



OVERVIEW: Effective January 1, 2023, World Athletics adopted a policy change that now requires all recognized competition marks that will be recognized for statistical purposes occur at meets/events that are endorsed by the member federation (USA Track & Field) and appear on the World Athletics Global Calendar. This is intended to ensure fair, equitable and consistent competition around the world. For competition marks to be recognized by both World Athletics and USATF (e.g., ranking points, event qualification, and records), the competition must follow the competition rules of World Athletics/USATF. **Consistent with this requirement, competitions conducted under NCAA rules are still allowed, but require completion of the procedures below to comply with World Athletics/USATF rules.** Additionally, all competitions must be listed on the World Athletics Global Calendar (beginning on March 1, 2023 meets must be on the calendar no less than 60 days prior to the event).

Most NCAA competition rules are the same or more strict than World Athletics competition rules and will require no modifications. However, there are some key rule differences between NCAA and WA that will require procedural modifications by meet management and officials to comply with WA and USATF rules. Although this writing is not meant to be an exhaustive list of differences, it tackles the critical differences that require necessary procedural modifications for acceptance by USATF and WA. The other differences (e.g., drug testing for WA records, use of video review on horizontal jumps) are typically handled through a vast range of administrative practices under the normal course of USATF certified official protocols.

- **Shoe control:** World Athletics requires endorsed competitions conduct shoe control monitoring managed by an independent shoe control official.
- **Lane violations:** World Athletics permits only one step on the line (laned races) or over the line (non-laned races) before mark is disqualified.

EXPECTATIONS: The following outlines the necessary actions and guidelines for NCAA meet directors and competition officials to ensure marks achieved at college competitions conducted under NCAA track and field competition rules are acceptable for WA/USATF purposes.

STEP ONE: Event Endorsement	STEP TWO: Rule implementation	STEP THREE: Results reporting
<p>Meet directors need to register for a World Athletics meet organizer account on the WA Global Calendar platform to have their meet/event endorsed. When completing the endorsement, meet directors will agree to follow USATF/WA competition rules.</p> <p>Note: Meets run under NCAA rules are allowed if the additional two procedures of this chart are followed.</p> <p>Endorsement requires a \$100 fee.</p> <p>USATF will review the endorsement application and work with the meet director to have the meet/event approved and included on the WA Global Calendar.</p> <p>Note: Beginning March 1, 2023, meets must be on the WA Global Calendar 60 days prior to competition.</p>	<p>Shoe control: WA/USATF-endorsed competitions shall conduct “spot check” monitoring of 5-10% of the athletes participating in the meet/event. Monitoring should be managed by an independent shoe control official with an understanding of shoes permitted by WA. Approved shoe list can be found on the Technical Information webpage. Event-specific nuances exist, and WA updates the list weekly.</p> <p>Officials shall be permitted to exercise judgment in implementing athletics shoe regulations in all WA/USATF endorsed competitions and can be conducted prior or post-competition. When a WA/USATF record is established at a WA/USATF endorsed event, shoe control must be carried out and protests shall be managed via event’s protest protocol.</p> <p>Best Practice: It is recommended, when possible, to conduct shoe control at event clerking, to enable student-athletes to wear different shoes should they attempt to check-in non-WA compliant shoes. It is also recommended that the shoe control official establish a random shoe control monitoring procedure prior to the event to ensure impartial implementation.</p> <p>Lane violations: In laned track events, any two steps on the inside lane line while running on the bend at any point during a competition, including across multiple rounds of the same event in a meet, will result in WA/USATF mark disqualification. In track events not run completely in lanes, any two steps over the line at any point during a competition will result in WA/USATF mark disqualification.</p> <p>Note: This does NOT supersede NCAA rules for NCAA qualification and NCAA conducted competition and would only disqualify athletes for mark consideration for WA/USATF purposes.</p> <p>Current NCAA rules already have USATF qualified officials positioned to monitor and report line violations, though officials shall document all lane violations solely for USATF/WA marks acceptance, as opposed to only those that would be disqualified per NCAA rules.</p>	<p>Officials conducting shoe control and lane monitoring shall share completed monitoring documents with the head official and meet director.</p> <p>Note: Monitoring documentation does not need to be submitted to WA/USATF.</p> <p>Upon receiving the WA/USATF monitoring document(s), the head official aggregates all relevant World Athletics violations (e.g., illegal shoes, lane violations).</p> <p>The head official then informs the timing/results contractor and meet director to denote all competition marks that do not count for WA/USATF purposes in the “notes” field of the results file. All annotations should note the relevant WA rule (CR 2.1A – shoes; TA 17.3 & 17.4 - lanes) in which the athlete was non-compliant.</p> <p>WA/USATF-compliant results are to be submitted to WA via online form. File type may be submitted directly via Hy-Tek software or exported as a PDF, Word, Excel, etc. within 24 hours of competition completion. While USATF typically receives results from WA, meet directors will also be prompted post-event via email to send WA-compliant results to USATF.</p>

Note: Because collegiate meets are governed by NCAA rules, athletes will NOT be disqualified from NCAA meets for failing to meet WA requirements.

For more information, please visit: [USATF Event Sanctioning webpage](#) or [NCAA Cross Country and Track and Field Rules of Competition webpage](#).

Questions may be directed to Jeff Mlynski, NCAA Assoc. Dir. of Championships and Alliances (jmlynski@ncaa.org) or Michael Nussa, USATF Assoc. Dir. High Performance Programs (michael.nussa@usatf.org)