



LABEL ROAD RACES REGULATIONS

(In force from 18 November 2020)

1. Labels for Road Races

- 1.1. The “World Athletics Label Road Races” programme gathers the world’s leading road races (‘Races’). A World Athletics Label denotes high standards in event organisation, safety and runner experience, application of the World Athletics Competition Rules, support from public authorities to the event and a financial commitment to anti-doping. The Labels also categorise elite competitions, with implications on ranking points available to international elite athletes, and Olympics and World Championships qualification slots offered by the highest-categorised competitions.
- 1.2. These regulations define the criteria that must be met to obtain Labels for 2021.

2. Application Procedures

- 2.1. The following categories of Races can apply for a Label:
 - 2.1.1. Races over the following official distances for which World Records are recognised (see World Athletics Rule 32 of the Competition Rules (previously Rule 261 of the Competition Rules)): 5km – 10km – Half Marathon – Marathon.
 - 2.1.2. ‘Classic races’ over standard or non-standard distances.
- 2.2. Races can only be granted a Label if the Race has taken place for at least 2 consecutive years prior to 2021.
- 2.3. There shall be 3 Labels in 2021:
 - 2.3.1. World Athletics Label
 - 2.3.2. World Athletics Elite Label
 - 2.3.3. World Athletics Elite Platinum Label
- 2.4. Application for Platinum Labels shall only be accepted from Races that had been granted the Platinum Label in 2020 (irrespective of whether the race took place or not).
- 2.5. “Elite” and “Elite Platinum” Labels are awarded to competitions, therefore an Elite Label event with a men’s and a women’s race has 2 Elite-Label competitions. Where an event hosts both a men’s and a women’s race, both competitions are subject to the Label criteria, and the Label is awarded to both competitions.
- 2.6. Nothing in Clause 2.5 prevents applications being submitted from single-gender competitions.
- 2.7. Elite and Elite Platinum Label Races are “International Competitions” as defined in the Generally Applicable Definitions.

2.8. Applications shall be submitted by the date stated in the application form issued by World Athletics to Member Federations and Race Organisers.

2.9. The acceptance or rejection of an application is at the sole discretion of World Athletics.

3. Elite Race Requirements

3.1. In these Regulations references to ‘Gold’ ‘Silver’ and ‘Bronze’ Labels are to the different tiers of road races either held prior to 2021 by or applied for in the future by Race Organisers and which categorise the road race and level of competition within it.

3.2. Races that held a Label in 2020 and wish to apply for an upgrade for 2022 (e.g. Bronze to Silver, Bronze to Gold, Silver to Gold), and Races that obtain a Label for the first time in 2021 and wish to apply for Silver or Gold Label in 2022 must have in their 2021 Race edition at least 5 athletes per gender (irrespective of their nationality) with at least one World Athletics legal performance in 2019, 2020 or 2021 equivalent to or exceeding 1,080 points as per the official “Scoring Tables of Athletics - Outdoor” in the following events: 5,000m, 10,000m, 10KM, 15KM, 10 Miles, 20KM, Half Marathon, 25KM, 30KM and Marathon (examples: women with 2:35:27 in the Marathon, or 33:30 in the 10KM; men with 28:34.35 in the 10,000m, or 2:14:40 in the Marathon). The above requirement can also be met through performances recorded at the 2021 Race edition. Races may apply in advance of their race to World Athletics for dispensation (for example where there are travel or entry restrictions affecting the athletes) from this requirement which may be granted at World Athletics’ sole discretion in writing. Compliance with the above requirement alone does not guarantee a Label in 2022, as the full set of criteria to meet will be defined in the Label Regulations 2022 when they are issued.

3.3. For all other races, there are no requirements in 2021 as to elite athletes to invite. In any case, races are on notice that any regulations issued in 2022 may take into account the quality of the elite athlete fields in 2021.

