



M/11/24  
Monaco, 8 March 2024

To: **MEMBER FEDERATIONS**  
Copy: Council Members  
Executive Board Members  
Commission Chairpersons  
Area Associations  
Dentsu Athletics

Re: **CLARIFICATION: STATUS OF THE WORLD FRIENDSHIP GAMES 2024**

Dear all,

It has been brought to our attention that some Member Federations have been contacted by the International Friendship Association inviting them to attend the Athletics programme of the World Friendship Games 2024 to be held in Russia in September.

**The World Friendship Games do not form part of the World Athletics Global Calendar. Therefore, all results and records achieved at the World Friendship Games are not recognised by World Athletics.**

Some Member Federations may also be aware there are also plans to host the BRICS+ Games in Russia in June 2024. The same position applies. The BRICS+ Games are not in the Global Calendar and therefore the results achieved at them will not be recognised by World Athletics.

However, we do understand that Member Federations may be required by their governments/National Olympic Committees to enter teams at these games. Therefore, participation of the athletes, referees, support personnel and general attendance, is a personal choice but the individuals and their Member Federations must be aware that:

- a. For any athletics programme for any (international) multi-sport event, the permit is granted by World Athletics. As a World Ranking Competition (furthermore with expected participation from Member Federations from different continents), the Russian Athletics Federation ('RusAF') would need to apply for a World Athletics permit and for these games to be granted approval to appear in the Global Calendar. RusAF has not applied for a permit for either the World Friendships Games or the BRICS+ Games as of the date of publication of this circular.
- b. Because of the Council's decision in March 2023, RusAF is not able to host events of this kind as a sanctioned World Athletics event in the Global Calendar.
- c. The World Friendship Games and BRICS+ Games therefore are events that operate outside of the Global Calendar structure and the performances and results achieved are not recognised for qualification or world ranking purposes for any other event in the Global Calendar and not recognised for statistical purposes.



- d. This year, there are 5 WAS Events, senior Area Championships in Europe, Oceania, Africa and NACAC (all in June) and an Olympic Games – the competition diary is busy and the impact on our top athletes of two additional major events (even if they are outside of the Global Calendar) is concerning.

If you have any inquiries regarding the information provided above, please contact:  
[member.relations@worldathletics.org](mailto:member.relations@worldathletics.org)

Kind regards,

**Jon Ridgeon**  
Chief Executive Officer