

BRITISH MASTERS ATHLETIC FEDERATION



Affiliated to: World Masters Athletics and European Masters Athletics

President: Arthur Kimber

Chairman: Walter Hill

Honorary Secretary: Bridget Cushen

Honorary Treasurer: David Oxland FCA CTA

Website: bmaf.org.uk

CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The name of the Federation shall be the British Masters Athletic Federation (hereinafter referred to as the Federation).

2. Purpose

- a) To encourage, organise, regulate and administer athletics for men and women of not less than 35 years of age (hereinafter referred to as Master Athletes or Masters) in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
- b) To co-ordinate the work of the constituent Associations and Clubs (see Clause 3) and disseminate information.
- c) To be responsible for National Masters Championships under UK Athletics Rules of Competition.
- d) To ratify and register National Masters five-year age-group records.

3. Constituent Associations and Clubs

- a) The following self-governing Associations and Clubs shall be affiliated to the Federation and shall be responsible for the conduct of Masters Athletics in their own areas, subject to the general regulations of the Federation:
 - Eastern Masters Athletics Club
 - Isle of Man Veteran Athletes Club
 - Midland Masters Athletic Club
 - Northern Ireland Masters Athletic Association
 - Northern Masters Athletic Club
 - Scottish Veteran Harriers Club
 - Southern Counties Veterans Athletic Club
 - South West Veterans Athletic Club
 - Veterans Athletic Club
 - North East of England Masters Athletics Association
 - Welsh Masters Athletic Association
- b) Additional constituent organisations shall be permitted to form and affiliate to the Federation, where it is established to the satisfaction of the Council (Clause 7.) that such formation satisfies a need and furthers the aims of the Federation.
- c) All constituent Associations and Clubs shall operate on direct membership of individual athletes, shall allocate a membership number to each member and shall provide the Federation with such membership information as it shall require, including confirmation that adequate proof of date of birth (i.e. Birth Certificate, Passport or Driving Licence) has been seen by the appropriate official of the constituent Association or Club.

4. Annual General Meeting

- a) The Federation shall hold an Annual General Meeting within three calendar months after the end of the Financial Year.

- b) All members of constituent Associations and Clubs shall be permitted to attend the Annual General Meeting and to vote.
- c) The Chairman or Acting Chairman shall have a casting vote.
- d) Amendments to the Constitution shall require a two-thirds majority of those present at an Annual General Meeting.
- e) All other business shall be decided by a simple majority.
- f) A vote shall be recognised by a show of hands.
- g) At least 60 days notice of the date of an Annual General Meeting shall be given to constituent Associations and Clubs. An announcement in one of the official publications of the Federation shall be deemed to be such notice.
- h) Business and proposals which it is desired to put before an Annual General Meeting and nominations for the election of Officers of the Federation, may be submitted by the Committee of any constituent Association or Club and shall be received in writing by the Honorary Secretary at least 30 days before the date of the meeting.
- i) Where no written nominations for the election of Officers have been received, the Chairman has the right to accept nominations from the floor of that meeting.
- j) The Agenda for the Annual General Meeting and Extraordinary General Meetings shall be sent to all constituent Associations and Clubs at least 21 days before the meeting.

5. Extraordinary General Meeting

- a) An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called by the Council on application in writing by the Executive Committee of at least three constituent Associations or Clubs and may be called by the Council on its own motion.
- b) The meeting shall be held within 30 days of a request or the passing of a motion and shall only discuss the business for which it was called.

6. Officers

- a) The officers of the Federation shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall consist of the following who shall, ex officio, be members of the Council:

Chairman
 Vice Chairman, Policy & International Affairs
 Honorary Secretary
 Honorary Treasurer
 Track & Field Secretary
 Cross Country Running Secretary
 Road Running Secretary
 Race Walking Secretary
 Minutes Secretary
 Chair, England Athletics Masters Association
 Chief Operating Officer
 Marketing & Communication Officer
 IT Manager

The Officers above constitute the Executive.

- b) All Officers shall be members of constituent Associations or Clubs of the Federation.
- c) Officers shall serve until the next Annual General Meeting and shall be eligible for re-election.

- d) If the post of any Officer becomes vacant, the Council shall have the power to appoint a person to act until the next Annual General Meeting.
- e) At meetings of the Council the Officers shall not have a vote other than a casting vote when in the Chair (Clause 7.g) unless such an Officer is an official representative of a constituent Association or Club (Clause 7.a(i))
- f) The Executive shall meet at least four times in each financial year and additional meetings may be called on the request of at least five members.
- g) A quorum shall consist of not less than five members.
- h) In any tied vote at an Executive meeting the Chairman or Acting Chairman shall have a casting vote.
- i) The Minutes Secretary shall maintain Minutes and records of all business and the names of those present.

