

*Chief Executive Officer*

Stan Perkins  
WMA

Sent via email: [stanperkins@me.com](mailto:stanperkins@me.com)

Monaco, June 14<sup>th</sup> 2017

Dear Stan

Thank you for your e-mail last week and I am happy to clarify for you the IAAF's position regarding the participation of Russian Masters Athletes.

It is important to note before doing so that the IAAF's jurisdiction is limited to competitions that we sanction (or that are sanctioned and held in accordance with IAAF Rules or the rules of our members) and to athletes who are affiliated to our member federations.

With that said, let me respond first to your concern about athletes from Russia competing at the recent World Masters Games in Auckland.

The World Masters Games (WMG) is not a competition under the IAAF's jurisdiction (even if Athletics New Zealand ended up assisting in the organisation of the Athletics component of the Games). The WMG is organised and sanctioned by the International Masters Games Association and athletes competing at the WMG are not affiliated members of RusAF. So far as we understand, the WMG accepts entries directly from non-affiliated athletes and the entry criteria are based solely on age. Whilst we were certainly not happy to see Russian athletes competing at the WMG (and expressly said so), you will appreciate that we had no jurisdictional basis to intervene further in the matter.

The participation of Russian athletes at the forthcoming European Masters Championships and other events held under the WMA's sanction is a different matter altogether. Those competitions are for athletes who are affiliated to the member federations of the WMA which, in the case of the Russian Federation, means the suspended RusAF. As such, it is the IAAF's position that Russian

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Masters Athletes are not eligible to compete in WMA events until RusAF is reinstated to IAAF membership unless they can satisfy the criteria under IAAF Rules to be granted Neutral Athlete status. As you are aware, a number of Russian Masters athletes have applied to the IAAF Doping Review Board for such status but have failed to meet the relevant criteria.

I trust this clarifies the position. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Olivier Gers".

Olivier Gers

Cc: Winston Thomas