



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ULTRARUNNERS

IAU WORLD RECORDS GUIDELINES

Date of entry into force: January 1st, 2022

V.3 (Ratified by the IAU Council in Berlin on 29 August 2022)

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1.- Introduction

1.1

Following the Constitution presented to, and accepted by, Congress at Belfast, Northern Ireland in June 2017 one of the objects of IAU is to frame regulations for the establishment of World Best Performances (referred to as WBP's) and to ratify these performances.

IAU Council, at successive meetings in January 2019, August 2021 and September 2021 approved amendments to the 2017 version which are incorporated in these Guidelines.

1.2

Criteria for IAU WR's, WBP's, CBP's and WABP's are:

- a. All events need to take place under World Athletics (WA) regulations, where they apply, with the approval of the WA Member in the country where the event takes place.
- b. All events need to have an IAU label.
- c. Where matters are not covered by WA regulations the IAU Guidelines will apply.
- d. Road Races need to be measured in accordance with established WA procedures as required for IAU Labels. Measurement certifications of more than 5 years won't be considered for IAU WR ratification.
- e. Track races normally take place on standard 400 metre tracks (outdoors) and on standard 200 metre tracks (indoors). Performances on non-standard tracks will be considered for IAU WR as long as appropriate certification of distance and maintenance to competition standard by the national body are provided with the IAU WR application.
- f. The Federation of the host country or the Race Director may make the claim for a IAU WR or CBP on behalf of the athlete but if this is not done the athlete may also make the claim. All the official recording sheets signed by qualified officials of the race, Chief Judge, Chief Timekeeper, and the Race Referee, (with details of grade and /or officials licence number) must be forwarded to the IAU Records Committee for consideration for ratification.
- g. In the case of Road Races, the referee needs to declare that the competitors ran on the course measured and, in the case of races of a fixed time where there is no measurement judge the referee shall supervise the measurements of IAU WRs or CBP's.

- h. Only courses measured and observed in accordance with WA Technical Rule 55 paragraph 21 will be valid.
- i. WA Shoes Regulations (WA Technical Rule 5) should be applied in the race with the exception approved by IAU Council on its meeting on 19 September 2020 related to the use of “Road events” shoes specification independently of the surface on which the race is taking place.
- j. Doping control (urine) within 24 hours of the end of the competition (Not necessary for WBP’s and WABP’s)

1.3

Whilst the media freely uses the expression “World Record” concerning many performances on track and road it should be noted that no performance shall be regarded as a World Record until it has been ratified by WA. (WA Competition Rule 31 refers). WA has now ratified 100km and 50km distance on the road for world record purposes.

1.4

The IAU uses the concept of IAU World Record, Continental Best Performances, World Best Performances and World Age Best Performances. Claims for a variety of events are considered. When appropriate a performance is ratified as an IAU World Record (IAU WR), IAU Continental Best Performance (CBP) IAU World Best Performance (WBP) or an IAU World Age Best Performance (WABP). In the rest of this document mention of IAU WR includes CBP’s, WBP’s and WABP’s.

1.5

The IAU Records Committee will investigate the IAU WR, WBP or WABP application and present the claim to the IAU Council for ratification. IAU Council may delegate ratification rights to a subcommittee formed by IAU President, IAU General Secretary, IAU Director of Competition and IAU Director of Technical Operations

In the case of Senior 100 Km and 50 Km WR, the IAU Records Committee will forward relevant documentation to WA for its ratification as a World Record and comply with WA procedures.

2.- Criteria for IAU World Records / WBP / CBP / WABP

2.1

Where a IAU WR (WBP, CBP, WABP) is achieved the IAU will collect all the information required for ratification. No performance shall be considered as a IAU WR (WBP, CBP, WABP) until it is ratified as such by IAU.

2.2

For an IAU WR, WBP or CBP to be recognized a minimum of three athletes should take part in the race of the same gender as the claimer.

This paragraph (2.2) does not apply to WABPs, and it is sufficient that there is only one participant, male or female, from the relevant age group.

2.3

World Age Best Performances (WABP) are listed in 5-year Categories starting with 35 years following agreement between WA & WMA.

2.4

In races that start on one day and finish on another the age of the athlete at the start of the race shall be the age considered for a WABP.

2.5

In time-based races (6h, 12h, 24h, 48h, or 6 days), performances below 42.2 Km won't be ratified as IAU World Record, World Best Performance, Continental Best Performance or World Age Best Performance.

Performances on IAU Lists at the moment of entry into force of this rule (January 1st 2022) will be considered as IAU WR (except 6 days which will continue with the designation of Best World Age Performance).

3.- Application for performances

3.1

Application for IAU Ratification can be made by:

- a. WA Member of the Country where the event took place
- b. Race Director of the Event
- c. The athlete concerned.

Application forms are available from the IAU Website under downloads, and should be submitted in electronic form to the IAU Records Committee for consideration.

3.2

When no application is received the IAU will examine the circumstances and take the appropriate action if the IAU is made aware of the circumstances.

4.- Performances for ratification as WA World Records, IAU WR's, WBP's and CBP's

4.1

The following event(s) will be recognized by WA and WA conditions will need to be fulfilled for a performance to be ratified.

- 100km
- 50km

4.2 Performances to be considered for IAU WR's

In addition to the above, the following events will be considered for ratification as IAU WR's:

- 6 h
- 12 h
- 24 h
- 48 h
- 50 miles
- 100 miles

New events may be added to IAU Lists, by the IAU Council after a motivated proposal made by IAU Records Committee.

