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**Guidance for Event & Race Organisers**

**from 11th December 2020**

Following the announcement from the NI Executive on the Covid Restrictions to come in place on 11th December, Athletics NI is advising the following protocols for all races, competitions and events taking place:

* Any event with more than 15 participants must have a full risk assessment carried out prior to the event, detailing all measures in place to limit the risk of virus transmission. There is an upper limit of 500 participants, to include athletes, officials, marshalls, staff and volunteers
* The presence of spectators is discouraged, however an upper limit of 500 spectators is permitted by the Executive. A robust risk assessment must be in place detailing how spectators will be managed to ensure compliance with Executive and PHA guidance on social distancing, hand hygiene etc
* All risk assessments must consider risks to those entering and leaving the venue
* Any individual group must be a maximum of 15, with athletes set off in waves of 15 runners with sufficient time between waves to allow for social distancing
* Race routes and courses should be devised to minimise lapping. Each race should be capped to ensure social distancing can take place through-out the race, within the overall limit of 500 participants
* The race schedule should be devised to allow one race to complete and clear the venue before the next race commences
* The total number of athletes competing across a number of races must be within the upper limit of 500
* The distribution of medals and prizes is not recommended
* No showering or changing facilities should be available. The management of toilets should take into account social distancing and adequate cleaning protocols
* No club tents allowed at races
* Track events are subject to venue protocols and restrictions, with a limit of 100 participants on an athletic track at any given time
* All event organisers must fully adhere to the Athletics NI Return to T&F Competition, Cross Country, or Road Racing Protocols
* Indoor competition is limited to elite level only