4. Financial obligations for the funding of dedicated road races anti-doping programmes

4.1. Label Fee. A condition of receiving a World Athletics Label is that Race Organisers are required to pay a “Label Fee”, to contribute to the funding of the dedicated Races anti-doping programme. The Label Fees for 2021 are as follows:

	WA Label	Elite	Elite Platinum
Marathons	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$50,000
Any other distance	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$20,000

For single gender Races the amounts are halved.

4.2. Athletes and Athletes' Representatives Contribution.

In all Elite and Elite Platinum Label Races, there shall be a levy on the published gross prize money (i.e. before any penalties and taxes) for the top 8 ranked elite athletes. This levy represents the elite athletes' and athletes' representatives' contribution to the anti-doping fund. The amount of this levy shall not be more than 5% of the gross prize money and the exact amount will be determined no later than 14 December 2020 and is dependent on the number and type of Labels granted by World Athletics. The contribution will be deducted by Race Organisers from the sums paid to elite athletes and paid by the Race Organiser directly to World Athletics.

5. **Appearance negotiations, athletes' contracts, prizes and payment terms**

- 5.1. Race Organisers may only conduct negotiations for the appearance and promotion of elite athletes:
 - 5.1.1. through the Athletes' Member Federation;
 - 5.1.2. directly with the Athletes (in this case, the relevant Member Federation must be informed); or
 - 5.1.3. through duly authorized Athletes' Representatives (ARs)
- 5.2. A complete list of registered ARs is available from World Athletics website at <https://worldathletics.org/athletes/athlete-representatives>
- 5.3. As part of the post-race report, upon written request from World Athletics, Race Organisers must provide a list of both the international elite athlete and their Athlete Representative with whom the Race Organiser negotiated the participation of international elite athlete.
- 5.4. A contract established in good faith by both parties in compliance with World Athletics Rules governing International Competitions and any applicable laws of the host country of the event and outlining clearly the arrangements between the Race Organiser and the contracted athlete shall be signed and respected by both parties.
- 5.5. Race Organisers shall pay all sums due to the contracted international elite athletes for reimbursement of expenses and appearance fees and any prize monies and bonus awards within the period of time specified within the contract which is normally 60 days after the receipt of doping control results conducted at the race. Suitable accommodation, meals and transportation shall be provided for the international elite athletes. As a general rule all travel expenses should be paid upon the athlete's arrival at the race venue and no later than the day before the athlete's departure from the race venue.

- 5.6. The contract between the Athlete and the Race Organiser shall state that:
- 5.6.1. any withholding taxes in respect of appearance fees, prize monies or bonuses that may be levied by the fiscal authorities of the country hosting the race. The Race Organiser shall in due course supply the Athlete or their Athlete Representative with the relevant document from the fiscal authorities certifying that any such charges have been duly paid.
- 5.6.2. any athlete who is subsequently determined to have committed a doping offence at the time of the event or is suspended from competition due to an offence committed prior to the event resulting in his/her performance at the event being invalidated, shall be liable to refund any and all sums from the Race Organisers relating to his/her performance at the event. This includes any commission paid to an Athlete Representative.
- 5.7. Prize money offered to competitors, including bonuses for times achieved shall be equal for all competitors regardless of their nationality or gender – in other words prize money for places should be equal for men and women and for nationals of the host country and athletes of other nationalities. Races may offer specific incentive prizes to nationals of the host country to encourage national participation and development.

6. Minimum Gross Guaranteed Prize Money in Elite Label Races

- 6.1. In Elite Label Races, for the overall men's and women's competitions, there shall be at minimum a prize structure as follows:

Minimum Prize money (per gender)	“Elite Label” Marathon	Other “Elite Label” distances
1 st	\$15,000	\$7,500
2 nd	\$6,000	\$4,000
3 rd	\$4,000	\$2,000
4 th	\$3,000	\$1,500
5 th	\$2,000	\$1,000
6 th	\$1,500	\$750
7 th	\$1,000	\$500
8 th	\$500	\$250

- 6.2. The amounts stated above are to be considered “minimum gross guaranteed” prizes, e.g. an athlete winning an Elite Label Marathon must win at least \$15,000 (gross before anti-doping fund contribution, penalties, taxes) irrespective of the time performance. Time and record bonuses are in addition.
- 6.3. There are no minimum prize money requirements for races categorised as a World Athletics Label (see Clause 2.3.1) Race and an Elite Platinum Label (see Clause 2.3.3).

