1. Purpose and general principles

1.1 The “IAAF Label Road Races” Calendar (hereafter referred to as the “Calendar”) gathers the world’s leading road running events (the “IAAF Label Road Races”) among those sanctioned by IAAF Member Federations. It works as a certification system for organisers having reached world-class excellence in global sporting significance, organisational quality, athletes’ safety and compliance with the IAAF Rules and Regulations.

1.2 A race is included in the Calendar as a result of the granting by the IAAF of an “IAAF Road Race Label” (hereafter referred to as the “Label”) for the edition held in the year in question.

1.3 IAAF Label Road Races are considered International Competitions pursuant to IAAF Competition Rule 1.1 [e], and must therefore be organised in conformity with the IAAF Rules.

1.4 Labels are granted based on an evaluation of the previous edition of the race. The present regulations therefore define the criteria for the inclusion of road races in the 2018 Calendar.

1.5 Labels are granted to races, not to events. In case of an event encompassing multiple races, organisers shall not use a Label in conjunction with any race or distance other than the one having obtained the Label, nor in conjunction with editions of the races other than the one having obtained the Label.

1.6 The following categories of races can apply for a Label:

- Marathons
- Half Marathons
- ‘Other races’, which includes:
  - Races over the following official distances for which World Records are recognised [see IAAF Rule 261]: 10km – 15km – 20km – 25km – 30km.
  - ‘Classical races’ over non-standard distances.

1.7 There shall be 3 levels of Labels

- IAAF Road Race Gold Label
- IAAF Road Race Silver Label
- IAAF Road Race Bronze Label
2. Application procedures

2.1 Eligibility to apply

Applications for a Label may be submitted by organisers of races that comply with the conditions mentioned in these Regulations.

Applications shall be signed by the Member Federation (MF) of the country in which the race is staged, such signature indicating the MF’s support of the application.

Applications shall only be accepted from races that have been contested for at least two editions over the distance they are applying for prior to the date of Application, i.e. Labels can be granted from the third edition of a race.

New races applying for a Label must begin at Bronze level the first year.

2.2 Application timelines for 2018 Labels

(a) Races part of the 2017 Calendar wishing to apply for a 2018 Label shall submit, no later than 30 days after the 2017 event:

- 2017 Post-Event Report (complete with all the annexes listed in it)
- 2018 Renewal/Upgrade Form

In addition, races holding a Bronze or a Silver Label for 2017 wishing to apply for a Gold Label in 2018, are advised to contact the IAAF at least 30 days prior to 2017 race day, as the IAAF may appoint a Technical Delegate (see art. 4 below) to attend the race and observe that all Gold Label criteria are fulfilled.

(b) Races not part of the 2017 Calendar and wishing to apply for a 2018 Label, shall notify the IAAF per email no later than 30 days prior to 2017 race day. The IAAF may then appoint a Technical Delegate, to assist the organisers in ensuring that the race is held in conformity with the IAAF Rules, and to provide a technical evaluation. No later than 30 days after the 2017 event, the organiser shall submit:

- 2018 Application Form for New Races

The acceptance or rejection of an application is at the sole discretion of the IAAF.

2.3 Refusal of renewal and downgrade

In case of failure to comply fully with these Regulations, the IAAF reserves the right to reject an application, refuse the renewal of a Label, or downgrade a race to a lower Label.

2.4 Disputes

All disputes and protests related to IAAF Label Road Races will be considered by the IAAF.

3. Elite Field

3.1 Requirements

All IAAF Label Road Races must have an ‘international elite field’ with a minimum of 5 men and 5 women from the relevant level as defined below. Such athletes must compete with a bona-fide
effort. The IAAF in its sole discretion may determine if an athlete competed with a bona-fide effort. In Gold and Silver Label Races, this elite field must count at least 5 different nationalities (example: elite men from 3 different countries and elite women from 2 different countries). In Bronze Label Races, a minimum of 4 different nationalities must be represented.

Single-gender elite invitational races must have an elite field with a minimum of 5 athletes from the relevant level as defined below. Such athletes must represent at least 5 countries in Gold and Silver Label Races, and at least 4 in Bronze Label Races.