4.3 Performance to be considered for IAU WBP

The following event will be considered for ratification as IAU WBP:

- 6 days

4.4 Performances to be considered for IAU CBP's

The following events will be considered for ratification as IAU CBP's:

- 50 Km
- 100 Km
- 24 h

New events may be added to IAU Lists, by the IAU Council after a motivated proposal made by IAU Records Committee.

5.- Intermediate Distances

5.1

In events over a fixed distance an athlete may set a WR at an intermediate distance from the start of the race. In this case, intermediate distance will be considered only if the runner finished programmed distance.

5.2

In events over a fixed time an athlete may set a WR at an intermediate distance or time from the start of the race.

5.3

All measurements shall be made with a calibrated certified steel tape or bar or with a scientific measuring device. The steel tape, bar or scientific measuring device shall have been certified by WA and the accuracy of the measuring equipment used in the competition shall have been verified by an appropriate organisation accredited by the national measurement authority, such that all measurements can be traced back to national and international measurement standards.

Bikes with Jones Counters could also be used as an approved measurement devices.

6.- Doping Control

6.1

No new WA World Records (50 and 100km) or IAU World Records (50 miles, 100 miles, 6h, 12h, 24h and 48h) will be considered for ratification purposes without evidence of a negative anti-doping test.

No new IAU 50 Km, 100 Km or 24h CBP will be considered for ratification purposes without evidence of a negative anti-doping test.

Anti-doping procedures are not mandatory for IAU WBP 6 days and all WABP's but we recommend that Race Directors and National Associations follow the WA Rules as closely as resources allow.

6.2

Doping tests should be in accordance with current WADA and WA Rules. If race organizers anticipate that a WR, IAU WR or CBP could be achieved by an athlete in their event, then they shall ensure that the relevant anti-doping procedures are in place.

If no doping test was performed immediately after the finish of the race, the athlete should request the relevant National Antidoping Agency to perform one before 24 hours have passed from the finish of the event.

7.- Ratification Authority

7.1

The IAU Council is authorized to recognize IAU World Records, IAU World Best Performances (6 days), IAU Continental Best Performances and IAU World Age Best Performances after the IAU Records Committee has investigated the claim and has concluded that the ratification requirements are met.

The procedure to be followed is that the IAU Records Committee will investigate the IAU WR, WBP, CBP, WABP application and present the claim to the IAU Council who has to make a decision in the next convened meeting.

IAU Council could delegate its ratification powers in a subcommittee formed by:

- IAU President
- IAU General Secretary
- IAU Director of Competition
- IAU Director of Technical Operations

If this is the case, IAU Records Committee should report to all ordinary meetings of IAU Council with a summary of all IAU WR, WBP, CBP and WABP that have been ratified by the subcommittee since previous meeting.

7.2

IAU Records Committee will be chaired by IAU Director of Technical Operations who could delegate all or part of his duties to a Committee Coordinator.

Members of IAU Records Committee, including Committee Coordinator, should be appointed by IAU Director of Technical Operations after informing IAU Council.

IAU Records Committee Chair should approve any committee internal procedures for IAU WR, WBP, CBP and WABP ratification purposes.

7.3

If any member of the IAU Records Committee has any interest that may conflict with impartial judgement regarding any IAU WR, he/she must declare that interest and withdraw from any scrutiny of the IAU WR claim. If the IAU Records Committee Chair is the member with the conflict of interest, the Committee Coordinator (if such person has been appointed) or any other member of the IAU Records Committee or any other IAU Council member may be substituted. For recommendations, at least 2 members of the Record Committee must NOT be of the same nationality as the nationality of the athlete for whom the record is sought.

7.3

Any two members of the IAU Records Committee (one of them the Committee Coordinator if appointed) together with the Chairman may after appropriate scrutiny agree to recommend the Council's recognition of a new IAU WR, WBP, CBP or WABP.

8.- Publication of IAU World Records

8.1

The IAU shall update the official List of IAU WRs, WBPs, CBPs and WABP every time a new best performance has been ratified. This list shall represent the performances regarded by the IAU as being, from the date of the list, the best performances yet set by an athlete or team of athletes in each of the recognised events.

9.- Entry into force

These guidelines should be applied for any IAU WR, WBP, CBP or WABP achieved at an event that begins after 00:00:00 hours of January 1st 2022.

Appendix A Documents required for ratification of IAU WR / WBP / CBP / WABP

1. Record Application form.
2. A programme of and advertising for the event
3. Where lap times are taken on either track or road the recording sheet(s) with evidence that the differences between successive laps has been calculated (to eliminate errors caused by erroneous lap recording).
4. For road races, a copy of the Course Measurement Certificate issued by WA or one of its member federations with info about full lap length and any partial lap covered by runners before first or after last full lap.
5. For track races, one of the following:
 - a. WA code of the facility included in the race's month *WA Certified Athletics Facilities* list
 - b. WA member federation certificate (signed by General Secretary) with information about track length and date of measurement.
6. Where timing at the end of laps is by transponder or other technical device, certification by the operator, confirmed by the referee, that the device was in correct working order throughout the race. Times or distances verified in this way may be supported by evidence from manual timekeeping.
7. In the case of an athlete claiming a WABP an official document confirming the date of birth, eg. a passport or a birth certificate.
8. In the case of an athlete claiming a CBP an official document confirming the nationality, eg. a passport or a birth certificate.
9. Appropriate anti-doping certification, Therapeutic Use Exemption Forms and a copy of anti-doping collection form were collection id could be associated to the runner. (Not necessary for WBP,s (6 days) and WABP,s