7. Observers and Technical Delegates

- 7.1. World Athletics may nominate one Observer or International Technical Delegate (TD) Label Races. The Observer / TD will ensure compliance with all applicable Rules and Regulations and World Athletics Label Road Race Regulations and may also be available to assist the Race Organiser if such assistance is requested by the Race Director.
- 7.2. The Race Organiser will provide all necessary passes, accreditation and assistance to give to Observers and TDs access to the requested operational areas and pre-race meetings, and generally facilitate their work.
- 7.3. World Athletics will send to the Race Director a copy of the report completed by World Athletics Observer/TD whenever relevant.
- 7.4. The Race Organiser shall pay the following for one designated Observer or TD: economy class travel, on-site accommodation for a maximum of three nights, meals and local transport.

8. Technical

- 8.1. Races shall be organised in accordance with World Athletics Competition Rules and Technical Rules.
- 8.2. Race courses must hold a World Athletics/AIMS international measurement certificate valid at least throughout the race day. For Elite Label and Elite Platinum Label races, it is recommended that the course be “pre-verified” (i.e. measured in advance by two World Athletics/AIMS accredited measurers, one of the accredited measurers should be of “Grade A”) to ensure the accuracy of the measurement.

9. Before race day

- 9.1. It is recommended to organise a pre-race technical meeting with the international elite athletes and their representatives, where all arrangements for the race (warm-up schedule, desired, configuration of refreshment stations, how to reach the finish line in case of drop-out; etc.) must be communicated, and the pacemakers introduced to the international elite athletes. If the technical meeting is conducted in a language other than English, English translation shall be provided.
- 9.2. The Referee must be present at the technical meeting.
- 9.3. A check of the international elite athletes’ race kits and competition shoes (where applicable) shall be organised for the eve of the competition (or, for afternoon/evening competitions, no later than the morning of the race day) to ensure compliance of the international elite athletes’ race gear with the Technical Rules and Marketing & Advertising Rules and Regulations.
- 9.4. It is recommended to provide personalised bibs with names of the elite athletes, for them to wear on race day.

- 9.5. Race Organisers shall permit their international elite athletes to provide their own refreshments, in which case the elite athlete shall nominate at which stations they shall be made available to them. Refreshments provided by the international elite athletes shall be kept under the supervision of officials designated by the Race Organiser from the time that the refreshments are lodged by the international elite athletes or their representatives. Those officials must ensure that the refreshments are not altered or tampered with in any way.

10. Before the start

- 10.1. There must be adequate means to control access to secured areas (ID accreditation or similar).
- 10.2. Sign-posting in start areas shall be clear and sufficiently informative.
- 10.3. There shall be adequate, safe and well-lit space for elite runners to warm up.
- 10.4. Separate men/women changing facilities must be provided.
- 10.5. If wheelchair or hand-bike races are held with the event, there must be disabled toilets provided.
- 10.6. Efficient baggage drop-off service must be provided for both the elite and, if applicable, the mass race.
- 10.7. Starting corrals (or waves) must be seeded by pace / expected finish time.

11. Road Closures

- 11.1. The whole course must be closed to vehicular traffic, with the exclusion of official vehicles, for the duration of the event until the published cut-off time. The start will be traffic free until the last runner has started and the finish will be traffic free until the last runner finishes or the cut-off time is reached.
- 11.2. In the case of dual carriageways, only the carriageway on which the participants will run needs be closed to vehicular traffic. Whenever possible, for safety reasons, all carriageways should be closed to vehicular traffic.
- 11.3. Police and/or traffic controllers must be present at all intersections.

