



# WORLD MASTERS ATHLETICS

IN COOPERATION WITH THE IAAF

10<sup>th</sup> September 2009

## **LETTER FROM WMA COUNCIL REGARDING AGE CHANGE BY IAAF**

### **WMA Affiliates and Regions**

You may be aware that at the IAAF Congress held in Berlin this August, a decision was made to change Rule 141 of the IAAF Rules. The changed wording reads:

*'Masters Men and Women: Any athlete who has reached his/her 35<sup>th</sup> birthday for stadia events and 40<sup>th</sup> birthday for out of stadia events'.*

Some concern has been expressed that this decision will have an impact upon WMA age groups and events, however please note that this is not correct. The decision taken in Berlin relates to IAAF matters and does not change the WMA Rules. WMA, its Regions and Affiliates will continue to organise and conduct its competition and activities in accordance with its' Constitution (item 2.1) and Rules of Competition (Rule 141), namely for men and women who have attained the age of 35.

The change in the IAAF wording will only impact those athletes who wish to compete in an IAAF out of stadia event in that the minimum age in future will be 40 as opposed to the present minimum age that is 35.

It is important that you confirm to your athletes, officials and administrators that WMA sanctioned events and competitions will continue to provide events for both men and women aged not less than 35 as at the first day of competition. Put simply, there has been no change to WMA age groups.

Should you still have concerns please contact the WMA Secretary, Winston Thomas at:

[Winston.thomas1@virgin.net](mailto:Winston.thomas1@virgin.net).

Yours truly,

Stan Perkins  
WMA President

4.GATE CROFT. HEMEL HEMPSTEAD. HERTS. HP3 9NA. Gt BRITAIN  
Tel/Fax +44 (0) 1442 275805 [Winston.thomas1@virgin.net](mailto:Winston.thomas1@virgin.net)