

Licensing Levels

Based on licences issued to events within the previous two years, licensing levels were introduced to events held from the 2019-2020 season in order to bring clarity to the fixture calendar and assist athletes, coaches and parents with identifying appropriate competition opportunities. These levels were rolled out during Winter 2019-20, and have been in place for all events since the 2020 Summer season.

Cross Country, Highland Games, Hill and Trail

During the 2017/18 and 2018/19 competition years, 1330 event licences were issued in Scotland. 9% of event licences issued were for cross country; 2% for heavy throws; 7% for hill and 10% for Trail.

Due to licence numbers reaching a maximum of around 65 per year in each of these four disciplines, it was decided that one licence level would be sufficient for these events. Events applying for a licence and meeting the licensing standards for these disciplines receive a **Standard Level Licence**.

Athletes and coaches should be aware that events' standards will still vary within this singular category, and event organisers are encouraged to provide as much information as possible about their event on the fixture page to help athletes and coaches to determine the best event for their (athlete's) level of experience and ability.

Road

During the 2017/18 and 2018/19 competition years, 593 road events held **scottishathletics** licences, inclusive of National and District Championships. This made up around 45% of all licences issued.

In order to create some clarity, three categories of road race licence were introduced. These categories are not hierarchical, and serve only to differentiate between different types of event:

- **Road Race Level Licence**
Events in this category must meet the licence standards for a road race and be run on an officially measured and certified road race course. Sufficient numbers and gradings of officials must be on duty, and results will be officially recognised for ranking purposes.
- **Multi-terrain Level Licence**
Events in this category will be classified under UKA rules as multi-terrain due to the amount of off-road terrain the course contains. Event organisers are encouraged to hold a certificate of course measurement, but this is not compulsory as the measurement cannot be 100% accurate due to the off-road sections. Events must meet the licence standards for a road race, except the course measurement criterion. Multi-terrain race results will not be eligible for road ranking purposes.
- **Timed Run Level Licence**
Events in this category will be informal timed runs, offering the opportunity to run a race distance in a relaxed environment. Events must meet the licence standards for a road race and be run on an officially measured and certified road course. Events in this category will typically make up a series. Results may be used for ranking purposes online, but results from more formal road races will take precedence in relation to official rankings, proof of time submissions and team selections.

Track and Field

During the 2017/18 and 2018/19 competition years, 356 track and field events held **scottishathletics** licences, in addition to a number of National and District Championships which were licensed by UK Athletics. Track and field typically makes up around 27% of licences issued in Scotland each year.

Licensing levels already exist in the UK, under the guidance of UK Athletics. All applications submitted to **scottishathletics** will be considered for a **UKA level 1** licence. Events held under a level 1 licence are eligible for ranking purposes, provided licensing standards are met, and currently make up the majority of events held in Scotland.

Events licensed at level 1 must meet the following criteria:

Level 1	
Rules	UKA
Facility	TrackMark accredited
Equipment	All equipment must comply with rules and safety guidance provided by UKA
Minimum Officials (Essential)	- Starter & Starter's Assistant (both Level 1+) - Track Referee (Level 2+) plus three or more graded Judges / Umpires (fewer may be acceptable for middle distance only events or for 6 lane tracks as opposed to 8 lane tracks) - Chief Timekeeper (Level 2 minimum) plus two or more graded Timekeepers (fewer may be acceptable for middle distance only events or for 6 lane tracks as opposed to 8 lane tracks) - Field Referee (Level 2 minimum) plus at least two graded Officials per event running at any one time. Additional Helpers acceptable (but not to replace required Officials). A minimum of two qualified Officials must operate on each field event, and for Long Throws and Pole Vault one of those must be at Level 2 or above.
Officials (Desirable)	- Additional graded officials/assistant officials in all disciplines

Events that cannot meet the requirements of a level 1 licence but can still operate safely (eg. sufficient officials will be on duty but the meeting will take place on a grass track) may be issued a **Basic** Licence. This ensures that the event can be licensed for insurance purposes, but participants and the event organiser must be aware that results cannot be considered for ranking purposes if held under a basic licence.

Should any event organiser wish to apply for a **UKA level 2** licence, an application should be submitted to **scottishathletics**, along with an e-mail outlining why you would like your event to be considered for a level 2 licence. Factors such as the standard of competition offered; previous results; facility location and quality; number and levels of officials available; and why a level 2 licence is required will all be considered.