12. The Race

- 12.1. The original Course Measurer or other suitably qualified official designated by the Course Measurer with a copy of the documentation detailing the officially measured course shall ride in the lead vehicle during the competition to validate that the course run by the athletes conforms to the course measured and documented by the official Course Measurer. In the case of separate men and women races, a certified Measurer or other suitably qualified person should be in the lead vehicle for each race. All intermediate timing points shall be measured and marked by the Course

Measurer and included in the course map. Mile and/or kilometre markers shall be installed, prominent and easy to see.

- 12.2. In Elite and Elite Platinum Label competitions, the main Race(s) shall be started independently of the Race(s) on any other distance. Exception to this rule can be made only if the buffer between the elites taking part in the Label competition and the participants of other races is ample enough to prevent disruption to the elite race. Once the Race is started, it is essential that international elite athletes participating in the Label race do not enter in contact with persons not participating in the same race, as this would result in a violation of Rule 6.3.1 of the Technical Rules (previously Competition Rule 144) on assistance.
- 12.3. There shall be a lead vehicle preceding the lead runners to direct the runners around the course and, wherever possible, that shall also include a time clock indicating the time elapsed since the start of the race. Where it is safe to do so, in mixed races, a lead vehicle shall precede both men's and women's race leaders. The lead vehicle and any other vehicle on the course should not block the athlete's view of the shortest possible path. Where possible, for Elite Label and Elite Platinum Label races, a distinctive line of any colour should be painted on the course to indicate the shortest possible route.
- 12.4. The Referee, or designated race official, shall have the possibility follow the leading groups of a road race closely, on a motorbike or bicycle, if he or she so determines. The Referee can give warnings in case of rule violations and, for particularly serious cases, disqualify athletes.
- 12.5. In Elite Platinum Races, a photo-finish device shall be utilised to determine the placings in case of close finishes.

13. Pacing

- 13.1. Pacemakers are authorised and should be clearly identifiable through a distinctive uniform or similar. To better promote the image of all international elite athletes, a pacemaker's main bib shall include their name. If a pacemaker has no distinctive uniform, it is allowed to have the word "PACE" together with their name on the bib, or on a second bib to be placed either on the chest or on the back of the pacing athlete.
- 13.2. Athletes employed by Race Organisers as pacers are bona-fide competitors. They must start the competition together with all other international elite athletes, must be recorded in the race start list, timed like other international elite athletes, and if they complete the race they must be officially ranked.

14. Drinking/ Sponging and Refreshment Stations

- 14.1. Drinking/Sponging and Refreshment stations adequately staffed by competent personnel shall be available on the course in accordance with Rule 55.8 of the Technical Rules (previously Rule 240 of the Competition Rules).

- 14.2. Umpires or other suitably qualified officials designated by the Referee shall be present at all refreshment stations, to ensure the treatment provided to all international elite athletes is fair, and to report any violations.
- 14.3. International elite athletes may only take water or refreshments at the official stations provided by the Race Organiser.
- 14.4. Refreshments can be shared between competitors, including pacemakers. However, any continuous support from any athlete to one or more others may be regarded as unfair assistance and warnings and/or disqualifications may be applied. In mixed-gender races, the handing of a refreshment from a male to a female athlete may result in the disqualification of the latter if a situation of unfair assistance occurs.

15. Timing Data Processing and Results

- 15.1. Races must provide fully electronic timing by transponders to all finishers.
- 15.2. Official results based on the “gun time” (Note to Rule 19.24.5 of the Technical Rules) shall be made available to media, spectators and on the official race website within the shortest possible time.
- 15.3. Where available, split times shall be properly recorded and made available for statistics, records and judging purposes.
- 15.4. Races shall email the official results of the competition (at least for the top 20 male and top 20 female finishers) to statistics@worldathletics.org and editor@worldathletics.org immediately following the completion of the competition. As per the Note of Rule 19.24 of the Technical Rules (previously Rule 165.24 of the Competition Rules) with “official time” it is meant “...*the time elapsed between the firing of the starting gun (...) and the athlete reaching the finish line...*”.