7. Council

- a) The Council shall consist of the Officers of the Federation together with two representatives nominated by each of the Northern Ireland Masters Athletics Association, the Scottish Veteran Harriers Club and the Welsh Masters Athletics Association and one representative from the England Athletics Masters Association and each of the remaining constituent organisations.
- b) Each constituent body shall introduce its representative(s) at the Annual General Meeting and may change its representative(s) at any time.
- c) The Council shall be responsible for the affairs of the Federation. It shall be advised by the International Committee on international and policy matters (see Clause 8).
- d) All Council members shall be members of constituent Associations and Clubs of the Federation.
- e) The Council shall meet as often as may be required for the efficient conduct of Federation business and at least twice in each financial year.
- f) A quorum shall consist of not less than seven Councilmembers.
- g) In any tied vote at a Council meeting, the Chairman or Acting Chairman shall have a casting vote.
- h) The Executive shall have the power to co-opt members from outside the Council.
- i) The Executive shall have the power to appoint Officers of the Executive with particular responsibilities, such Officers may include Trophy Officer, Tours Officer, Sales Officer, Championship Liaison Officer and such other as the Executive may from time to time decide. The Council shall prepare terms of reference for all appointed Officers.
- j) The Council shall have the power to appoint committees to investigate particular problems or organise specific events. The Council shall also have the power to authorise the Executive to establish such incorporated organisations as deemed appropriate to organise and administer the work of the Executive including IT, events and finance. The incorporated organisation may include a company limited by shares, a company limited by guarantee, charity, trust or other such body that is or may become an incorporated organisation.
- k) The Council shall maintain a National Register of masters athletes who are members of Associations and Clubs affiliated to the Federation.
- l) The Minutes Secretary shall maintain a Minutes Book and record therein all business and the names of those present.

8. International Committee

- a) The International Committee shall consist of nine members of the Council, viz

- I. The Vice Chairman of the Federation will be the Chairman of the International Committee and shall not have a vote unless acting as a representative under sub para 8.a iii. or iv. or giving a casting vote in the case of a tied vote.
 - II. The Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer of the Federation shall be ex officio members who shall not have a vote.
 - III. One member from each of:
 - the Northern Ireland Masters Athletics Association
 - the Scottish Veteran Harriers Club
 - the Welsh Masters Athletics Association.
 - IV. Two members to represent the remaining constituent organisations.
- b) Membership of the International Committee shall be determined by the nominated representative of constituent organisations as soon as possible after each Annual General Meeting.
 - c) The International Committee shall be responsible only for the conduct of international and policy matters and shall make recommendations on these to the Council.
 - d) A quorum shall be not less than three voting members.
 - e) The International Committee shall meet as required for the efficient conduct of the Federation's international and policy business and not less than twice in each financial year.
 - f) An appropriate Officer shall maintain a Minutes Book and record therein all business of each meeting and the names of those present.
 - g) The International Committee shall have the power to co-opt from outside the Committee; co-opted members shall not have a vote except as delegates of the Federation at International meetings if so appointed.

9. President and Vice President

A President, nominated by the Council, shall be ratified annually at the Annual General Meeting.

10. Life Vice Presidents

Life Vice Presidents, up to a maximum of ten at any one time, nominated by a constituent Association or Club, shall be confirmed at the Annual General Meeting to honour persons who have rendered outstanding service to the Federation.

11. Subscriptions

The annual affiliation fees of constituent Associations and Clubs shall be determined for the following year at each Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting and shall be due on 1st June in the year following the Annual General Meeting.

12. Finance

1. The Financial Year of the Federation shall run from 1st June to 31st May each year. The Accounts of the Federation shall be prepared at 31st May each year and submitted to the Annual General Meeting that follows the financial year end.
2. All cheques drawn on Federation Funds shall be signed by any two of the nominated signatories.
3. The Honorary Treasurer is permitted to make on-line payments up to a maximum of £5,000 subject to receiving approval of the relevant invoices or expense claims from an appropriate Officer of the Federation. Payments in excess of £5,000 should first be approved by the Chairman or Honorary Secretary of the Federation.
4. Best endeavours will be used to ensure that the Honorary Treasurer has appropriate professional qualifications.
5. The Honorary Treasurer will be required to submit the annual Accounts for independent examination if so required by the Council or by resolution at an Annual General Meeting.

13. Rules of Competition and By-Laws

The Council shall have the power to publish and enforce such as Rules of Competition and By-Laws as are

considered beneficial to the affairs of the Federation.

14. Distributions/Dissolution

No distributions shall be made in the normal course of business to either the Affiliated Clubs or the members of those clubs. In the event of the dissolution of the Federation any assets will be distributed to the Affiliated Clubs at the discretion of the Council.

As amended by the Annual General Meeting held in Birmingham, on 10 August 2019

APPENDIX

British Masters Records

To claim a British Masters Record, an athlete must be affiliated to the BMAF and /or UKA at the date of the performance.

For the sake of clarity;

1. A Masters Athlete with dual citizenship can opt to affiliate to only one nation's Masters Federation and this will determine for which nation he/she can compete and for which nation he/she will be eligible to claim records.
2. A Masters Athlete may change his/her affiliation from one nation's Masters Federation to another but only with written permission of both Federations.
3. A British Masters Athlete who competes for a foreign country without changing his/her affiliation will not be eligible to claim a British Masters record and may be disqualified from that competition by the organisers.