

2027 EVENT SANCTIONING

IMPORTANT UPDATES FOR TRACK & FIELD EVENTS

Dear Track & Field Event Directors,

Track & field competitions play an integral role in the athlete development journey. BC Athletics is committed to continually improving our event sanctioning processes to ensure that participants have a positive experience and access to meaningful competition opportunities at sanctioned events across the province.

The amateur sport sector is rapidly evolving, with an increasing focus on upholding Safe Sport obligations and implementing effective risk mitigation strategies, while enhancing our program delivery. As we begin planning for the 2027 track & field season, we have taken the opportunity to reflect on what worked well in 2026, the challenges we encountered, and how we can improve our processes moving forward.

We have heard your feedback on several important areas, including:

- Earlier confirmation of event sanctioning and results certification.
- Officials' availability, including confirmation that sufficient officials are available to support your event.
- Regional event scheduling, with the goal of eliminating conflicts between events in the same region on the same days.
- Non-member participation, with greater clarity on the process for managing non-member participation.

In response to this feedback, BC Athletics is implementing several significant changes to our track & field event sanctioning procedures for 2027, with the goal of improving planning, strengthening risk management, and supporting the long-term sustainability of event hosting across the province.

SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE EVENT DELIVERY

Track & field events rely on the incredible commitment and expertise of thousands of volunteers, including BC Athletics Officials, who volunteer their time to make competitions possible. These resources are finite, and we share a responsibility to steward them effectively to protect the sustainability of our sport and the health and well-being of those who support it.

Earlier this year, Athletics Canada published its Athletics in Canada Officiating Policy, which outlines important considerations for sanctioned events. These include event classifications — Local, Provincial, National and National Championship — as well as requirements relating to officials' shift times, shelter, hydration and food.

If you have not yet reviewed this policy, we encourage you to do so [here](#).

BC Athletics Officials are essential to deliver quality competitions. Their time, expertise and dedication are invaluable to event hosts and the broader athletics community. However, in recent years, the number of track & field competitions on the provincial calendar has exceeded the capacity and resources available to adequately staff all events.

BC Athletics also makes a significant financial investment in supporting officials' attendance at competitions, particularly through our travel reimbursement program. These costs continue to increase as our officiating pool grows and officials are required to travel greater distances from their home communities.

To help address these challenges, sanctioning fees will be calculated based on the number of events hosted and the number of officiating crews required, rather than solely on athlete participation numbers. This approach more accurately reflects the resources required to deliver competitions and supports a more sustainable model for event sanctioning.

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

We recognize that these changes will require planning and adjustment, and the BC Athletics team is here to support you throughout the process.

We value the important role event directors play in creating meaningful competition opportunities for athletes across British Columbia. We welcome your feedback, questions and ideas as we work together to improve the competition calendar and ensure a sustainable future for track & field in our province. Please join us on Wednesday, November 25 from 7:30 – 9:00pm for a [virtual townhall](#) to discuss the changes.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our sport and to the athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers who make these events possible.

For the Love of Athletics,

The BC Athletics Team

UPDATE SUMMARY ONLY

PLEASE ALSO REVIEW THE BC ATHLETICS TRACK & FIELD SANCTIONING PROCEDURES AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION DOCUMENT

UPDATE 1

COMPETITION ZONE CONSOLIDATION

EVENT SANCTIONING POLICY CHANGE

Effective **MARCH 01, 2027**, Zones 3, 4 and 5 will be combined into a single zone, [Metro Vancouver Zone], for the purposes of BC Athletics track & field event sanctioning. All other zones stay unchanged.

Current Zone	Revised Zone
Kootenay	Zone 1 – No Change
Thompson / Okanagan	Zone 2 – No Change
METRO VANCOUVER	Zone 3 + Zone 4 + Zone 5 (Combined Zones)
Vancouver Island / Central Coast	Zone 6 – No Change
North West	Zone 7 – No Change
Cariboo / North East	Zone 8 – No Change

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE

- **SHARED PARTICIPANT AND VOLUNTEER POOL:** Events in Zones 3, 4 and 5 draw from the same pool of athletes, officials and volunteers, creating competition for resources when events overlap.
- **MORE EFFECTIVE CALENDAR COORDINATION:** Combining the three zones into a single zone calendar allows date conflicts to be identified and addressed directly during the sanctioning process, rather than relying on event hosts to resolve conflicts independently.
- **FASTER, MORE PREDICTABLE SANCTIONING:** A unified calendar reduces delays in resolving scheduling conflicts, allowing BC Athletics to confirm sanctioning sooner and giving event hosts greater certainty about their dates.
- **IMPROVED EVENT STAFFING:** Better coordination of dates reduces competition for officials and volunteers, helping ensure meets have adequate staffing.

