

# ATHLETICS NEW ZEALAND

## Proposed amendment to Competition Regulation C4.1 Track and Field Championship – Events

The following proposal has been received from Race Walking Auckland and is now circulated for comment prior to any recommendation to the Board:

### 10,000m Track Walk Championship Event Proposal

At the Race-Walking New Zealand (RWNZ) AGM at Cambridge on Sunday 2nd September, the meeting agreed to put forward a proposal removing the Road Walks of 20Km Men, 20Km Women and 10Km M20 and W20 from the Track & Field Championship programme and replacing these with a 10,000m track walk.

#### Proposal

Hold a 10,000m track walk at the ANZ Track & Field Championships on the Sunday morning as a Championship event for Men, Women and U20M and U20W. The 10,000m distance will be a new Championship event replacing the previous Road Walks of 20Km Men, 20Km Women and 10Km M20 and W20.

#### Background

In recent years some Centres holding the ANZ Track & Field Championships have had difficulty with finding a location for the road walks and due to the lack of officials, in supplying officials for the Sunday road walk events and Sunday morning Track events. Officials are split between the Track and the Road course and those at the Walk often do not get back to the Track to officiate in other events until mid-day. This has organisational, financial and timing costs as well as personnel limitations on the organising centre.

If the walk was a track walk, then the road course costs are gone, and the availability of officials is not compromised.

There are advantages for Officials and Athletes with no road walk and a separate track walk.

- There is no remote road course to be set and no possible additional costs for road closures and traffic management.
- Officials will not be split between venues and we can involve them in either the walk or the Track and Field session, or both events at the same venue.
- The Walkers can compete at the same venue as every other athlete at the Championships.
- There is an opportunity for the Junior grades to get qualifying times for events outside of New Zealand with a track 10,000m event.

#### Making it Work

The Track walk could start at 08.45am so that it is well finished before the usual 200m events that commence at 10:00am. This enables the zero-control operation gun test to take place prior to 07:45am which allows for photo finish, events sites and call room to be set up prior to the track walk.

The proposal also fits into the review on walks being prepared by John Bowden, Out of Stadia event group coordinator for ANZ. The review focuses on the distances and proposed Championships that the walks would be conducted at.

David Sim

## **Conclusion:**

Wider comment is sought on this proposal (in support or otherwise) before any recommendation for adoption is forwarded to the Board.

For the Rules Committee:

Rod Syme (Convenor)

18 September 2018