                    **M50 to 64**                    **M65+**
- 7.12 The result for each age-band shall be decided by totalling the times of each team's first three finishers within that band. Each Affiliate or Associate shall be restricted to one team for each age-band. In each non-stadia teams event there shall be (besides the three individual awards for each age-group in the event) 3 team awards for each age-band for the first three 3-person team finishers. A team award shall consist of an award to each of a team's top three finishers.
- 7.13 Clauses 5, 6 and 7 of these By-Laws may be modified by the OAMA Council in their application to a particular Championships. Any application by a Local Organizing Committee for such modification must be lodged with the OAMA Secretary not later than twelve months before the commencement of the Championships.
- 8. OAMA CHAMPIONSHIP AND WORLD RECORDS**
- 8.1 Oceania Masters Championships Records or Oceania Masters Championships Best Performances shall be recognized for each of the five-year age groups listed in Section 4.5 of these By-Laws.
- 8.2 The Local Organising Committee of an Oceania Championships must ensure that the facilities, officials, equipment and processes are of an appropriate standard to meet the specification set out in Appendix-D to these By-Laws.

## OAMA BY-LAWS (cont.)

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- 8.3 Athletes do not need to apply for recognition of Oceania Championships record or best performances or World Record performances that have been established as per the requirements set out in Appendix-E of these By-Laws or Section 20 of the WMA Rules.
- 8.4 Athletes compete in age groups at Oceania Championships based on their age on the first day of competition, and OAMA Championship record performances will only be recognised for the age group in which the athlete competes.
- 8.5 The OAMA Statistician will determine whether all requirements have been met in accordance with OAMA and WMA rules, and determine whether a performance should be recognised as a record or best performance.

### 9. COMMUNICATION

- 9.1 The OAMA Council shall, via individual members or the OAMA Secretary, establish and maintain communication, and liaise with, other athletic bodies, local, national, or regional, to ensure that optimum information on world and regional masters athletic activities is forwarded to all masters athletes within the Oceania Region, and to ensure that all athletic bodies are kept aware of administrative developments and performance levels in the masters sphere.
- 9.2 It will be a responsibility of each member of Council to inform his or her Athletic Association or Organisation of OAMA activities, and to establish good relations with such bodies.

### 10. OAMA FLAG

- 10.1 The Council has adopted the following (see *next page*) as the Official Flag of OAMA to be flown at the OAMA Championships.



### 11. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF OAMA

- 11.1 Any eligible athletics organisation representing masters athletes in the Pacific Region country, territory, dependency or colony that wishes to apply for Affiliate or Associate membership of the Oceania Association of Masters Athletes, must apply to the OAMA Secretary using the Membership Application form (see Appendix-F of these By-Laws) that should include:
- its name;
  - area of jurisdiction;
  - its Constitution;
  - its office bearers;
  - its competition uniform;
  - copies of its latest annual report and financial statement;
  - the number of its currently active members; and
  - any other information in support of its application

**OCEANIA ASSOCIATION OF MASTERS ATHLETES INC. - MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Affiliated with World Masters Athletics, and in cooperation with the IAAF

(Please print)

Name of Federation or Association:

.....

Country or area of jurisdiction (e.g. Cook Islands, New Caledonia):

.....

Contact address of the Federation or Association:

.....

.....

Contact details of the President of the Federation or Association

Name: .....

Telephone including Country and any area code: .....

Facsimile including Country and any area code: .....

E-mail address: .....

Contact details of the Secretary of the Federation or Association

Name: .....

Telephone including Country and any area code: .....

Facsimile including Country and any area code: .....

E-mail address: .....

Person principally responsible for masters activities (if not President or Secretary)

Name: .....

Telephone including Country and any area code: .....

Facsimile including Country and any area code: .....

E-mail address: .....

Are masters a part of the IAAF National Member  Yes  No

("No" means masters is independent of the national IAAF affiliated organization)

Number of current masters members: .....

Please describe and/or attach a picture of the national competition uniform:

.....

.....

**CHECKLIST**

Copy of Constitution attached

List of Office bearers attached

Latest Annual Report / Financial Statement attached

Please attach or include any other information in support of this application on another page.

Signature of President or Secretary ..... Date .....

(please print name and title below)

Name: ..... Position: .....

**Note:** The Oceania Association of Masters Athletes does not have joining or affiliation fees.  
Please return this complete form with the required documentation to the OAMA SECRETARY.



Appendix-BL-B	Key differences between IAAF and WMA rules (see page ZZ).
Appendix-BL-C	Specifications & Requirements for Field & Combined Events (see page UU).
Appendix-BL-D	The specifications for hurdles, steeplechase (see page XX).
Appendix-BL-E	Detailed Specifications for Throwing Implements (see page VV).
Appendix-BL-F	Scoring formulae & constants, and Age-Factors for Pentathlon, Throws Pentathlon, Decathlon and Heptathlon (see page WW).
Appendix-BL-G	Record Application forms (see page YY).
Appendix-BL-H	OAMA, Emergency Policy and the OAMA Code of Behavior, and other policies (see page TT).

