



## **Athletics Canada National Championships Medal Allocation Guidelines**

### **Preamble**

The purpose of the Athletics Canada National Championships is to showcase the talent of developing and elite Canadian athletes and to provide viable and meaningful competition to athletes in both the Olympic and Paralympic stream.

Wherever possible, Athletics Canada aligns with World Athletics (WA) and World Para Athletics (WPA). Events offered at National Championships will follow the programs offered at the Olympic and Paralympic Games. In certain cases, exceptions will be made to support athlete development.

The purpose of the Athletics Canada National Championships Medal Allocation Guidelines is to provide direction on the number of medal events at National Championships and how medals will be awarded. The Athletics Canada Medal Allocation Guidelines will be reviewed annually, or as required, to ensure alignment with the Olympic and Paralympic pathways. Edits will be made as required.

### **1 Purpose**

- 1.1** To outline the criteria and process for allocating medals at all Athletics Canada National Championships for both Para and Able-Bodied athletes and events in order to:
- I. Provide clarity to athletes, coaches, and Provincial/Territorial Branches when there will be changes to the number of medals awarded in an event.
  - II. Provide clarity and guidance to the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) when there will be changes to the number of medals awarded in an event for organizational and planning purposes.
- 1.2** Athletics Canada National Championships include:
- Outdoor Track & Field Championships
  - Indoor Track & Field Championships
  - Cross Country Championships
  - 5km Road Championships
  - 10km Road Championships
  - ½ Marathon Championships



- Marathon Championships
- Mountain & Trail Running Championships

**1.3** For the avoidance of doubt, where there is an inconsistency between the respective World Athletics (WA) and World Para Athletics (WPA) rules and regulations and this policy, the National Championships Medal Allocation Guidelines shall prevail.

## **2 Governance and Management**

- 2.1** The implementation of these guidelines will be the responsibility of the respective Championship Technical Director.
- 2.2** Any disputes shall be decided by the Jury of Appeal
- 2.3** The aim of this process is to return a decision in a timely manner therefore any decision of the Jury of Appeal made under 2.2 of this policy will be final and binding.
- 2.4** Each dispute decided by the Jury of Appeal will be considered on its own merits and will not create a precedent.

## **3 Principles and Criteria**

- 3.1** Athletes in the able-bodied program must meet the entry criteria for each event to be eligible to participate.
- 3.2** Para Athletes must be Nationally Classified to enter any of Athletics Canada's National Championship events.
- 3.3** Medals for all Athletics Canada National Championships and events will be awarded on the following scale, in line with the technical rules of the respective event/discipline:
- 3.3.1.** 4 or more starters: 3 medals (Gold, Silver, and Bronze)
  - 3.3.2.** 3 starters: 2 medals (Gold and Silver)
  - 3.3.3.** 2 starters: 1 medal (Gold)
  - 3.3.4.** 1 starter: 1 medal (Gold)

The number of competitors will be based on the athletes who start the competition.



### 3.4 Para Athletics - General

- 3.4.1.** In the Paralympic program, sport classes are often combined to provide more depth of field at the Paralympics and other major Games/International Para Athletics events. Sport Classes are combined based on similar function in the given event and not every event is offered for each sport class. To provide viable and meaningful competition, the following will be applied to schedule and award medals at the Nationals Track and Field Championships.

### 3.5 Track Events

- 3.5.1.** Athletes will be grouped by Sport Classes or Sport Class combinations following the Paralympic Program (i.e Paris 2024) when there is more than one competitor in each class athletes will compete and vie for Canadian Championship medals against athletes in their own sport class.

*Example of Sport Class Combination: T34 800m is a Paris 2024 event. The sport classes eligible for this event are T33 and T34.*

- 3.5.2.** In the instance where there is only one (1) athlete in a Sport class, in any given event, the athlete will be combined with other athlete(s) based on event type (i.e., wheelchair racing, ambulatory track). These athletes will compete against one another and final placing will be determined by the World Para Athletics (WPA) Points Scores Calculator (RAZA).
- 3.5.3.** If a Sport Class is not listed in the WPA Points Scores Calculator, an athlete will not be eligible to compete for that event. Example: Sport Classes 40-41 are for Short Stature athletes. WPA Points Scores are not available for Track events, only in Field Events.

Sport Classes may be combined for heats and finals however, the results, when more than two (2) athletes per sport class are present, will be awarded separately.



Example 1: Men's 100m dash results - Sport Classes

Sport Class	Time	WPA Scores	Place	Medal
T12	11.75	n/a	1	Gold
T12	11.81	n/a	2	-
T38	11.98	714	1	Gold
T47	12.12	559	2	-
T37	13.19	n/a	1	Gold
T37	13.63	n/a	2	Silver
T37	13.74	n/a	3	-

Since there are two (2) or more competitors with sport classes T12 and T37, medals are awarded based on the order that the athletes cross the finish line in their respective events. Since there is only one (1) athlete in sport classes T38 and T47, those athletes' results are combined, and medals are awarded based on World Para Athletics Points Scores.

Example 2: Men's 200m wheelchair race results

Sport Class	Time	WPA Scores	Place	Medal
T53	26.43	911	1	Gold
T34	28.84	778	2	Silver
T52	37.61	294	3	-
T54	27.70	n/a	1	Gold
T54	30.20	n/a	2	Silver
T54	34.51	n/a	3	-
T51	50.83	n/a	1	Gold
T51	52.32	n/a	2	

Since there are two (2) or more competitors with sport classes T54 and T51, medals are awarded based on the order that the athletes cross the finish line in their respective events. Since there is only one (1)



athlete in sport classes T34, T52 and T53, those athletes' results are combined, and medals are awarded based on World Para Athletics Points Scores.

The number of medals awarded is in accordance with the medal allocation policy in section 3.3.

### **3.6 Para Athletics (Field Events)**

The same logic applied to Field Events as outlined above for Track events.

Events will be divided as follows and classes will be combined for competition when less than one athlete in the same Sport Class:

- Female seated throws
- Male seated throws
- Female Ambulatory throws
- Male Ambulatory throws

Results will be calculated using the same principal laid out above for track events.

### **3.7 World Para Athletics (WPA) Points Scores**

World Para Athletics (WPA) Points Scores are based on a calculation using an average of the World Records over a pre-determined number of years. The closer an athlete is to the World Record in their category, the higher the point score they receive. This is why in some instances an athlete may throw further or run faster but not finish first when Point Scores are considered. WPA Points are updated regularly and can be found on the [World Para Athletics website](#). Please note that there are separate tables for Track and Field.

### **3.8 Simultaneous events**

In the instance where the depth of field for ambulatory track or ambulatory throws is small, the Para Athletes will be integrated with the Olympic stream athletes, but medals will be awarded separately following the principals laid out above.