It is strongly recommended that races engage more athletes than just the bare minimum required for a given Label status.

3.2 Gold, Silver and Bronze Level Elite Runners

The following athletes qualify as “Gold level elite runners”:

- Those having recorded, in the 36 months preceding the race, or in the race itself, at least one performance within these standards:
  - Marathon: Men: 2:10:00 and Women: 2:28:00
  - Half Marathon: Men: 1:01:00 and Women: 1:11:00
  - 10km/10,000m: Men: 28:00 and Women: 32:00
- Those having finished in the first 25 places of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games marathons
- Those having finished in the first 25 places of the IAAF World Championships marathons Beijing 2015
- Those having finished in the first 20 places of the IAAF World Half Marathon Championships Cardiff 2016
- Those having finished in the first 20 places in the senior races of the IAAF World Cross Country Championships Guiyang 2015
- Those having finished in the first 20 places in the senior races of the IAAF World Cross Country Championships Kampala 2017

“Silver level elite runners” are those having recorded, in the 36 months preceding the race, or in the race itself, at least one performance within these standards:

- Marathon: Men: 2:12:00 and Women: 2:32:00
- Half Marathon: Men: 1:03:00 and Women: 1:12:00
- 10km/10,000m: Men: 29:00 and Women: 33:00

“Bronze level elite runners” are those having recorded, in the 36 months preceding the race, or in the race itself, at least one performance within these standards:

- Marathon: Men: 2:16:00 and Women: 2:38:00
- Half Marathon: Men: 1:04:00 and Women: 1:15:00
- 10km/10,000m: Men: 30:00 and Women: 37:00

Race Organisers should note that the performance does NOT refer to an athlete’s Personal Best, which may have been recorded well outside the 36-month qualifying period.
3.3 Appearance negotiations, athletes’ contracts, prizes and payment terms

3.3.1 Race Directors may only conduct negotiations for the appearance and promotion of athletes:

- through the Athletes’ Member Federation;
- directly with the Athletes (in this case, the relevant National Federation must be informed); or
- through duly authorized Athletes’ Representatives [ARs]

A complete list of authorized ARs is available from the IAAF website at www.iaaf.org/athletes/athlete-representatives.

As part of the post-race report, organisers shall provide a list of the Athletes Representatives with whom they negotiated the participation of Elite athletes.

3.3.2 A contract established in good faith by both parties in compliance with the IAAF rules governing International Competitions and any applicable laws of the host country of the event and outlining clearly the arrangements between the race organiser and the contracted athlete shall be signed and respected by both parties.

3.3.3 Organisers shall pay all sums due to the contracted athletes for reimbursement of expenses and appearance fees and any prize monies and bonus awards within the period of time specified within the contract which is normally 60 days after the receipt of doping control results conducted at the race. Suitable accommodation, meals and transportation shall be provided for the athletes. As a general rule all travel expenses shall be paid upon the athlete’s arrival at the race venue and no later than the day before the athlete’s departure from the race venue.

3.3.4 The contract between the Athlete and the Organiser shall mention any withholding taxes in respect of appearance fees, prize monies or bonuses that may be levied by the fiscal authorities of the country hosting the race. The Organiser shall in due course supply the Athlete or their AR with the relevant document from the fiscal authorities certifying that any such charges have been duly paid.

3.3.5 The contract shall stipulate that any athlete who is subsequently determined to have committed a doping offence at the time of the event or is suspended from competition due to an offence committed prior to the event resulting in his/her performance at the event being invalidated, shall be liable to refund any and all sums from the race organisers relating to his/her performance at the event. This includes any commission paid to an Athlete Representative.

