DISPUTES AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS RULES

(Approved by Council on 21 July 2026, effective 03 August 2026)

Specific Definitions

The words and phrases used in these DPP Rules that are defined terms (denoted by initial capital letters) shall have the meanings specified in the Constitution and the General Definitions, or (in respect of the following words and phrases) the following meanings:

“Disciplinary Officer” means the member of Staff appointed by the Chief Executive Officer from time to time to act as the disciplinary officer (or their equivalent) for World Athletics including any person deputising for that individual.**"**

‘’DPP Rules’’ means these Disputes and Disciplinary Proceedings Rules.

“Former Integrity Rules” means the former versions of the Integrity Code of Conduct and any former code of ethics of World Athletics in force at the time.

"Jury of Appeal" means the Jury of Appeal as described in Rule 12 of the Competition Rules.

“Procedural Rules of the Integrity Code of Conduct” means rules setting out the procedures for dealing with alleged violations of the Integrity Code of Conduct (and the Former Integrity Rules) including reporting, investigating, prosecuting and deciding such violations and includes the Integrity Unit Rules, the Reporting, Investigations and Prosecution Rules – Non-Doping, the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal Rules and the Anti-Doping Rules.

"Referee" means a Referee as described in Rule 18 of the Competition Rules.

"Technical Delegate" means a Technical Delegate as described in Rule 5 of the Competition Rules.

1. General

1.1 Unless as otherwise stated in Rule 1.4 or in any other Rule or Regulation, all breaches of the Rules and Regulations and all disputes arising under any Rules or Regulations shall be resolved, and all disciplinary proceedings conducted, in accordance with the provisions set out in these DPP Rules.

1.2 Subject to Rule 1.4 below, these DPP Rules apply to any Person participating in (whether as an Athlete or Athlete Support Personnel) or officiating at a World Rankings Competition.

1.3 These DPP Rules also apply to any matter referred by the Head of the Integrity Unit to the Disciplinary Officer to deal with as a minor violation of the Integrity Code of Conduct pursuant to Rule 7 of the Reporting, Investigation and Prosecution Rules – Non-Doping.

1.4 The following matters are excluded from these DPP Rules:

1.4.1 any alleged breach of, or disputes arising out of decisions made under, the Anti-Doping Rules including, without limitation, disputes arising out of any anti-doping rule violations. These disputes shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures set out in the Anti-Doping Rules;

1.4.2 any alleged breach or violation of the Integrity Code of Conduct (or any of the Former Integrity Rules) shall be resolved in accordance with the Procedural Rules of the Integrity Code of Conduct;

1.4.3 any Safeguarding Concern as defined in the Safeguarding Rules shall be dealt with in accordance with procedures set out in the Safeguarding Rules;

1.4.4 any protests made on-site but prior to the competition starting concerning the status of an athlete to participate in the competition. Pursuant to Rule 8.1 of the Technical Rules, the decision of the Technical Delegate(s) in such cases shall be subject to a right of appeal to the Jury of Appeal. The decision of the Jury of Appeal (or of the Technical Delegate(s) in the absence of a Jury of Appeal or if no appeal to the Jury is made) shall be final and there shall be no further right of appeal, including to CAS. If the matter cannot be resolved satisfactorily before the competition and the athlete is allowed to compete “under protest”, the matter shall be referred to the Council whose decision shall be final and there shall be no further right of appeal, including to CAS;

1.4.5 any protests or other disputes arising out of the field of play during a competition, including, without limitation, protests concerning the result or conduct of an event. Pursuant to Rule 8.3 of the Technical Rules, the decision of the Referee in such cases shall be subject to a right of appeal to the Jury of Appeal. The decision of the Jury of Appeal (or of the Referee in the absence of a Jury of Appeal or if no appeal to the Jury is made) shall be final and there shall be no further right of appeal, including to CAS. For the avoidance doubt, any matters concerning the conduct of any Person arising out of, in connection with or on the field of play at a World Rankings Competition which is reported to or identified by the Disciplinary Officer shall be dealt with in accordance with the procedures set out in these DPP Rules;

