

UK ATHLETICS TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

GUIDANCE NOTE – INDOOR 800m STARTS

Currently, under UKA Rules for Competition, Rule A2 (e) of the Indoor Competitions Code of Practice states that for events run partly in lanes there shall be only one competitor in each lane. This has prevented there being two competitors sharing a lane for 800m starts, whereas IAAF Rule 214.6(c) allows two athletes to be allocated to one lane until the break line.

When the revised Rules for Competition are introduced from 1st April 2016, two athletes may be assigned to one lane and historically this has already been the practice in some areas of the UK. Thus, the Technical Advisory Group believes that formally delaying a change in practice until 1st April 2016, thus ruling out the 2015/2016 Indoor Season, is not helpful.

Therefore, with immediate effect it recommends that:

“For the start of races of 800m, each athlete may be assigned a separate lane, or up to two athletes may be assigned per lane, or a group start, preferably starting in lanes 1 and 4.”

Extract IAAF Rule 214.6 (c)

Malcolm Rogers

Chair, Technical Advisory Group 14th December 2015