

Proposals for consideration by the 2025 AGM of the MCAA T&F League

1. Proposal from Burton AC

Burton.1:

We [Burton AC] propose the introduction of minimum standards for scoring points in the throwing events.

This season we observed that some athletes, who were only entered to fill events, were deliberately throwing implements into the ground simply to register a mark or of very poor standard in both men and women events. This disrupted the competition and caused delays to the timetable. By setting minimum standards to score, we would eliminate these 'filler' performances and ensure a higher-quality competition.

Proposed minimum standards:

Shot Put –	Men: 8m		Women: 7m
Hammer –	Men: 22m		Women: 20m
Javelin –	Men: 25m		Women: 21m
Discus –	Men: 20m		Women: 18m

2. Proposals from Newport AC

Newport.1:

A standard is introduced in the throws (as in the Hammer in the technical event) to help assist with numbers, length of event and safety of athletes and officials.

Newport.2:

The 800m B/C athletes' race is combined due to the fact that they are now scored together and that in all 1500m above events all athletes compete together already, however, in the 800m this wouldn't be suitable due to the pace of the event but perhaps a staggered start could be introduced on times.

League Sec note: the existing rules recommend combining races where possible with the specific wording being:

"In shorter races [i.e. less than 1500m] where there are sufficient lanes for all the athletes, races should be combined. This should be done in a way that combines entire races (for example all B, C and D (ambulant) string athletes in a single race or A, B, C and "D"(ambulant) together). Whenever races are combined in this way, in order that athletes compete together, the highest placed competitor from a club will be considered as the highest string, next placed athlete second string and if all three races are combined third placed athlete the C string. D stings are scored separately."

3. Proposals from Telford AC

Telford.1:

The Team Declaration Portal is reinstated. YDL league use a team manager portal and it is much easier for team managers and results recorders

Telford.2

Instead of Guest athletes each club is allowed A/B/C athletes. This would not impact the timetable and would make it easier for everyone. *[League Sec note: I am awaiting further clarification on this one.]*

4. Proposals from the small group set-up by the 2024 AGM to consider the impact of UKA's age group changes.

Small-group.1:

That the minimum age group allowed by the league is U18 and that rules currently applied to U17 athletes be applied to U18 athletes (for example how many events an athlete may compete in).

Small group.2: that we accommodate, as guests, U18 and U20 hurdlers where possible (and, in the interests of fairness, masters' hurdlers).

Therefore we allow guest competitors, **as long as they are pre-declared**, as follows:

- 1) 100mH: U18 women allowed as guests over their own hurdle height (separate lanes with a gap) in 100mH. (U20 and older height 84cm, U18 76cm). This would also allow M50 and M55 athletes (100m 91cm) to guest.
- 2) 110mH: U18 and U20 allowed as guests over their own hurdle heights in 110mH. (U18 at 91cm, U20 at 99cm). This would also allow M35-M45 (110H at 99cm) to guest.
- 3) 400mH. U18 men (84cm) and M50/M55 (also 84cm) be allowed to run over their own hurdle heights as guests.

Small group.3: Experiment with reducing the length of the overall timetable.

That for two of the standard matches we remove one long throw and one track event in order to shorten the meetings and to gather feedback on its impact. For one match we would remove HT(men) and steeplechase(women); for the other match we would remove HT(women) and steeplechase(men). (Note: the sprint hurdles could be swapped for the steeplechase as an alternative proposal.) The match length for each of these two meetings would reduce by around 90 minutes.

5. Proposals from the League Management Committee

Committee.1:

That a host club must nominate an overall meeting manager to oversee the entirety of the match.

Committee.2:

That we introduce the following events into the technical match:

- 1) 400m wheelchair (scoring)
- 2) 100m wheelchair (non-scoring)
- 3) Ambulant para SP (scoring)
- 4) 3000m race walk (non-scoring)

Committee.3:

For the technical match, clubs be asked to pay a small charge (suggest £2) for any pre-match event declarations that are not fulfilled on the day. (Note: an issue we have had with timetabling and seeding at the technical match is that it is easy for

clubs to declare athletes, just in case they can cover an event, or possibly just in case they can make the match. This can spoil races for other athletes.)

Committee.4:

For the technical match: that we have different starting heights for the two PV pools.

We are always keen to offer flexibility, for example to allow athletes to swap out of their seeded pool into the alternative – potentially to accommodate other events or to satisfy travel demands. An issue for 2025 was that this created two very long PV competitions – both ran from the MCAA T&F league minimum starting height to essentially the same match maximum height. We did look at having different start heights in 2025 but as it was not enshrined in our rules, clubs, quite naturally, wanted to hold on to the flex of pool swapping and asked for two identical PV pools (in terms of starting height).