

COMBINED EVENTS GUIDELINES

SEPTEMBER 2020

1. Introduction

As a general principle, WA Competition Rule TR 39 and if applicable TR 53 shall apply in what regards the organisation / management of combined events at European Athletics Events.

2. Timetable

The competition timetable must be built so that there shall, whenever possible, be an interval of at least 30 minutes between the time one event ends and the next event begins, for any individual athlete. If possible, the time between the finish of the last event on the first day and the start of the first event on the second day should be at least 10 hours.

The minimum period of 30 minutes is to be calculated as being the actual time between the end of the last race or trial for any athlete in the previous event to the start of the first race or trial in the next event.

Athletes may thus go directly, if needed, from the conclusion of one event to the warm-up for the next one.

When creating the Timetable, the Technical Delegate(s) shall take into consideration the location of the High Jump pit, to avoid as much as possible, having the High Jump competition interrupted by too many races (400m, 800m, 400mH ...) and avoiding thus too much delay.

Same for Pole Vault, no disrupting event (according to the stadium layout, e.g. Javelin runway) should be staged at the same time, to minimize the risk of delay.

3. Grouping and Seeding

In each separate event, except the last, of a Combined Events competition, the heats and groups shall be arranged by the Technical Delegate(s), so that the athletes with similar performances in each individual event during a predetermined period, shall be placed in the same heat or group. Season Best Performances (or Personal Best, if SB not available) shall be considered for this purpose.

When this cannot be achieved because of the timetable of events, the heats or groups for the next event should be arranged as and when athletes become available from the previous event (e.g. for Javelin Decathlon, as per results of the Pole Vault event).

In the last event of a Combined Events competition, the heats should be arranged so that the last one contains the leading athletes after the penultimate event.

The Technical Delegate(s) shall have the authority to rearrange any group if, in his opinion, it is desirable.

To increase the audience and media interest, the Technical Delegate(s) should ensure, as much as possible that:

- heats are run from the weaker to the stronger, in running events
- there's no empty lanes in running events (except in case of very late withdrawals)
- in case of consecutive groups in field events, the second group includes the best athletes
- in vertical jumps, both groups start at the same time

4. Specific Regulations

- In the Long Jump and each of the throwing events, each athlete shall be allowed 3 trials only.
- In the Track Events, only one false start per race shall be allowed without the disqualification of the athlete(s) responsible for the false start. Any athlete(s) responsible for further false starts in the race shall be disqualified by the Starter.
- In the Vertical Jumps, each increase of the bar shall be uniform throughout the competition: 3cm in the High Jump and 10cm in the Pole Vault.
- Only one system of timing may be applied throughout each individual event. However, for Record purposes, times obtained from a Fully Automatic Timing and Photo Finish system shall be applied regardless of whether such times are available for other athletes in the event.

5. Bibs

The leading athlete after each event will be given a special bib (yellow background) indicating he/she is the leading athlete, to be worn on their chest.

This special bib shall be distributed by the Combined Events Referee (or someone on his behalf), in the Combined Events Resting Area.

A set of 3 bibs/athlete may be printed in advance and handed over to the Combined Events Referee before the start of Decathlon and Heptathlon.

Athletes competing in the last heat of the 800m and 1500m shall also be given a special bib, to be worn on their chest, which will indicate their position in the competition prior to the last event. Those bibs shall also be printed in advance and handed over to the Combined Events Referee (or someone on his behalf) before the start of Decathlon and Heptathlon.

In case of transponder timing, this bib will include the transponder pouch. Transponders may be distributed at the Combined Events Resting Area or at Call Room, as per procedure to be agreed prior the the competition between the Technical Partner and the competition management.

6. Call Room

Athletes taking part in combined events must report to Call Room only at the start of each competition day. For following events, athletes must report to the combined events resting area to undergo their final check in.

7. Combined Events Resting Area

Access to the Combined events rest room is limited to the competitors and up to one other accredited person per athlete (coach, etc) who is in possession of the appropriate resting room pass.

Depending of the space available, European Athletics may advise to allocate one additional pass per team.

These passes can be collected at the TIC in the stadium the day before the start of each combined events competition.

Please refer to the Combined Events Resting Room Guidelines for further Information about requirements and management of this area.

8. Scoring

Any athlete failing to attempt to start or make a trial in one of the events shall not be allowed to take part in the subsequent events but shall be considered to have abandoned the competition. He shall not, therefore, figure in the final classification.

The scores, according to the current IAAF Combined Events Scoring Tables, shall be announced, separate for each event and as a cumulative total, to all athletes after the completion of each event.

The athletes shall be placed in order according to the total number of points obtained.

9. Event Presentation

Records referred to in each individual event shall be the Combined Events records and not the ones from that event (e.g. EB for 100m CE and not ER for 100m).

Technology should be used as much as possible to:

- Show before the last event the time gap corresponding to the points difference between the top 3 athletes.
- Show provisional total scores on the scoreboard at the finish of 1500m / 800m (show photo-finish when the provisional points difference between 2 athletes is less than 3 points.
- Inform regularly on standings and prognoses during the event

10. Start lists and results

The start lists and results shall be posted in the combined events resting room as soon as available.