3.3.6 A prize structure must be in place. Prize money offered to competitors, including bonuses for times achieved shall be equal for all competitors regardless of their nationality or gender – in other words prize money for places should be equal for men and women and for nationals of the host country and athletes of other nationalities. Races may offer specific incentive prizes to nationals of the host country to encourage national participation and development.
4. IAAF Observers and Technical Delegates

The IAAF may nominate one or more observer(s) and/or one Technical Delegate (TD) to attend races that have applied for or have been awarded a Label. The observer(s) and/or the TD will ensure compliance with the IAAF Label Road Race Regulations and may also be available to assist the race organisation if such assistance is requested by the Race Director.

The race organisation shall pay the following for one designated observer or TD: economy class travel, on-site accommodation for a maximum three nights, meals and local transport.

The race organisation will provide all necessary passes, accreditation and assistance to give to observers and TDs access to the requested operational areas and pre-race meetings, and generally facilitate their work.

The IAAF will send to the Race Director a copy of the report completed by the IAAF observer/TD whenever relevant.

5. Organisational standards

Races must respect all national and local laws and byelaws and co-operate fully with local authorities, police and health administrations to ensure the smooth conduct of the race, the safety and security of all participants and spectators and the minimum disruption to local residents.

5.1 Medical

The Race Director shall implement the requirements defined in the IAAF Rules. A report should be available for inspection and should take into account local legislation. The availability of medical services shall be commensurate with the number of participants in the race and the prevailing weather conditions.

A Medical Director should be identified, and his/her contact details transmitted to the Technical Delegate should the IAAF appoint one for the race.

5.2 Anti-Doping

All tests shall be conducted in accordance with the IAAF Anti-Doping Regulations at the expense of the race organiser. The minimum number of samples to be collected shall be:

- IAAF Gold Label Road Races: 12 samples for mixed races (6 men and 6 women) or 6 samples for single gender races;
- IAAF Silver Label Road Races: 6 samples for mixed races (3 men and 3 women) or 3 samples for single gender races;
- IAAF Bronze Label Road Races: 4 samples for mixed races (2 men and 2 women) or 2 samples for single gender races.

EPO testing shall be conducted in accordance with the IAAF Anti-Doping regulations in force at the time of the race and the IAAF Medical and Anti-Doping Department shall advise the number of samples to be tested for EPO prior to the race.
The doping samples shall be analysed by the WADA accredited laboratory, as advised by the IAAF Medical and Anti-Doping Department.

Additional doping tests shall be conducted:

- Systematically when a World Record and/or an Area Record is broken or equalled;
- When requested by any athletes who has broken a National Record (at the athlete’s expense).

5.3 Technical and measurement

5.3.1 Races shall be organised in accordance with the IAAF Rules and those of the national IAAF Member Federation, particularly with regard to the health and safety of participants and officials.

5.3.2 There shall be a lead vehicle preceding the lead runners to direct the runners around the course and that shall also include a time clock indicating the time elapsed since the start of the race. The Race Referee[s] or other appointed official shall ride in the lead vehicle or another vehicle to ensure compliance with the IAAF Competition Rules. Whenever possible and this will not constitute a danger to runners, in mixed races, a lead vehicle shall precede both men’s and women’s race leaders where it is safe to do so.

5.3.3 Each Label Race shall be started independently of any other race. If any other event is organised at the same time, there shall be no disruption of the Label Race.

5.3.4 Courses must hold a valid IAAF/AIMS international measurement certificate valid at least through race day.

5.3.5 The original Course Measurer or other suitably qualified official designated by the Course Measurer with a copy of the documentation detailing the officially measured course shall ride in the lead vehicle during the competition to validate that the course run by the athletes conforms to the course measured and documented by the official Course Measurer. In the case of separate men and women races, a certified Measurer or other suitably qualified person should be in the lead vehicle for each race.

5.3.6 All intermediate timing points shall be measured and marked by the Course Measurer and included in the course map.

5.4 Road Closures

5.4.1 The whole course must be closed to vehicular traffic, with the exclusion of official vehicles, for the duration of the event until the published cut-off time. The Start will be traffic free until the last runner has started and the Finish will be traffic free until the last runner finishes or the cut-off time is reached.

5.4.2 In the case of dual carriageways, only the carriageway on which the participants will run needs be closed to vehicular traffic.

