

Extract from Rules for Competition
(Effective from 1st April 2006)

RULE 7 AGE GROUPS

(1)The Competition Year for all athletic activities shall extend from 1st October to 30th September in the following year.

(2)The operative date for determining membership of age groups for all athletes under the age of 17 shall be for Track and Field and Race Walking, the 31st August at the end of the Competition Year, and for all other disciplines, the 31st August prior to the commencement of the Competition Year.

NOTE: In Northern Ireland the qualifying date for all disciplines is taken at 31st December at the end of the year of competition.

(3)Track and Field age groups are identified in Rule 107.

(4)Road Running age groups are identified in Rule 207.

(5)Race Walking age groups are identified in Rule 30

(6)Cross Country age groups are identified in Rule 507.

RULE 8 TEAM EVENTS

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RULE 9 COUNTY QUALIFICATION (ENGLAND AND WALES)

(1)County Championships are open to all eligible athletes possessing a County Qualification.

(2)A County qualification may be acquired as follows:

(a) By birth (See also Rule 4(1)).

(b) By nine months' continuous bona fide residence in the County immediately prior to the date of the competition.

(c) By service in a Unit of HM Forces stationed in the County for nine months immediately prior to the date of competition. Residential qualification in the case of anyone serving in the Royal Navy or Royal Marines is determined by the shore establishment, or in the case of a sea-going ship, by the manning port of such ship. Temporary absence on duty shall not break a qualification acquired under this paragraph.

NOTE: A Regimental Depot affiliated to a County Association may include in its team any duly qualified member of a service battalion.

(3)Competitors who have qualified, and competed under 2(b) and (c) retain the qualification until they have acquired residential qualification and competed in the Championship of another County or represented another County in an Inter-County Championship.

(4)A student at school, college or university does not acquire a residential qualification by residence during term time only.

(5)An athlete who has competed in a County Championship, (other than as allowed under 10 below) or represented a County in an Inter-County Championship, may not compete in the Championship of, nor represent another County in that competition year.

(6)County Inter-Team (including relay) Championships are open to:

(a) Any Club affiliated to the County Association, fulfilling the appropriate requirements of Rule 2(4).

(b) Any Unit of HM Services stationed in the County.

(c) Any school, college or business house in the County.

Every member of a team must hold a County qualification.

(7)A County may, at its discretion, limit Team Championships to affiliated Clubs.

(8) Athletes whose first claim Club is not affiliated to the County Association may compete for their second claim Club in a County Inter-Team Championship if they possess the necessary County qualification. Subject to the application of this Rule athletes may represent their Club from the date of election to the Club.

(9) A Club may affiliate to more than one County.

(10) A County may at its discretion relax the residential qualification in the case of Juniors and younger athletes, and of Seniors in residence at a college or university, but competition in any such events shall not be deemed to have established a County qualification.

(11) Where County boundaries are changed by law, affecting the place of birth or residence of an athlete, moving it from County A to County B the following shall apply:

(a) If athletes have already competed for County A or in the Championships of County A under (2) above, they shall retain the existing birth or residential qualification unless notice is given in writing to the Honorary Secretary of County A that they wish to be qualified for County B.

(b) If athletes have not competed for County A or in a Championship of County A under (2) above the place of birth or residence shall be deemed to have been in County B and any period of residence in County A to have been in County B.

(12) Competitors in an Inter-County Championship must possess a County qualification under (2) above for the County they represent