



TRACK & FIELD LEAGUE RULES

Generally to British Athletics rule book unless otherwise stated in the league rules

MANAGEMENT

- The league shall be controlled by an annual meeting to be held on a date set by the AGM each year.
- Each club may send 2 delegates to the annual meeting. Only 1 will be allowed to vote.
- The chairman shall be elected from the delegates present.
- All rule changes shall be decided at the meeting and the meeting will decide whether these will be effective for the ensuing season or for the year after.

LEAGUE STRUCTURE

- The number of divisions and their composition will be decided by the annual meeting. Preference shall be given to teams already competing in the league for places in the ensuing season. This depends on the number of teams in each division.
- Promotion and relegation will normally be decided on a two up two down basis.
- For example, the bottom two teams in Division One shall be offered places in Division Two in the following season, and the top two teams in Division Two will be offered places in Division One for the following season. The same applies for division 2 & 3.
- This will depend on the number of teams in each division.
- The league coordinator in consultation with member clubs will decide.

COMPETITORS

- Shall be first claim members of competing clubs.

AFFILIATION FEES

- Shall be decided annually at the general meeting.
- Payment must be made by April 1.
- Cheques should be made payable to 'Heart of England League' or by BACS.

ADMINISTRATION

- The league will have a website www.hofe-league.org.uk that will contain key information that is needed by clubs.
- The League and Website coordinator will manage the website and act as a conduit for communicating to clubs.
- Each club will have a nominated central coordinator who has the responsibility of liaising with the league and their own club members.

COMPOSITION OF TEAMS

- There shall be a Male and Female section and age groups will be in line with the UKA rules.
- The Male's will consist of 3 age groups - Under 13, 15 & 17.
- The female's will consist of 3 age groups - Under 13, 15 & a combined Under 17 Girls and Women.
- Under 11s in the H of E league should be 9 or 10 on 31st August within the competition year i.e. 1st October to 30th September. Variants relating to specific events e.g. throws and hurdles for the combined Under 17 Girls and Women are explained in the respective rules.
- The Under 11 age group of Male and Females will not score for the main league.

MATCH RESULTS

- The central match coordinator will provide to each club computerised declaration sheets.
- Match organisers must send each club & the central match coordinator a fully checked set of results within 5 days of the fixture.
- In the absence of a central match coordinator for all the divisions, each division shall appoint its own Organiser who will be responsible for checking & collating the results and for calculating the final results for the season.
- This person will then be responsible for sending the final results to the division team managers and to the League Coordinator for inclusion in the website.
- Results of each event must be displayed by the promoting club on the day of the competition.

AWARDS

Main League

- The winners of each of the six age groups in each division shall receive a trophy to retain.
- There shall be trophies presented to the winners of the combined Male group and to the winners of the combined Female group and to every Division Champion each season.

Under 11's

- The Under 11s will have their own discrete scoring, with a trophy for both groups after all matches have been completed.
- The make up of the teams will be 6 x boys and 6 x girls.
- The Under 11s will compete in 75m, Long Jump, Howler and 600m.
- Of those 4 events, each athlete can compete in 3 events plus a relay in any combination of Scoring or Non Scoring events on one day.
- All scoring athletes will wear the designated club letters and non scoring athletes will wear the designated club numbers. (This will potentially require Team Managers to ensure that letters and numbers are swapped accurately if a single athlete is designated as both scoring and/or non scoring in various events).
- A mixed team i.e. 2 boys and 2 girls will compete in a non scoring 4 x 100m relay.
- There will also be gold, silver & bronze medals for the season's best performance in each event by the boys & girls after all matches have been completed.

TEAM COMPOSITION

- Two competitors per event per age group, except in the High Jump, where each club will be allowed only one competitor per age group.
- A competitor may not compete in two age groups on the same day.
- Team Managers should use their best endeavours to grade athletes correctly as A or B
- The Under 17 & Women should prioritise Under 17 athletes where possible. However, athletes in older age groups, i.e. U20, 23 and seniors are able to compete ; see throws and hurdles below.
- Team Managers should also ensure that all athletes, particularly in the throwing events and hurdles should be competent in the respective events and to have been taught the basic techniques prior to the competition.
- If the officials considered that an athlete didn't have the required skill or knowledge to throw an implement competently and safely for themselves, other competitors, officials etc (i.e. "just throwing for the points ") the team manager would be informed and the athlete could be withdrawn from the competition.
- When entering the athletes name on the declaration sheet it should be entered as for example **U23** Jane Brown **or Sen** Susan Smith.

Moving up an age Group

- There should be no movement between age groups, but in exceptional circumstances, athletes are allowed to move up 1 age group for the respective full match i.e. an athlete can compete in an older age group if the team manager or an athletes coach considered it appropriate and to the benefit of the athlete not the club (“just competing for the points”). However, the athlete must compete in any other events in that same age group throughout that meeting. They can revert back to their own age group in subsequent matches.

Number of events allowed by each competitor.

- **Irrespective of age**, each competitor may only compete in 4 events in a single match, one of which must be a relay

Guests

- Guests may not compete in the league events, however, one non scoring guest per club is allowed for 800m and 1500m races only subject to the Track Referee’s discretion and approval.
- If there are too many guests the Track Referee will use their discretion to ensure the programme is adhered to, which could mean guests may not be included in the race.
 - **Note:** *Clubs need to make sure that competitors, Team Managers (and parents) are aware that there is a risk of the Track Referee not allowing guests to save any misunderstandings on the day.*
- Guest competitor’s names must be submitted at the same time as the team declaration sheets.
- Guests will be identified by wearing a U11 number not letter.