5.4.3 The safety of all runners is paramount; therefore police and/or traffic controllers must be present at all intersections.
5.5 Insurance

Race Organisers shall subscribe to an appropriate third party liability insurance policy to cover the risks for which the race organisation may be held liable, including any accident which might occur to athletes and officials.

5.6 Pacing

5.6.1 Pacemakers are authorised and shall be clearly identified through a distinctive uniform and/or the word ‘PACE’ on their bib, as well as their identifying bib name or number; they are available to all participants able to run at the given tempo. They shall be introduced to all runners participating at the pre-race Technical Meeting.

5.6.2 No more than three pacemakers may be engaged to run at any given pace.

5.6.3 Personal pacemakers may be permitted at the discretion of the race organizers but must be identified by the same distinctive uniform and/or bib.

5.6.4 Pacemakers shall neither assist nor impede the progress of any bona fide participant in the race and shall not hand refreshments to any competitor.

5.7 Drinking/Sponging and Refreshment Stations

5.7.1 Drinking/Sponging and Refreshment stations adequately staffed by competent personnel shall be available on the course in accordance with IAAF Rule 240.8.

5.7.2 Water and refreshments shall be provided free of charge for all participants on the course and at the finish area.

5.7.3 Athletes may only take water or refreshments at the official stations provided by the race organisation.

5.8 Timing Data Processing and Results

5.8.1 Races must provide fully electronic timing by transponders to all finishers. Real time splits and final results which shall include the official time based on the “gun time” should be made available to media, spectators and on the official race website within the shortest possible time. Where available, split times shall be properly recorded and made available for statistics, records and judging purposes. A second list of times indicating the “net time” shall be made available to the participating athletes.

5.8.2 Races shall email the official results of the competition for the top 20 male and top 20 female finishers to the IAAF immediately following the completion of the competition in a single PDF file containing both men and women results.

5.9 Advertising

Race Organisers shall respect the IAAF Advertising Regulations as well as ensuring that elite athletes comply with the Advertising Regulations currently in force: http://www.iaaf.org/about-iaaf/documents/rules-regulations.
6. Communications

6.1 On-site Video Screen

All Gold Label Races must provide a giant video screen to follow the race. All Silver and Bronze Label Races must provide a way to follow the race which could include a giant video screen or any other means.

6.2 Media Services

Appropriate media services shall be provided to the press and photographers which shall include the following minimum requirements:

- Individual delivery of results of top 20 men and women
- Dedicated website with start-lists and results in the language of the host country and in English.
- TV monitors + high-speed Internet connection

6.3 International Broadcast Requirements

- Gold Label Races must ensure full coverage of the race in the host country as well as in at least five different international territories (either live, delayed or streaming).
- Silver Label Races must ensure full domestic coverage of the race (either live, delayed or streaming).
- Bronze Label Races must be able to provide highlights of the race at least domestically (live, delayed or streaming).

6.4 TV Coverage to the IAAF

Each IAAF Label Road Race shall provide the IAAF with the full race footage ("Dirty International Feed"), in the form of a web-link to a video-sharing website (YouTube, Vimeo, YouKu, etc.) or a digital file (not necessarily HD). This is for reviewing purposes only, and the IAAF will NOT redistribute, or have any rights on any of this footage.

Upon request of the IAAF, the organiser shall provide a broadcast-quality record of the competition ("Clean Feed"), allowing the IAAF to use, free of charge, up to five minutes of footage.

6.5 IAAF Branding and Promotion

All Label Road Race organisers are required to:

- Produce and display, at their cost, at least two IAAF boards (or banners) in the finish area within the final 100 metres and/or prominently display the IAAF Road Race Label logo on the finish gantry. Layouts are to be supplied by the IAAF. As part of the post-race report, organisers shall be required to provide photographs of the IAAF Road Race label recognition.
- Ensure the relevant IAAF Road Race Label logo is prominently displayed on the homepage of the race website.
- Include the relevant IAAF Road Race Label logo on all printed material (i.e. brochures, leaflets, official programme, start lists, results). Logo artwork is to be provided by the IAAF.

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