

Guidance on the Reporting of Safeguarding Matters to World Athletics, by Member Federations & Area Associations

This note is intended to provide guidance to Member Federations and Area Associations in identifying what safeguarding matters must be reported to World Athletics, in accordance with the *World Athletics Safeguarding Policy* and *World Athletics Safeguarding Rules*.

There are three circumstances in which the existence of a complaint, investigation or case must promptly be disclosed to World Athletics. These are set out below:

1. Matters of World Athletics jurisdiction

Safeguarding matters involving World Athletics Officials, or any persons participating in or accredited at World Athletics Series (WAS) Events, the Olympic Games or a Congress, must be reported to World Athletics (Safeguarding@worldathletics.org) and the Athletics Integrity Unit (ConfidentialReport@athleticsintegrity.org).

2. Risk of Harm in Other Jurisdiction

Safeguarding matters which arise within one MF's (or AA's) jurisdiction, where the MF or AA believes the individual presents a risk of harm to those involved in Athletics in the country or territory of another MF or AA.

This might be due to knowledge of an individual's intention to relocate to take up employment or other form of paid or voluntary engagement within another national team, MF or AA, or similar circumstances.

3. *Serious Matters* involving *International-Level Individuals*

Safeguarding matters which fall within a MF's or AA's jurisdiction, but which involve international-level individuals operating in Athletics who either:

- a. have had their employment or voluntary functions within the MF or AA terminated, or whose license was not renewed, as a result of safeguarding-related allegations.

This would include someone who was being investigated for safeguarding allegations but resigned from their role within the MF or AA before proceedings concluded.

- b. are the subject of a provisional suspension, investigation, or sanction by the MF, AA, or an authorised third party for a *serious matter*, or have been charged in a Criminal Court for conduct which would constitute a safeguarding violation under the *World Athletics Safeguarding Rules* (section 3, Prohibited Conduct), whether in the context of sport or otherwise, and whether those charges were found proven or not.

International-Level Individual is defined as:

- a. someone who has previously been selected or appointed to attend international competitions or act as an official member of a delegation on behalf of the MF or AA, or;
- b. someone who acts as a coach or athlete support personnel to international-level athlete(s) within the MF's or AA's territory, whether or not the individual falls under that MF's or AA's jurisdiction.

This includes individuals who operate within a MF or AA's territory but who may not be members of the MF or AA (e.g. a private coach).

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Serious Matters are defined as:

matters of a safeguarding or disciplinary nature resulting or having the potential to result in a ban of more than one year. A ban means any form of restriction or limitation on their ability to work or compete within Athletics/sport).

Reporting Mechanism

Reports of any matters outlined above can be made to Safeguarding@worldathletics.org and ConfidentialReport@athleticsintegrity.org.

The information shared may be utilised for purposes of reviewing the granting of accreditation at WAS events, and shared with another MF or AA where a reasonable request is made for information on a particular individual. This might be, for example, in the context of employing an international-level coach from another jurisdiction.

Where appropriate, World Athletics will pass on reports to the Athletics Integrity Unit who may, at their discretion, conduct investigations or seek orders from the World Athletics Safeguarding Case Management Group, such as an application for a ban imposed by a MF to be extended to have worldwide effect.

Reports should contain, where possible, the name, birthdate and nationality of the individual, their role within Athletics, the charge they face or faced, the outcome of any investigation or disciplinary matter (e.g. whether the charge was found proven or not, and what sanction was imposed, if any), and a copy of the decision taken. Where necessary, the names and identities of complainant(s) and/or victim(s) may be redacted.

Any questions on this guidance can be addressed to: Safeguarding@worldathletics.org. We thank you for your collaboration.