DISPUTES AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS RULES

(In force from 1 November 2019)
Specific Definitions

The words and phrases used in these 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:

"Competition Rules" means the Competition Rules as amended from time to time.

"Eligibility Rules" means the Eligibility Rules as amended from time to time.

"Jury of Appeal" means the Jury of Appeal as described in Rule 12 of the Competition 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 1.2 or in any other Rule or Regulation, all disputes (including appeals) arising under any Rules or Regulations shall be resolved, and all disciplinary proceedings conducted, in accordance with the provisions set out in this Rule.

1.2 The following matters are excluded from the dispute and disciplinary provisions in this Rule 1:

1.2.1 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 and Regulations;

1.2.2 any alleged breach or violation of the Integrity Code of Conduct including a breach or violation of any Rule or Regulation deemed to be part of and incorporated into the Code. These disputes and any disciplinary proceedings shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures set out in the Integrity Code of Conduct and its applicable Rules and Regulations;

1.2.3 any alleged violation of the Former Code of Ethics (or any predecessor code of ethics) shall be dealt with in accordance with the Integrity Code of Conduct and its applicable Rules and Regulations;

1.2.4 any protests made prior to a competition 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;

1.2.5 any protests or other disputes arising out of the field of play, 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.

1.2.6 any breach of the Eligibility Rules shall be resolved in accordance with Rule 4 of the Eligibility Rules.

2. **Disputes arising under the Rules and Regulations of a Member or Area Association**

2.1 Each Member and Area Association shall incorporate a provision in its constitution that, unless otherwise stated in a specific Rule or Regulation, all disputes and disciplinary proceedings arising under the rules and regulations of the Member or Area Association involving athletes, athlete support personnel or other persons under
its jurisdiction, however arising, shall be submitted to a hearing before the relevant hearing body constituted or otherwise authorised by the Member or Area Association, as the case may be. Such a hearing shall respect the following principles:

2.1.1 a timely hearing before a fair and impartial hearing body;

2.1.2 the right of the individual to be informed in a fair and timely manner of the charge against him;

2.1.3 the right to present evidence, including the right to call and question witnesses;

2.1.4 the right to be represented by legal counsel and an interpreter (at the individual’s expense); and

2.1.5 the right to a timely and reasoned decision in writing.

2.2 Where a Member delegates the conduct of a hearing to any body, committee or tribunal (whether within or outside the Member), or where for any other reason, any national body, committee or tribunal outside of the Member is responsible for affording an athlete, athlete support personnel or other person their hearing under these Rules, the decision of that body, committee or tribunal shall be deemed, for the purposes of these Disputes and Disciplinary Proceedings Rules, to be the decision of the Member and the word “Member” in these Rules shall be so construed.

3. Disputes between World Athletics and any Member, Area Association, athlete, athlete support personnel or other person(s)

3.1 This Rule 3 relates to any legal dispute of any kind whatsoever arising between World Athletics on the one hand and any Member, Area Association, athlete, athlete support personnel or other person who is subject to the Constitution and/or any of the Rules or Regulations on the other hand, in relation to the Constitution and/or any Rule or Regulation and/or any World Athletics decision or act or omission, howsoever arising, that is not covered by the dispute resolution provisions of the Constitution or any Rules or Regulations (each, a “Dispute”). Subject to, and in accordance with Article 84 of the Constitution, a Dispute shall be submitted to arbitration before the CAS (Ordinary Arbitration Division or Appeal Arbitration Division, depending on the circumstances of the case), to the exclusion of any other court or forum. The CAS will hear and determine the Dispute definitively in accordance with relevant provisions of the CAS Code of Sports-Related Arbitration. The law governing the Dispute will be the Constitution and Rules and Regulations, with the laws of Monaco applying subsidiarily. Unless the parties agree otherwise, the arbitration proceedings before the CAS will be conducted in the English language before a Panel consisting of three arbitrators. Pending determination of the Dispute by the CAS, any provision of the Constitution or Rule or Regulation or decision or act or omission under challenge will remain in full force and effect unless the CAS orders otherwise. The ultimate decision of the CAS on the merits of the Dispute will be final and binding on all parties, and all parties waive irrevocably any rights they might otherwise have to any form of appeal, review or other challenge in respect of that decision, except as set out in Chapter 12 of Switzerland’s Federal Code on Private International Law.

4. Suspension of a Member

4.1 In the event that Council seeks to suspend a Member for a breach of the Rules, the Member must have been sent prior notice in writing of the grounds for the
suspension and must have been given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on the matter in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 15 of the Constitution.

5. Disputes between (i) Members, (ii) Area Associations, and (iii) a Member(s) and an Area Association(s)

5.1 Each Member and Area Association shall incorporate a provision in its constitution that all disputes between (i) Members, (ii) Area Associations, and (iii) a Member(s) and an Area Association(s) shall be referred to the Council. The Council may:

5.1.1 take reasonable steps to assist in the resolution of such dispute or difference (which may include appointing a mediator); and

5.1.2 if necessary, direct the parties to refer the matter to arbitration before the CAS (Ordinary Arbitration Division), to the exclusion of any other court or forum, in accordance with Rule 5.2, below.

5.2 Any dispute submitted to the CAS must be filed within five days of being directed to do so pursuant to Rule 5.1.2, above. If a dispute is referred to arbitration before the CAS, the CAS will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration.