



World Relay Championships

Bahamas May 2024

Masters; Events

Dear representative of WMA Member federation, dear colleagues:

Over the past few years World Masters Athletics (WMA) have been involved in a series of negotiations with World Athletics (WA) to try and develop a philosophy and practice that allows athletes of all ages to engage in events on the same global stage. To date there has been some success in achieving those goals with masters' races in the World Walking events and the World cross country championships.

Jointly WMA and WA are now able to offer national masters federations the opportunity to enter a series of world track and field relay events as part of the World Championships in the Bahamas in May 2024, 4 & 5.

This is an exciting and groundbreaking opportunity to have the best masters' athletes on the same global stage, with worldwide media coverage, as the very best athletes competing for achieve Olympic qualification for Paris 2024.

The masters' events will be

- 4x400 mixed relay (2 male, 2 female) as first choice
- 4x800 mixed relay (2 male, 2 female) as second choice

The age groupings for each event will be

- 35-45
- 45-55
- 55-65
- 65 +

These age groups are wider than our norms but to fit the timetable of the events it maximises the opportunity for masters. Athletes will, as usual be able to move down an age group to make up a team. No athlete can compete in more than one race of the same event, but might do 400 and 800.

Each event will be limited to 16 entries. The teams will compete in heats, but every team will be forwarded to either an A or B final.

The entries must be made by the national federation and the teams will be expected to wear full national representation uniforms.

The agreement with WA determines that the teams will pay their own air fair to the event. The LOC offers accommodation at a reduced rate for the Bahamas, which will be around 250 US \$ full board. Of course athletes can choose other accommodation than the official offer.

This is a unique and exciting opportunity for our masters athletes and we hope that nations will enter the event.

To ensure the masters relays are a viable option we need to know the range of possible entries by AUGUST 1 2023 when we will take the final decision on the staging of the event.

Expressions of entry, by race and age group, should be made to the WMA Secretary by the date stated.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards

Alan Bell
Vice President competition

Margit Jungmann
President

Antti Pihlakoski
WA representative