1.4.6 any alleged breach of, or disputes arising out of decisions made under the Member Federation or the Area Association Rules (as the case may be) or as a result of decisions taken in relation to a Member Federation or an Area Association pursuant to powers set out in Member Federation or Area Association Rules and/or the Constitution;

1.4.7 any alleged breach of, or disputes arising out of decisions made under the:

a. Candidacy Rules;

b. Mechanical Aids Regulations;

c. Eligibility Rule 3.5 and Regulations for the Implementation of Eligibility Rule 3.5 (Male and Female Categories); and

d. Marketing and Advertising Regulations Clothing & Accessories: World Athletics Series and World Rankings Competitions: Invitation Meetings / Circuits and Label Road Races.

2. Disciplinary Officer

2.1 World Athletics shall appoint a Disciplinary Officer in accordance with, and to carry out the roles and responsibilities identified in these DPP Rules and any other Rules and Regulations.

2.2 The roles and responsibilities of the Disciplinary Officer shall include:

2.2.1 assessing and investigating matters as set out in these DPP Rules;

2.2.2 imposing sanctions in accordance with Rules 3 and 4 of these DPP Rules;

2.2.3 responding to any appeals made by an individual in accordance with these DPP Rules; and

2.2.4 carrying out such other matters for the purposes of these DPP Rules.

3. Breaches of Rules or Regulations

3.1 Any information relating to an alleged breach of the Rules or Regulations (other than those set out in Rule 1.4 above) or any information relating to or an allegation of unsporting conduct, wrongdoing that was known or ought to have been known or conduct that is against the spirit of the sport of Athletics at a World Rankings Competition must be reported to the Disciplinary Officer as soon as reasonably practical.

3.2 Pursuant to the Disciplinary Officer's roles and responsibilities set out at Rule 2, the Disciplinary Officer has the authority to invoke the procedures set in these DPP Rules against an Athlete and/or Organiser (as defined and referred to in the relevant league, tour or race regulations) for any matter reported to the Disciplinary Officer arising at a World Ranking Competition where a Referee failed for any reason to take action, did not witness the matter or the matter was not brought to the Referee's attention. For the avoidance of doubt, the Disciplinary Officer does not have the authority to either re-open or review field of play decisions made and concluded by the Referee and/or the Jury of Appeal which, pursuant to the Technical Rules, are final without any further right of appeal.

3.3 The Disciplinary Officer must promptly conduct an initial assessment of the information provided in order to determine if the alleged breach falls within these DPP Rules and/or within the Integrity Code of Conduct.

3.4 Following the initial assessment the Disciplinary Officer will:

3.4.1 refer the matter to the Head of the Integrity Unit if there is a potential breach of the Integrity Code of Conduct;

3.4.2 review if the matter should be referred to the relevant Member Federation to investigate and deal with; or

3.4.3 conduct an investigation of the alleged breach.

3.5 The Disciplinary Officer may conduct the investigation themselves or appoint someone else to investigate the matter.

3.6 All those contacted by the Disciplinary Officer as part of any investigation are required to cooperate with the Disciplinary Officer's investigation.

3.7 If at any point during the investigation, it becomes apparent that the alleged breach is a potential breach of the Integrity Code of Conduct, the Disciplinary Officer's investigation shall be paused and the Disciplinary Officer shall report the matter to the Head of the Integrity Unit in accordance with the Reporting, Investigation and Prosecution Rules – Non-Doping to investigate as a potential breach of the Integrity Code of Conduct. Where pursuant to the Reporting, Investigation and Prosecution Rules – Non-Doping, Rule 7 the Head of Integrity considers an alleged violation of the Integrity Code (other than a Doping Violation or a Safeguarding Concern) to be a minor violation and the Head of the Integrity Unit refers the matter to the Disciplinary Officer, the referral shall be dealt with in accordance with this Rule 3, except Rule 3.4.1 and Rule 3.7, and the procedure set out within Rules 3.8 to 3.11 below.

3.8 If the matter is referred to a Member Federation under Rule 3.4.2 above, the Member Federation must investigate and deal with the matter appropriately. The Member Federation must keep the Disciplinary Officer fully informed of the progress of the investigation and its proposals to resolve the case. The Disciplinary Officer may decide at any time that the matter should be referred back to the Disciplinary Officer to deal with under these DPP Rules.

3.9 On completion of the investigation, the Disciplinary Officer must provide the findings to the individual who is the subject of the investigation to consider and give the individual an opportunity to provide their own representations. In addition, the Disciplinary Officer must set out and explain any proposed sanction.

3.10 The individual shall have fourteen (14) days to reply to this notification and to provide any written material or other documentary evidence that they wish the Disciplinary Officer to take into account in considering whether or not to impose any proposed sanction.

3.11 Following the receipt of the reply and/or other written material from the individual, or the expiry of the fourteen (14) day period if no reply is received, the Disciplinary Officer may:

3.11.1 finalise their investigation and decide that no further action is currently required as there are no longer grounds for any sanction;

3.11.2 make any such further inquiries as the Disciplinary Officer considers appropriate in the light of any matters raised by the individual in response to the written notification; or

3.11.3 finalise their investigation and decide to impose the proposed sanction.

4. Sanctions

4.1 The Disciplinary Officer has the right to impose a range of sanctions including but not limited to:

4.1.1 annulling any results;

4.1.2 issuing a caution or reprimand, or an oral or written warning;

4.1.3 imposing a fine;

4.1.4 disqualifying an Athlete and declaring an Athlete's performance was invalid with all resulting consequences for the Athlete, including the forfeiture of all titles, awards, medals, points and prize and appearance money;

4.1.5 order specific education or training;

4.1.6 such other sanctions as may be specified in any Rules or Regulations;

4.1.7 such other sanction as may be appropriate in the circumstances.

4.2 Nothing in these DPP Rules limits or prejudices the right of the Integrity Unit to take action in respect of the same conduct under the Integrity Code of Conduct and to impose sanctions for such conduct beyond those set out in this Rule 4 including, without limitation, a period of ineligibility.

4.3 In addition to any applicable sanction set out in Rule 4.1, where an Organiser (as defined and referred to in the relevant tour regulations) has received an evaluation which requires remedy following notification and action taken by the Competitions & Events Department arising from the relevant evaluation assessment, or has breached a relevant World Athletics Continental, Cross-Country, Combined Events, Indoor Race Walking Tour Regulations, the Disciplinary Officer may, subject to the procedure set out in Rule 3, impose any one or more of the sanctions set out in Appendix 1 to these DPP Rules.

5. Appeals

5.1 The individual or Organiser who has been sanctioned by the Disciplinary Officer may only appeal such decision to the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal on the grounds that:

5.1.1 the Disciplinary Officer came to a decision which has no reasonable basis in all the circumstances; or

5.1.2 the sanction imposed was so excessive to be unreasonable.

5.2 To bring an appeal under these DPP Rules, the individual or Organiser must give notice of the appeal in writing to the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal copying the

Disciplinary Officer within fourteen (14) days of notification of the sanction in accordance with the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal Rules.

5.3 The appeal shall be conducted in accordance with the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal Rules and any decision of the Appeal Panel shall be final and binding on the parties and there shall be no further right of appeal.

6. Publication

6.1 World Athletics may, if it is deemed appropriate, announce, publish or otherwise communicate the reasons for any sanction imposed by the Disciplinary Officer and/or the Appeal Panel pursuant to these DPP Rules.

6.2 Where pursuant to Rule 4.2, a sanction is imposed on an Organiser, a copy of the findings will be provided to the Member Federation where the Organiser's meeting is or would normally have been held.