UPDATE 2

NO CONFLICTING EVENTS WITHIN A ZONE

EVENT SANCTIONING POLICY CHANGE

Effective **MARCH 01, 2027**, BC Athletics will no longer approve two events for sanctioning in the same zone on the same or overlapping dates. This applies in every zone, including the combined Zone 3/4/5.

Where two or more applications are received for the same or overlapping dates in the same zone, BC Athletics will complete the following process:

- **INITIAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION:** Where two or more applications are received for the same or overlapping dates within a zone, BC Athletics will notify the affected Event Directors and encourage them to resolve the scheduling conflict directly.
- **PRIORITY FOR PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS AND THEN WORLD ATHLETICS PERMIT MEETINGS:** These events are often determined by the World Athletics Calendar and National Championship Calendar with little flexibility to seek alternative dates.
- **PRIORITY FOR AFFILIATED CLUBS:** If the Event Directors cannot reach an agreement, priority will be given to the event hosted by a BC Athletics-affiliated club. An event hosted by a non-affiliated organization will not receive priority over an affiliated club event.
- **BOTH HOSTS ARE AFFILIATED CLUBS:** Where both event hosts are BC Athletics-affiliated clubs, each event will be permitted to host on one day of the requested weekend, with the specific day determined through coordination between the Event Directors and BC Athletics.

PURPOSE: This approach provides a clear and consistent process for resolving scheduling conflicts while supporting affiliated clubs and maximizing opportunities for athletes, officials and volunteers.

EXCEPTION

SCHOOL HOSTED EVENTS

A school hosted event is any event which is hosted by an approved BC School Sports Organization (e.g. City Meets, League Championships, Zone Championships, Provincial Championships etc.). As a reminder only results from the BC High School Track & Field Championship are eligible for certification of results for Athletics Canada Rankings.

For the purposes of access to BC Athletics Officials only, these events are exempt from the "Non-Conflict Event" policy as they are scheduled around the school calendars and the high school qualification process. As a result, their dates are often fixed and cannot be easily moved.

This exemption does not apply to Club Hosted School Events. Club Hosted School Events are competitions open to school participants but hosted entirely by a BC Athletics club. These events therefore must abide by the Non-Conflict policy and MUST also be sanctioned by BC School Sports.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE

- **SHARED RESOURCES:** Events within the same zone draw from the same pool of athletes, officials and volunteers, making overlapping dates challenging for both events.
- **CLEAR APPROVAL RULE:** Conflicting dates within a zone will not be approved, providing a consistent and predictable approach to scheduling.
- **EARLIER CERTAINTY:** Event hosts will know the status of their requested dates at the time of application, rather than waiting for conflicts to be resolved between hosts.
- **ACCELERATED SANCTIONING CONFIRMATION:** Removing the need for event hosts to negotiate scheduling conflicts will allow BC Athletics to confirm sanctions more quickly.

UPDATE 3

SUBMISSION OF SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

EVENT SANCTIONING PROCEDURAL CHANGE

Effective immediately, all approved events taking place on or after **MARCH 1, 2027**, must submit a tentative schedule of events to BC Athletics by **JANUARY 3, 2027**, BC Athletics will review and approve submitted schedules in the order in which they are received.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE

Requiring schedules well before the competition season allows BC Athletics to review schedules earlier and sanctioning events sooner. Athletes, coaches and event hosts can then plan their season with confidence, without the stress and uncertainty of last-minute sanctioning approvals.

UPDATE 4

EVENT SANCTIONING TIMELINES

EVENT SANCTIONING PROCEDURAL CHANGE

Effective immediately for all events hosted beginning March 1, 2027, BC Athletics will follow the published timelines:

ITEM	DEADLINE
2027 EVENT APPLICATIONS OPEN	OCTOBER 15, 2026
2027 EVENT APPLICATIONS DUE	NOVEMBER 15, 2026
2027 BCA SANCTION UPDATES PUBLISHED	NOVEMBER 25, 2026
2027 EVENT HOSTING ZONE MEETINGS	FIRST WEEK IN DECEMBER
2027 TENTATIVE SCHEDULES DUE	JANUARY 3, 2027
2027 WORLD ATHLETICS SANCTION APPLICATION DUE	JANUARY 3, 2027
2027 WORLD PARA ATHLETICS SANCTION APPLICATION DUE	JANUARY 3, 2027
2027 BCA EVENT SANCTION APPLICATION DUE	60 DAYS PRIOR TO START OF EVENT
2027 RESULTS REPORT DUE	24 HOURS AFTER EVENT
2027 POST EVENT REPORTS DUE	14 DAYS AFTER EVENT
2027 FEES DUE	30 DAYS AFTER POST EVENT REPORT

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE

- **CLEAR AND PREDICTABLE PROCESS:** The updated timeline provides BC Athletics, event hosts, athletes, coaches and officials with a consistent sanctioning process for the 2027 season.
- **EARLY COMMUNICATION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION:** The Host Event Director Townhall ensures all hosts receive policy updates at the same time, while Zone Meetings provide an opportunity to identify and resolve scheduling conflicts before applications open.
- **EARLIER REVIEW AND APPROVALS:** Earlier deadlines for tentative schedules and World Athletics/World Para Athletics applications, along with extending the sanction application deadline from 45 to 60 days, give BC Athletics more time to review applications and provide hosts with earlier confirmation.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY AFTER EVENTS:** Firm deadlines for fees, results and post-event reports support timely results for athletes.

