

SENIOR DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE – RULES OF COMPETITION – AMENDED AT 2025 AGM

ELIGIBILITY OF ATHLETES

- a. All competitors must be first claim members to be eligible to compete for the club in Open Team competition on the day of the meeting.
- b. All athletes must be registered for competition with England Athletics. Athletes will be disqualified after the event if it is subsequently discovered the athlete is not registered for competition.
- c. Athletes cannot compete in a match until their TEAM MANAGER has included them in a team declaration. Alterations may be made on the day of competition prior to the commencement of each event.

PARTICULAR AGE GROUPS

- a. A senior athlete may compete in a maximum of 7 events.
- b. An under 20 athlete may only compete in a maximum of 5 events – in addition U20 athletes must use the Senior specifications for all events.
- c. An under 18 athlete may only compete in a maximum of 3 events plus one relay. In addition, U18 Men shall not be allowed to compete in: the 3000m Steeplechase, 5000m, 110m hurdles, or any throws event.

NUMBERS

The League will provide numbers for each club in the league. Each club will be allocated their numbers by the league.

Two numbers shall be worn by all athletes in all events except in the Jumping Events when one number may be worn on the front or back.

CLUB COLOURS

Club colours must be worn at all times.

TRIALS

In all field events (except High Jump and Pole Vault) all competitors shall be entitled to three trials with the top 6 competitors being given a further three trials if they want them.

TRIPLE JUMP

The minimum take-off distance for triple jump competition shall be no less than 7m.

HIGH JUMP and POLE VAULT

- a. The Women's high jump will start at 1.10m and progress in 5cms up to 1.40m. The Men's High Jump shall start at 1.30m and progress in 5cms up to 1.70m. Subsequent heights shall be at the discretion of the Field Referee.
- b. The Women's Pole Vault will start at 1.70m and progress in 10cms up to 2.10m. The Men's Pole Vault will start at 2.10m. Subsequent heights shall be at the discretion of the Field Referee.
- c. If the stadium equipment is not capable of going to these heights, the opening height shall be the lowest that the equipment can reach, including drop bars.

- d. In an event of a tie for first place, NO JUMP OFF SHALL TAKE PLACE and the points for those competitors tying for first shall be divided equally between those competitors.
- e. All pole vault entries must be declared by the team manager 7 days before the event via e-mail to the relevant Divisional Secretary. This will enable stadium staff to only set up the equipment for the event, if necessary.

400M HURDLES

Team managers must declare entrants for the 400m Hurdles at the start of each meeting. This is to enable the correct number of lanes to be set up before the race. Failure to do so will mean the athlete will not be allowed to compete.

SCORING

Each team shall be Limited to four competitors in all events except the relays, where the top two from each team will score points.

Event scoring (including relays) will be:

6 Team division:	A	9,7,6,5,4,3
	B	7,5,4,3,2,1

RESULTS

- a. The host club is responsible for the provision of two recorders for each match, unless provided by the league. It is desirable that the recorders be experienced in the recording and collating of results.
- b. The original track slips and field cards must be given to the Divisional Secretary immediately after the match. The results programme/laptop shall be given to the Divisional Secretary immediately after meeting closes.
- c. The Divisional Secretary shall email the scrutinised results to the League Secretary as soon as possible after the meeting.
- d. The Divisional Secretaries shall be empowered to alter an event or a match score if a mistake or infringement of the rules is discovered.

TEAM MANAGERS

Team Managers are allowed in the competition area for the sole purpose of carrying out their duties as Team Manager. Before speaking to an athlete competing in any event, he/she must obtain the permission of the appropriate official in charge before doing so.

When within the competition area, they MUST NOT coach, convey advice or in any way give assistance to athletes.

Team managers should be aware that the rule regarding the wearing of numbers will be strictly applied.

PROVISION OF OFFICIALS BY ALL PARTICIPATING CLUBS

All participating clubs, including the host club, shall provide AT LEAST the following officials (preferably graded) who must remain present for the full duration of their duties:-

- One Track Judge (unless replaced by the Photo-Finish Judge – host club only)
- One Timekeeper (unless replaced by the Photo-Finish Judge – host club only)
- One Photo-Finish Judge (host club only)
- A minimum of two additional helpers to assist with set up of the hurdles and to tidy up the site at the end of the competition (host club only)

- Four Field Judges of whom two must be qualified (with one of them being at Level 2 (Field) as a minimum)

Each club should be allocated field event(s) in advance. It shall be the responsibility of the Field Referee, in co-ordination with the divisional secretary, to ensure that competent graded officials shall be in charge of each event.

Teams shall be awarded a maximum of 80 points for officials, 10 points for each official provided above (except Photo finish) to a maximum of 60 points with a further 20 points awarded for providing a field judge level 2 or above. Team points are awarded by the Divisional Secretary so it is the responsibility of team managers to ensure all of their team officials are signed in.

Officials cannot officiate and compete during their own event or leave officiating duties in order to compete without the express permission of the Chief Official.

PROMOTION / RELEGATION

The League shall be 1 team up and 1 team down at the end of the season.

2026