APPENDIX 1 – TABLE OF SANCTIONS

APPLICABLE TO ONE DAY TOURS ONLY

Criteria – (Macro-areas)	Evaluation Assessment	Competition & Events Department Action	First Breach Sanction[1] (Disciplinary Officer)	Second Breach Sanction[2] (Disciplinary Officer)
Technical i.e. Stadium & Organisational set up/ Timetable & Programme / Shoe Checks/ Marketing & Advertising / Surveys & Fan data Pre-Event Information	A score of less than 75 or failure to remedy by the next edition	Either issuing a caution or reprimand, or an oral or written warning or imposing a fine	Downgrade the Organiser's Permit	Withdrawal of the Organiser's current Permit and removal from the Global Calendar of Events & Prohibit the Organiser from applying for a Permit for a period deemed appropriate
Athlete Prize Money Payments	Failure to make full payment within agreed timescale stated within the relevant tour regulation.	No tolerance policy applies. Immediate referral to Disciplinary Officer.	Downgrade the Organiser's Permit	Withdrawal of the Organiser's current Permit and removal from the Global Calendar of Events & Prohibit the Organiser from applying for a Permit for a period deemed appropriate
Medical i.e. Location/availability of services / Medical plan / Framework	A score of less than 75 or failure to remedy by the next edition	Referral to Health & Science Department. Operational plan for the following edition.	Downgrade the Organiser's Permit	Withdrawal of the Organiser's current Permit and removal from the Global

[1] All sanctions are set with a further deadline for compliance depending on the circumstances and failure to meet the deadline matter will be escalated to the next stage of sanction.

[2] See footnote 1 and escalation will be to the sanctions referred to in Rule 4.1 of the Disputes and Disciplinary Proceedings Rules.

Criteria – (Macro-areas)	Evaluation Assessment	Competition & Events Department Action	First Breach Sanction[1] (Disciplinary Officer)	Second Breach Sanction[2] (Disciplinary Officer)
				Calendar of Events & Prohibit the Organiser from applying for a Permit for a period deemed appropriate
Anti-Doping i.e. Set up / location / Tests	A score of less than 75 or failure to remedy within stated period	Referral to AIU to follow-up with the National Anti-Doping Organisation. Operational plan for the following edition.	Withdrawal of the Organiser's current Permit	Prohibit the Organiser from applying for a Permit for a period deemed appropriate
Event Presentation i.e. Announcers / Entertainment during meet	A score of less than 75 or not delivered	Warning & request for new operational plan for the following edition.	Either issuing a caution or reprimand, or an oral or written warning or imposing a fine	Place conditions on future applications for a World Athletics Permit
Event Logistics i.e. Hotel choice Transport Officials, athletes, staff Food and catering Equipment	A score of less than 75 or failure to remedy within stated period	Warning & request for new operational plan for the following edition.	Place conditions on future applications for a World Athletics Permit	Prohibit the Organiser from applying for a Permit for a period deemed appropriate
Reporting	Failure to provide report on contract or accounting within stated deadline or not at all	Fine of 5% of the television broadcast fee.	Withdrawal of the Organiser's current Permit	Prohibit the Organiser from applying for a Permit for a period deemed appropriate
Media Operations i.e. Press Releases & Conference Operational Delivery Media Stand & workroom Seating & quality of media tribunes	A score of less than 75 or not delivered	Warning & request for new operational plan for the following edition.	Either issuing a caution or reprimand, or an oral or written warning or imposing a fine	Downgrade the Organiser's Permit

Criteria – (Macro-areas)	Evaluation Assessment	Competition & Events Department Action	First Breach Sanction[1] (Disciplinary Officer)	Second Breach Sanction[2] (Disciplinary Officer)
Broadcast i.e. graphics	A score of less than 75 or not delivered	Fine of 10% of the fee television broadcast fee.	Either issuing a caution or reprimand, or an oral or written warning or imposing a fine	Downgrade the Organiser's Permit
Male and Female Categories Equality for Competition	A score of less than 75 or failure to remedy within stated period	Warning & request for new operational plan for the following edition.	Place conditions on future applications for a World Athletics Permit	Withdrawal of the Organiser's current Permit and removal from the Global Calendar of Events
Fans & Fan Engagement with meet i.e. Ticket Sales Attendance Surveys/Opinion / mystery diner	Failure to deliver	Request analysis and new ticketing strategy for the following edition.	Either issuing a caution or reprimand, or an oral or written warning or imposing a fine	Downgrade the Organiser's Permit
Sustainability i.e. leadership/sustainable production and consumption/climate change and carbon/local environment and air quality/global equality/diversity, accessibility & well being	A score of less than 50% of the marks available in macro areas or not delivered	Referral to Sustainability Officer to develop an action plan with deadlines.	Either issuing a caution or reprimand, or an oral or written warning or imposing a fine	Downgrade the Organiser's Permit