16. Insurance

- 16.1. Race Organisers shall subscribe to an appropriate third-party liability insurance policy to cover the risks for which the race organisation may be held liable, including any accident which might occur to athletes and officials.

17. Medical

- 17.1. The availability of medical services shall be commensurate with the number of participants in the race and the prevailing weather conditions. A Medical Director shall be identified, and his/her contact details be provided to the TD should World Athletics appoint one for the race.
- 17.2. Race Organisers should fully comply with World Athletics Competition Medical Guidelines in the organisation of the medical services provided to participants. As part of the post event report, Medical Directors will be required to share with World Athletics anonymised, aggregated data on medical encounters.

18. Pre-competition and in-competition Anti-Doping Tests

- 18.1. Four weeks prior to race day, Race Organisers shall submit to the Athletics Integrity Unit ('AIU') by email their most up-to-date provisional entry lists, as well as details on the official hotel where the international elite athletes are to be accommodated.
- 18.2. The AIU will determine based on the elite field:
- 18.2.1. Whether World Athletics / the AIU is Testing Authority for the Competition, or if instead it's delegated to the country's National Anti-Doping Organisation; and
- 18.2.2. The minimum number of samples to be collected for in-competition tests (in Elite and Elite Platinum Races, this number will be at the very least 3 per gender).
- 18.3. All tests shall be conducted in accordance with the World Athletics Anti-Doping Rules and Regulations at the expense of the Race Organiser.
- 18.4. The doping samples shall be analysed by a WADA accredited laboratory.

19. Communications

- 19.1. On-site Video Screen
- 19.2. All Platinum Label Races must provide in the finish area at least one giant video screen to allow spectators to follow the race.
- 19.3. Race Website
- 19.4. Elite and Elite Platinum Races should have a dedicated website with at minimum start-lists and results in English. For Elite Platinum Races, a fully-functional website in English is required.

20. International Broadcast Requirements

- 20.1. For Elite and Elite Platinum Label Races World Athletics will publish the detail of any requirements pertaining international broadcast requirements for Label Races.

21. TV Coverage to World Athletics

- 21.1. If requested by World Athletics Race Organisers will provide full race footage ("Dirty International Feed"), in the form of a web-link to a video-sharing website (YouTube, Vimeo, YouKu, etc.) or a digital file. This is for reviewing purposes only, and World Athletics will NOT have the right to use any of this footage unless approved in writing by the Race Organiser.
- 21.2. Upon request of World Athletics, the Race Organiser shall provide a broadcast-quality record of the competition ("Clean Feed"), allowing World Athletics to use, free

of charge, up to five minutes of footage, unless existing media rights contracts prevent the Race Organiser from doing so.

22. World Athletics Branding and Promotion

22.1. All Race Organisers are recommended to:

22.1.1. Produce and display, at their cost, at least two promotional, perimeter boards or banners (using artwork provided by World Athletics) in the finish area within the final 100 metres, and/or prominently display the World Athletics Road Race Label logo on the finish gantry, as part of the non-commercial partner recognition programme. The placement of the boards and/or logos should ideally be visible in key broadcast views.

22.1.2. Display the relevant Road Race Label logo on the homepage of the race website.

22.1.3. Include the relevant Road Race Label logo all promotional printed and digital material (examples may include marketing campaigns, posters, brochures, leaflets, official programme, start lists, results, press and victory ceremony backdrops social media, etc.).

22.1.4. Allow a full-page advert in any official programme made available to spectators or media artwork provided by World Athletics in line with specifications provided by the Race Organiser.