

## Regulation 14

# **MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD**

**14.1 General Rules.** Conference track and field competition shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the NCAA, the Mountain West Handbook, the Mountain West Indoor Track and Field Championships Handbook and the Mountain West Outdoor Track and Field Championships Handbook.

**14.2 Conference Schedule.** There shall be no required regular-season Conference schedule in the sports of men's and women's track and field.

**14.3 Championship Determination.** The team and individual Conference champion in men's and women's track and field shall be determined at a Conference championship meet. Indoor track and field and outdoor track and field shall be considered separate sports and a Conference championship shall be held in each sport.

### **14.4 Conference Championship.**

#### **14.4.1 Date and Site.**

**14.4.1.1 Indoor.** The Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships shall be conducted the Thursday – Saturday two weeks prior to the start of NCAA postseason competition. Additional information regarding hosting requirements can be found in the Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field Championships Hosting Guidelines.

**14.4.1.2 Outdoor.** The Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships shall be conducted the Wednesday – Saturday two weeks prior to the start of NCAA postseason competition. Additional information regarding hosting requirements can be found in the Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field Championships Hosting Guidelines.

#### **14.4.2 Minimum Number of Participants.**

**14.4.2.1 Indoor.** Member institutions that sponsor the sport of indoor track and field shall take a minimum of 14 participants to the Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships. Institutions that do not meet the minimum number of participants requirement shall be assessed a fine of \$5,000 plus the costs associated with the team traveling to the Championships site. The Conference office shall determine the cost of traveling to the Championships site. If failure of the member institution to bring the minimum number of participants to the Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships results in a loss to the host institution, the fine shall be used to cover the expenses incurred by the host institution. If failure to bring the minimum number of participants to the Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships does not result in a loss to the host institution, the fine shall be included in the Conference championships budget. Waivers of the minimum number of participants rule may be granted by the Commissioner.

**14.4.2.2 Outdoor.** Member institutions that sponsor the sport of outdoor track and field shall take a minimum of 14 participants to the Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships. Institutions that do not meet the minimum number of participants requirement shall be assessed a fine of \$5,000 plus the costs associated with the team traveling to the Championships site. The Conference office shall determine the cost of traveling to the Championships site. If failure of the member institution to bring the minimum number of participants to the Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships results in a loss to the host institution, the fine shall be used to cover the expenses incurred by the host institution. If failure to bring the minimum number of participants to the Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships does not result in a loss to the host institution, the fine shall be included in the Conference championships budget. Waivers of the minimum number of participants rule may be granted by the Commissioner.

**14.4.3 Pre-Championship Meeting.** A mandatory pre-championship meeting shall be conducted on Thursday two hours prior to the start of combined events in indoor and three hours prior to the start of combined events in outdoor track. Each institution shall have at least one representative participate in the meeting. Should an institution fail to participate in the mandatory pre-championship meeting, the head coach shall have written notification sent to their director of athletics and institutional sport administrator.

Conference office staff and an institutional representative shall also participate in the meeting. *(Adopted October 2006; Revised February 2008, April 2009, January 2012, September 2015, May 2017)*

**14.5 Playing Rules.** The Conference championships shall be conducted according to the NCAA Men's and Women's Track & Field/Cross Country Rules except as modified by Conference regulations.

**14.6 Squad-Size Limitations.** The squad size shall be limited for the track and field championships to a maximum of 28 male student-athletes and 28 female student-athletes for each institution. Failure to comply with the squad-size limitations shall result in Conference sanctions.

#### **14.7 Awards.**

**14.7.1 Coach of the Year.** The Coach of the Year shall be voted on by the coaches at the conclusion of the Championships. A coach shall not vote for himself or herself. Only head coaches are viable coach of the year candidates. There may not be a tie for Mountain West Coach of the Year. In the event of a tie, coaches shall re-vote between the two (or more) highest vote receivers. *(Clarified August 2017)*

**14.7.2 Outstanding Performer of the Indoor or Outdoor Track and Field Championships.** The Outstanding Performer of the Indoor or Outdoor Track and Field Championships shall be voted on by the coaches at the conclusion of the Championships. In the event of a tie, the coaches shall re-vote between the two (or more) highest vote receivers. *(Revised February 2013, November 2019, July 2021)*

**14.7.3 Student-Athlete of the Year.** The Student-Athlete of the Year shall be selected by Mountain West track and field coaches. Should a coach fail to complete the entire ballot, the student-athletes from that team shall not be eligible to receive an award. Co-awards for the individual student-athlete awards are permitted, but there shall not be more than two. In the event of a three-way tie for an "Of the Year" award, coaches shall re-vote between the three to get to one or two recipients. Additional information regarding awards policies and procedures can be found in the applicable Mountain West Indoor Track and Field Championships Handbook or Mountain West Outdoor Track and

Field Championships Handbook. *(Revised December 2004, January 2007; Clarified August 2017)*

**14.7.4 All-Conference Team.** The All-Conference team shall consist of the top three finishers in each event.

**14.7.5 All-Conference Team – Relays.** The All-Conference team shall consist of the top three finishers in each relay.

**14.8 Meeting of Coaches.** There shall be an annual meeting of the men's and women's track and field coaches to be held each year on a date to be determined in consultation with the administrative liaison. Any changes shall be subject to approval by the Joint Council. Attendance by each head coach is mandatory. *(Revised July 2006, July 2012, November 2014, July 2021)*