1. General Principles

1.1. Each year, the IAAF awards a designation referred to as an IAAF Road Race Label to leading Road Races around the World.

1.2. Races shall be divided into three categories:
   - Marathons
   - Half Marathons
   - Other races – included under this category:
     - Races over “official distances for which World Records are recognised (see IAAF Rule 261): 10km – 15km – 20km – 25km – 30km – 100km
     - ‘Classical races’ over non-standard distances.

1.3. There shall be 3 levels of label for each of these categories:
   - IAAF Gold Label
   - IAAF Silver Label
   - IAAF Bronze Label

1.4. These Regulations may be amended every year by the IAAF.

2. Applications / Labels

2.1. Applications for an IAAF Road Race Label may be submitted by Race Directors of races that comply with the conditions mentioned in these Rules (and annexed documents).

2.2. Races should submit to the IAAF an Application by the relevant deadline (see 2.4. below), using the appropriate form. The application 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.

2.3. 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.

2.4. Applications shall be submitted according to the following timelines; for races held from January to July inclusive, applications are due by 15 July in the year prior to the race. For races held from August to December inclusive, applications are due by 15 December in the year prior to the race.

2.5. The relevant IAAF Label shall be granted for one year.

2.6. New races applying for an IAAF Label must begin at Bronze level the first year.

2.7. The acceptance or rejection of an Application is at the sole discretion of the IAAF.
2.8. The IAAF reserves the right to refuse the renewal of a Label or to downgrade any Race that fails to comply fully with the IAAF Label Road Race Regulations.

3. **Obligations / Requirements of the Organisers**

3.1. **Athletes**

*International Field*

Gold and Silver Label Races must have an 'international elite field' with a minimum of five men and five women participating in the competition in the relevant Label category as defined in §3.2 hereunder. This elite field must count at least 5 different nationalities (example: elite men from 3 different countries and elite women from 2 different countries) for mixed gender races. A minimum of 4 different nationalities must be represented at the elite level in Bronze Label Races.

Single gender elite invitational races shall have at least five men or five elite women in the relevant elite category representing at least 5 different nationalities; bronze label single gender elite invitational races shall have a minimum of four nationalities represented.

To be considered as part of the international elite field for the purposes of the IAAF Road Race Label, all elite runners must be 'bona fide competitors', meaning that they must start the race and compete with an honest effort.

3.2. **Elite Runners**

3.2.1. **IAAF Gold Label Races**: to qualify as Gold level elite runners, athletes must have recorded a performance of a level determined by the IAAF in the 36 months period preceding the competition, OR have finished in the first 20 places in the most recent edition of the IAAF World Championships, IAAF World Half Marathon Championships, IAAF World Cross Country Championships Senior Races or Olympic Games Marathons. For 2016 these times are considered to be:

- 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

3.2.2. **IAAF Silver Label Races**: to qualify as Silver level elite runners, athletes must have recorded a performance of a level determined by the IAAF in the 36 months period preceding the competition. For 2016 these times are considered to be:

- 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

3.2.3. **IAAF Bronze Label Races**: to qualify as Bronze level elite runners, athletes must have recorded a performance of a level determined by the IAAF in the 36 months period preceding the competition. For 2016 these times are considered to be:

- 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
3.2.4. The IAAF shall publish a list of qualifying athletes for IAAF Gold, Silver and Bronze Label Races categories in the IAAF Label Road Races Downloads section of the IAAF website which will be updated periodically. *Race Organisers should note that the performance does NOT refer to an athlete’s Personal Best, which may have been recorded well outside the qualifying period.*

3.2.5. 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);
- Through duly authorized Athletes’ Representatives (ARs).

*A complete list of authorized ARs is available from the IAAF website or from the IAAF HQ:*

http://www.iaaf.org/aboutiaaf/structure/athletes/index.html

*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.*

3.2.6. 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.

3.2.7. 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.

3.2.8. 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.

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.
3.3. IAAF Observers

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

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

3.3.3. The Race Organisation will provide all necessary passes and accreditation to give access to the requested operational areas and generally facilitate the work of the observer(s).

3.4. Medical and Anti-Doping

3.4.1. The Race Director shall implement the requirements defined in the specific IAAF Road Race Regulations. 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.

3.4.2. Doping Controls

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

3.4.3. 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.

3.4.4. The doping samples shall be analysed by the WADA accredited laboratory, as advised by the IAAF Medical and Anti-Doping Department.

3.4.5. 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).

3.5. Organisation

Races shall be organised in accordance with the IAAF Competition Rules and those of the national IAAF Member Federation, particularly with regard to the health and safety of participants and officials.
3.5.1. 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.

3.5.2. The 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.

3.6. Measurement

3.6.1. Courses must hold a valid IAAF/AIMS international measurement certificate issued within 5 years preceding the race.

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.

3.6.2. In the case of separate men and women races, a certified Measurer or other suitably qualified person (see 3.6.1 above) should be in the lead vehicle for each race.

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

3.7. Road Closures

3.7.1. 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.

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

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

3.8. Pacing

3.8.1. 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.

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

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

3.8.4. Pacemakers shall neither assist nor impede the progress of any bona fide participant in the race and shall not hand refreshments to any competitor.
3.9. **Drinking/Sponging and Refreshment Stations**

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

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

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

3.10. **Timing Data Processing and Results**

3.10.1. All finishers shall receive an accurate time.

3.10.2. Races must provide fully electronic timing by transponders. 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.

3.10.3. 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.

3.11. **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](http://www.iaaf.org/about-iaaf/documents/rules-regulations)

3.12. **Video Screen**

3.12.1. All Gold Label Races must provide a giant video screen to follow the race.

3.12.2. 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.

3.13. **Media**

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

3.14. **Broadcast Requirements**

3.14.1. Gold Label Races must ensure full coverage of the race;

- in at least five different international territories either live, delayed or streaming and:
- in the host country either live, delayed or streaming.

Silver Label Races must ensure full coverage of the race nationally either live, delayed or streaming.
Bronze Label Races must be able to provide highlights of the race at least in the host country (live, delayed or streaming).

3.14.2. Each IAAF Label Road Race shall provide the IAAF with a broadcast quality record of the competition on: Tapes: HDCAM or Digibeta; Disc: XDCAM; Hard Disc: Apple Pro Res format (HD if available) and allow the IAAF to use, free of charge, up to five minutes footage. Media must be dispatched to the IAAF Headquarters no later than 15 days after the competition.

3.15. Promotion

3.15.1. Race Organisers shall 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 in the layout 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.

3.15.2. The IAAF Road Race Label logo shall be prominently displayed on the homepage of the race website.

3.15.3. Race Organisers shall 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.

3.15.4. Races should provide information to all registered runners contained in their database by email once a year on behalf of the IAAF on projects promoting road running and the running community.

3.16. 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.

3.17. Safety

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.


The Race Director shall complete a report form and return this form to the IAAF no later than 30 days after the race.

The IAAF will send to the Race Director a copy of the report completed by the IAAF observer(s) if relevant.

4. Prize Money / Awards

4.1. 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.

5. Disputes

All disputes and protests related to IAAF Road Race Labels will be considered by the IAAF.