



## NATIONAL OFFICIALS' COMMITTEE GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WORLD ATHLETICS SHOE RULE 5

### Preamble

The shoe must not give athletes any unfair assistance or advantage. Any type of shoe must be reasonably available to all in the spirit of universality of athletics. For International Competitions, at which an athlete proposes to wear a shoe that has not previously been used in International Competition, the athlete (or representative) must submit to World Athletics the specifications (i.e. size, dimensions, sole thickness, structure, etc.) of that new shoe; confirm if the new shoe is to be customized in any way, and provide information about availability of the new shoe on the open retail market.

This World Athletics (WA) Rule TR5 as it applies to shoes covers International Competition and competitions sanctioned by Member Federations where it is decided the Rules and Regulations shall apply. Athletics Canada has taken the position that these Rules and Regulations shall apply to all sanctioned competitions held in Canada, regardless of the age or level of athlete.

### Intent of Rule

- Shoes to be used in competition must be on the World Athletics Shoe Compliance List or be a 'legacy' / vintage model that is compliant with WA Rule TR5.
- Shoes must be available on the open market four months prior to use.
- Shoes must be within WA Rule TR5 specified sole and heel thicknesses.
- Shoe Rule is applicable to elite athletes in elite competitions.
  - (Rule Clarification from World Athletics states that the Rule is to be enforced at U20 and Senior National Championships, as well as any World Athletics / NACAC Permit or Label Events. All Associates of Athletics Canada are subject to compliance with the Rule.)

### How to Enforce

- Athletics Canada to ensure Rule TR5 and its enforcement is widely communicated with its Member Branches, who will be encouraged to communicate the Rule to their membership.
- Athletes are responsible for checking the World Athletics website for the Shoe Compliance List to ensure their shoes are included on the list or, are otherwise compliant with Rule TR5.
- Entry forms for National Championships for U20 and Senior Athletes and major events (i.e. World Athletics / NACAC Permit or Label Events) held in Canada and controlled by Canadian officials MUST have a shoe declaration clause.
- At the competition the athlete or representative must present shoes to be worn at the competition to TIC (Technical Information Center) prior to competition.
- If shoes are on the WA Shoe Compliance List, or are otherwise compliant with Rule TR5, they can be used. (Athletes must still report the call room and present shoes for thorough inspection prior to event)
- If shoes are not on the WA Shoe Compliance List, or are otherwise non-compliant with Rule TR5, they CANNOT be used in competition.
- Prior to the event, in the meet call room the shoes will be inspected for number of spikes, length/width/type of spikes, sole and heel thickness and cross referenced with the WA Shoe Compliance List.



- Athletes must comply with any request from Referees (whether NTO, AITO or ITO) to inspect shoes.
- It is NOT permitted to run under protest with non-compliant shoes.

#### **Call Room Requirements for Measurement**

- Sole/Heel Calipers to measure the sole and heel thicknesses are in the process of being developed for use in Canada.
- Spike Gauges to measure spike length. Spikes must fit through a square-sided 4mm gauge.
- World Athletics Shoe Compliance List (most current).

#### **Sanctioning & Penalties**

- If an athlete or representative fails to present their shoes to TIC as outlined and the shoes are found to be non-compliant, there is no opportunity to compete.
- If an athlete competes with noncompliant shoes or is deemed to have done so after the fact, the Referee may disqualify the athlete after the event (Rule CR5:12.)
- Any athlete who is found to have contravened the Rules is liable to retroactive disqualification and the removal of performances claimed for records / rankings / standards.

#### **Other Information**

World Athletics Shoe Compliance List is available at: ([www.worldathletics.org](http://www.worldathletics.org))

**NOTE #1:** For all competitions held in Canada, (including Off-Track Events), it is an expectation that the shoe regulations be followed for all athletes. In the absence of a formal “Call Room” officials may perform “Spot Checks” to ensure compliance with the Rule.

**NOTE #2:** For Combined Events, Call Room Judges will check event shoes in the CE rest room prior to each event.

**NOTE #3:** A similar rule exists for World Para Athletics (Rule 6.2), so where there is a mixed competition or similar, the rules need to be enforced for both groups.

**NOTE #4:** World Athletics, Athletics Canada and NOC are mandating that the WA Shoe Rule TR5 be observed at all domestic competitions and enforced, through shoe declarations & inspections at National Championships for U20 and Senior Athletes, as well as any World Athletics / NACAC Permit or Label Events.

**NOTE #5:** In regard to Provincial/Territorial Championships, NOC recommends that athletes be made aware of the WA Shoe Rule TR5 and WA Shoe Compliance List, especially if they are attempting a standard for National Championships. (Recommended that Provincial/Territorial Championships entry form require a shoe declaration for U20 and Seniors.)