



SEEDING, DRAWS AND QUALIFICATION IN TRACK EVENTS AT ENGLAND ATHLETICS OUTDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

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General Principles - Outdoors

1. Preliminary rounds (heats / semi-finals) will be held in all track events in which the declared number of athletes is too large to allow the competition to be conducted satisfactorily in a single round (final). Where preliminary rounds are held, all athletes must compete in, and qualify through, all such rounds. The same principles will apply to both male and female athletes in all age-groups.
2. Any seeding will be based on the number of declared athletes in an event not the number of entries.
3. The maximum number of rounds, for events up to and including 800m, will be three (first rounds, semi-finals and final) and the maximum number of rounds for events over 800m will be two (first round and final).
4. For all track events up to and including 800m, the following will apply:
 - (a) If there are three heats, or less, in the first round, then there will be no semi-finals
 - (b) If there are four heats in the first round, then there will be two semi-finals
 - (c) If there are five or more heats in the first round, then there will be three semi-finals.
5. For 800m:
 - (a) Every effort will be made to avoid three rounds of competition.
 - (b) The maximum number of runners in any race will be ten.
6. For Mile, 1500m, 1500m steeplechase and 2000m steeplechase:
 - (a) Unless there are exceptional circumstances, the recommended maximum number of runners in any race will be 14.
 - (b) If first round heats are held, only twelve athletes will qualify for the final.
7. For 3000m, 3000m steeplechase and 5000m:
 - (a) The maximum number of athletes in any race will be 24
 - (b) If first round heats are held, only sixteen athletes will qualify for the final
8. The following tables will be used, in the absence of extraordinary circumstances, to determine the number of rounds to be held, the number of heats in each round and the qualification procedure for each round of track events:

N.B.	H	Number of heats
	P	Qualifiers on position
	T	Qualifiers on time

100m, 200m, 300m, 400m, 75m hurdles, 80m hurdles, 100m hurdles, 110m hurdles, 300m hurdles, 400m hurdles

Declared Athletes	Round 1			Semi Finals			Final
	H	P	T	H	P	T	
1-8							1
9-16	2	3	2				1
17-24	3	2	2				1
25-32	4	3	4	2	3	2	1
33-40	5	4	4	3	2	2	1
41-48	6	3	6	3	2	2	1
49-56	7	3	3	3	2	2	1
57-64	8	2	8	3	2	2	1
65-72	9	2	6	3	2	2	1
73-80	10	2	4	3	2	2	1
81-88	11	2	2	3	2	2	1

800m

Declared Athletes	Round 1			Semi Finals			Final
	H	P	T	H	P	T	
1-8							1
9-16	2	3	2				1
17-24	3	2	2				1
25-32	4	3	4	2	3	2	1
33-40	5	4	4	3	2	2	1
41-48	6	3	6	3	2	2	1
49-56	7	3	3	3	2	2	1
57-64	8	2	8	3	2	2	1

Mile, 1500m, 1500m steeplechase and 2000m steeplechase

Declared Athletes	Round 1			Semi Finals			Final
	H	P	T	H	P	T	
1-14							1
15-28	2	4	4				1
29-42	3	3	3				1
43-56	4	2	4				1
57-70	5	2	2				1

3000m, 3000m steeplechase and 5000m

Declared Athletes	Round 1			Semi Finals			Final
	H	P	T	H	P	T	
1-24							1
25-48	2	6	4				1

9. For events up to and including 800m:
- In the first round, the lane order shall be drawn randomly by lot, provided progression is to semifinals. If progression is straight to a final then the lane order will be seeded using declared and authenticated personal best results in the current and preceding two seasons or current season's best results.
 - After the first round, the athletes will be placed in heats of subsequent rounds in accordance with the following procedures:
 - Fastest heat winner
 - 2nd fastest heat winner
 - 3rd fastest heat winner etc
 - Fastest 2nd place
 - 2nd fastest 2nd place
 - 3rd fastest 2nd place etc
 - (concluding with)
 - Fastest time qualifier
 - 2nd fastest time qualifier
 - 3rd fastest time qualifier etc.
 - The athletes will then be placed in order of the above seeding in a zig zag distribution e.g. 3 semi-finals would consist of the following seedings:

A	1	6	7	12	13	18	19	24
B	2	5	8	11	14	17	20	23
C	3	4	9	10	15	16	21	22
 - Three random draws will then be made:

- i. One for the four highest ranked athletes to determine placings in lanes 3, 4, 5 and 6.
 - ii. Another for the fifth and sixth ranked athletes to determine placings in lanes 7 and 8.
 - iii. And a final draw for the two lowest ranked athletes to determine placings in lanes 1 and 2.
- (e) For single rounds, or for events with no semi-final, then procedures (c) and (d) above will be used to determine the lanes.

Wherever possible, current information about the performance of all athletes will be considered and heats drawn, so that normally, the best performers reach the final. Information will be obtained from the Power of 10 Rankings to assist this process.

10. For events of 1500m and above, all starting positions will be drawn by lot.
11. If the first round of an event, which is scheduled to progress directly to a final, is cancelled then the final will be held at the scheduled time of the first round.
12. In events up to and including 300m, where scheduled semi-finals are cancelled, the final will be held at the scheduled time of the semi-final. For all other events where a scheduled semi-final is cancelled the final will be run at the stated final time.