

Supporting the athletes – providing improved competition in the more specialised events

Background and context to the meeting

We all recognise that some events (e.g. hurdles, triple jump) have very few competitors in a standard MCAA T&F League match. To provide more competitive fields in these events we will draw together athletes from all divisions into an extra match at a reasonably central location. The selected events will also remain in the other four standard league matches. The league AGM agreed to this innovation and so we have a fifth round for the league – one in which we promote a single pan-division match to cover selected events. The other four rounds of matches will proceed as per usual with, to re-iterate, their standard full timetables.

This document provides a summary of how this match will operate.

The same information is contained in the MCAA T&F League rules and constitution 2024 – but is drawn together here for convenience.

- 1) **Date:** Saturday 15 June 2024.
- 2) **Venue:** Nuneaton (with photo-finish booked).
- 3) **Match format:**
 - a. This is a **scoring match and league points will be awarded** – these will add to the divisional league tables and standings.
 - b. There will be eight **scoring events** for both men and women. The scoring events are: **Sprint Hurdles, 400H, 3k Steeplechase, 400m, PV, TJ, HJ, HT.**
There will also be non-scoring 100m races **and non-scoring Shot Putt events.**
 - c. Races and field event pools will be seeded based on Power of Ten performances from either 2022 or 2023.
 - d. Teams can enter two athletes in all scoring events (effectively A and B string – giving 16 entries). For each sex (i.e. same for men and women) a club can also enter a single additional string athlete into ONE of the track events and another single C string athlete into ONE of the field events. This means at maximum a club can enter two men and two women C strings spread across track and the field. Clubs choose the events into which they will, if the club wishes to, enter their C strings. As all events are on a “time/distance trial” basis a club’s highest performance in each event will of course be counted as A string, second highest performance B string etc..
- 4) **Match scoring:**
 - a. From the seeded heats, jump/throw pools, results will be drawn together on a "time trial"/"distance trial" basis into the separate league divisions. These are then scored as per a standard league match. This will be done in the results programme – it will have no effect on the running of the races or field events
 - b. Given that we only have around half the usual individual events (8 vice 17) the league points are half the usual. Thus for a 6 team division the league points available are: 3, 2.5, 2, 1.5, 1, 0.5.
- 5) **Declarations:**
 - a. Clubs are asked to **provide their initial team declarations a week in advance** (by midnight on 8 June) so that we may finalise the timetable. As per usual rules, teams are allowed to update these declarations right up to the event taking place – but please do not take this as a chance to send in unrealistic team declarations – we want to give athletes a reliable timetable. (See also 8b below re. guest 100m races.)
 - b. Clubs are also **asked to provide officials' numbers, and their levels**, by midnight on 8 June. Names and EA numbers are not required at this point.

- 6) **Draft timetable** can be found linked from the [MCAA T&F League webpage](#). This is based on event numbers added across all divisions from the 2022 June matches.
- 7) **Officials**
 - a. **Clubs will score points for officials** – up to three officials. Clubs are asked to provide two field officials and either a TK or a TJ (clubs can do more if they want). You get 5 points for each qualified official, or 2.5 points if not qualified, but NO penalty points if you don't have officials.
 - b. The league committee will arrange the “chiefs” and build TK, TJ, FJ teams based on the officials declared by the clubs.
 - c. We will offer the match as a chance for new officials (i.e. in training) to gain mentoring and a practical experience day.
- 8) **Guest 100m races and guest shot putt.**
 - a. Based on our 2023 experience we estimate the scoring track events will last around 4.25 hours. The long throw (HT) is expected to last longer (multiple pools, men and women).
 - b. We therefore invite clubs to enter athletes in guest 100m races.
 - c. We recognise that most athletes have some option for a second event (both hurdles, sprint hurdle and 100m guest race, PV and sprint etc.) but possibly not hammer throwers. We have therefore added a non-scoring shot putt event as an option for athletes.
- 9) **Bid Numbers** will be provided at the venue on 15 June.
- 10) The League Chairman and League Secretary will lead the match organisation supported by the league management committee.