Throws

- For safety and timing reasons long throws will alternate every season i.e. season 1; first and third matches Javelin and match 2 Discus. The following year first and third matches Discus and match 2 Javelin.
- In the Under 17 & Women age group the throws will be for **U17 athletes only**.

Hurdles

- Heights and distances for the respective age groups will be in line with British Athletics rules.
- In the Under 17 & Women age group the hurdles will be for **U17 athletes only**.

SCORING

- The points will start with the number of teams in the division.
- Example, If 8 teams:- 8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 For both A & B strings.
If 6 teams:- 6-5-4-3-2-1 For both A & B strings.

Age Groups:

- The aggregate points for each event will be totalled and the leading team will score 8 points then 7-6-5-4-3-2-1 League Points

Sections:

- Male and Female
- The League points from each of the three age groups shall be added to find the section winners.
- They will score 8 points, then 7-6-5-4-3-2-1 League Points.

Teams

- The two sections scores will be added to find the match winner, who will score 8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1
- The scores of the six age groups from each of the three matches will be added to find the age group winner.
- The scores of the two sections from each of the three matches will be added to find the section winner.
- The scores of the teams from the three matches will be added to find the League Winners.
- Aggregate scores will be used only to decide ties at the end of the season. In the case of a tie in an individual match, the league points will be shared between the teams tying.

OFFICIALS

1. The host club will provide the Starter, Marksman, Track Referee, Chief Timekeeper, Field Referee, Announcer & a recording team and shall ensure that any officials appointed by them are suitably qualified, hold an officials pass and a current certificate issued by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).
2. The above officials qualify for match points.
3. The chiefs appointed by the host club and all other officials used by any club, must 'sign in' using the Health and Safety Attendance Forms indicating their grade (level) and registration number. These forms will be supplied to the discipline chiefs appointed by the host club.
4. The host club will nominate someone to be responsible for ensuring that all equipment required is available for use on the day and that hurdles are adjustable and moved into place in a timely manner to allow the events to progress according to the timetable
5. Each club, including the host club, shall provide one qualified or competent Track Judge and one Timekeeper.
6. Each club, including the host club shall provide a team of Field officials with a minimum of 4 field officials for the long throws i.e. javelin and discus jumps and for the jumps and shot a minimum of 3.
7. **At least one of the Field officials team must be graded at Level 2b or above with Health and Safety certification** and the others must be competent. Ideally all officials should be qualified but this is not a requirement.
8. 2 points per Official are awarded for providing 5 Officials i.e 2 for a Timekeeper, 2 for a track judge and 6 for field team. This can amount to a max of 60 points across the 6 age groups. (2x5x6). Points aren't being withheld as long as there are the requisite number of competent people as previously detailed in 6 & 7 above officiating.
9. **If a club cannot fulfil all or part of their allocated officiating obligations they must inform the organising club 5 working days before the event to give them the opportunity to perhaps juggle the resources to ensure the events conform to the required safety measures.** If a club fails to inform the club in that timescale they will automatically lose their points for the respective discipline.
10. All officials must report to their Chief Officials and must also sign the Health and Safety Attendance Certification indicating their grade (level) and registration number if applicable.
11. All officials must sign in before the match starts. Failure of all individuals to sign in will automatically result in the respective officials points not being awarded.
12. Just a signature cannot be accepted as being proof of being present at the discipline at the required time and the final decision on this matter will be taken by the Chief official for each discipline on the day.
13. Host clubs are responsible for scrutinising the Health and Safety Attendance Forms and checking with the Chief Officials prior to awarding the appropriate number of points to each club for the officials provided.

NOTE : INSUFFICIENT QUALIFIED AND SUPPORT OFFICIALS

MEANS NO MATCH!

MEETING ORGANISATION

Track

- The timetable as published must be followed.
- In the 1500m A and B competitors will run together and the first athlete to finish will be the A runner.
- In all other races the A & B will be as declared, however, Team Managers must endeavour to grade athletes correctly as A or B.
- Hurdles races will be over standard distances & heights.

Field

- In the Discus, Javelin and Shot there will be 4 trials.
- In the Long Jump there will be 3 trials.
- The Athlete achieving the better performance for his/her club i.e. A or B will automatically become the A string.
- In the High Jump the starting heights will be as follows:

High Jump

Opening Heights

U13 Female	1.00m	U13 Male	1.10m
U15 Female	1.10m	U15 Male	1.20m
U17 F/Women	1.20m	U17 Male	1.30m

- For the second height onwards, the bar is to be raised at 5cm intervals.
- The winning competitor is entitled to continue jumping in height increments of their choosing.

NUMBERS AND PINS

- Clubs will be allocated letters for the main match and numbers for the Under 11s.
- Under 11s : the scorers wear the respective letters and the non scorers numbers
- Clubs will provide their own numbers, letters & pins.
- Two numbers or letters will be worn by all competitors except the High Jump, where one on the front of the vest is permitted.
- Club numbers will be a single letter for the A and a double for the B nominated competitors.

TEAM DECLARATIONS

- The League's scoring coordinator will provide to each club computerised declaration sheets.
- **Every club shall complete the forms and e mail them to the meeting Organiser a minimum of 24 hours before the start of the meeting.**
- Any alterations to be notified to the recorder on the official event competitor change sheets before the start of the event by the official Team Manager only.