WHAT IS CHANGING

Several steps in the sanctioning timeline are new or have changed for the 2027 season.

- The Host Event Director Townhall and the Event Hosting Zone Meetings are new. Attendance at the Townhall is mandatory for every host planning to hold an event in 2027.
- Tentative schedules must now be submitted by **JANUARY 3, 2027**, via **TENTATIVE EVENT SCHEDULE SUBMISSION FORM**.
- Applications for World Athletics and World Para Athletics events are now due by **JANUARY 3, 2027**. Previously there was no earlier deadline for these applications.
- Sanction applications are now due **60 DAYS BEFORE THE EVENT**, an increase from the previous 45 days.
- Results reports must now be submitted within **24 HOURS AFTER THE EVENT**.
- Sanctioning fees must now be paid **30 DAYS AFTER SUBMISSION OF POST EVENT REPORT**.

UPDATE 5

SANCTION FEES FRAMEWORK

EVENT SANCTIONING POLICY CHANGE

Effective for all events held on or after March 1, 2027, BC Athletics is updating its framework for calculating the fees associated with track & field event sanctioning.

ITEM	AMOUNT
EVENT APPLICATION	NO FEE
BCA SANCTION APPLICATION	NO FEE
OFFICIALS CREW FEES	(SEE APPENDIX A)
WORLD ATHLETICS SANCTION APPLICATION	\$50.00 CDN
WORLD PARA ATHLETICS SANCTION APPLICATION	NO FEE
NON-MEMBER EVENT LICENSE	\$5.00 PER PARTICIPANT

ALL SANCTION FEES WILL BE SUBJECT TO AN ANNUAL INCREASE

RATIONALE

- **FEE-FOR-SERVICE PROGRAM:** Event sanctioning is a service provided by BC Athletics that gives hosts access to the benefits of sanctioning, including access to BC Athletics officials.
- **CURRENT MODEL DOES NOT REFLECT EVENT DEMANDS:** Sanctioning fees have historically been based on athlete participation, without accounting for the number of events offered or the number of officials required to deliver the competition.
- **UPDATED FEE FRAMEWORK:** To make the sanctioning program more sustainable and better reflect the resources required to deliver each event, fees will be based on the NUMBER OF EVENTS AND OFFICIATING CREWS REQUIRED, rather than athlete participation alone.

APPENDIX A | OFFICIALS CREW FEES

OFFICIALS CREW FEE

Officials Crews are based on the minimum number of officials required (see: Sanctioned Event Officials Requirements) for sanctioned events and the meet category (see: [Athletics Canada Officials Policy](#))

PER COMPETITION DAY

OFFICIALS ASSIGNMENTS	TYPE OF EVENT ¹		
	LOCAL MEETS ²	PROVINCIAL MEETS	WA SANCTIONING
REFEREE FEE 1 DISCIPLINE ³	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00
REFEREE FEE 2 DISCIPLINE	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$60.00
REFEREE FEE 3 DISCIPLINE	\$80.00	\$80.00	\$80.00
TRACK CREW	\$80.00	\$160.00	\$280.00
WALKS CREW	\$20.00	\$80.00	see below ⁴
CALL ROOM CREW	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$40.00
SHORT THROWS CREW	\$20.00	\$40.00	\$60.00
LONG THROWS CREW	\$20.00	\$60.00	\$80.00
HORIZONTAL JUMPS CREW	\$20.00	\$40.00	\$60.00
HIGH JUMP CREW	\$20.00	\$40.00	\$60.00
POLE VAULT CREW	\$20.00	\$60.00	\$80.00
COMBINED EVENT CREW ⁵	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00

NOTES

1. New terminology (see: [ATHLETICS CANADA OFFICIALS POLICY](#))
2. Local meet results will not be certified except for Junior Development events.
3. Single Discipline of one of the 3 main disciplines: Throws, Jumps, Track events. (e.g. throws meet, distance carnival etc.)
4. WA Sanctioned walks will be based on the costs associated with bringing in 3 recognized walks referees from across Canada. (e.g. travel, hotel, etc.)
5. The Combined Events Crew involves the referee only. Total cost for a combined events will require each individual crew to be included based on the combined event that is being hosted.