

Overview

TrackMark is UK Athletics’ new quality assurance scheme for outdoor Track & Field Athletics facilities. TrackMark was developed in consultation with track operators, track and field athletics clubs and National Sports Councils and is an accreditation process that utilises a simple web-based portal.

A venue that achieves TrackMark will be recognised by UKA as having well managed, compliant facilities that are accessible to participants of all abilities.

TrackMark accreditation is broken down into six units and is open to any facility that has track and/or field facilities. (see Fig 1.0)

Figure 1.0 TrackMark Units - overview

| Ref: | Accreditation | Assessment |
|--------|---------------|---|
| Unit 1 | Track | Track layout/track surface condition inspection |
| Unit 2 | Field | Throws and jumps facilities, field layout, safety equipment, disability provision <i>(Note: New landing bed testing criteria will be introduced in 2019)</i> |
| Unit 3 | Ancillary | Disability access, toilets, changing rooms, car parking, storage, clubroom/social areas, multi-purpose rooms. |
| Unit 4 | Operations | Staff/volunteer training, maintenance/inspection regimes |
| Unit 5 | Floodlighting | Track and field lighting plans and lux levels |
| Unit 6 | Competition | Track: Valid measurement and levels survey for all track events Field: Valid measurement and levels survey for all field events |

TrackMark and Track & Field competition licensing

(2019 Outdoor Season) License Level 2 competitions: *Area Championships, Scottish District Championships, BUCS Championships, BMC Elite & Grand Prix, Celtic Cup, HC Championships, CAU Championships, HC Age Group Championships, LEAP, Loughborough Match, National School Championships, Schools International, UK School Games, Celtic International*

For clubs/competition providers organising [Level 2 competitions](#) (shown above), the host venue should have achieved OR demonstrated a committed to working towards TrackMark accreditation at the time of license application†.

† “Working towards” status denotes that the venue has provided UKA with a firm commitment and evidence that they are actively working towards the achievement of TrackMark accreditation in the 2019/20 financial year.

(2020 Outdoor Season) License Level 1 competitions: *Open Meetings, Local, County and Area Leagues, Trophy Meetings, County Championships, BMC Academy & Regional Events, Youth Development League, Inter County Individual & CE Meetings*

For clubs/competition providers organising Level 1 competitions (shown above), the host venue should have achieved OR be committed to working towards TrackMark accreditation for the 2020 outdoor season†.

IMPORTANT: For the 2019 outdoor season there is NO REQUIREMENT for level 1 competition venues to have achieved or be working towards TrackMark accreditation.

† “Working towards” status denotes that the venue has provided UKA with a firm commitment and evidence that they are actively working towards the achievement of TrackMark accreditation in the 2020/21 financial year.

Figure 2.0 TrackMark units required to apply for a Track & Field competition licence

| Event type | Unit 1: Track | Unit 2: Field | Unit 3: Ancillary | Unit 4: Operations | Unit 5: †Floodlighting | Unit 6: Competition |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Level 1 Competition Licence | | | | | | |
| Track & Field | • | • | • | • | • (see footnote) | N/A |
| Track only | • | | • | • | • (see footnote) | N/A |
| Field only | | • | • | • | • (see footnote) | N/A |
| Level 2 Competition Licence | | | | | | |
| Track & Field | • | • | • | • | • (see footnote) | • |
| Track only | • | | • | • | • (see footnote) | • |
| Field only | | • | • | • | • (see footnote) | • |

†For competitions to be held in hours of dusk/darkness the venue must also achieve Unit 5 – Floodlighting accreditation for a licence to be granted.

How do you register your facility for TrackMark?

To receive a unique TrackMark login for your facility simply email TrackMark@uka.org.uk with the name of our venue and a main contact. *Note: The TrackMark applicant MUST be the facility owner or operator.*

What are the costs?

The cost of accreditation is £75 per unit.

Example 1:

A standard Track & Field facility that has no ambition to host competitions but wishes to demonstrate the achievement of National Governing Body minimum standards should seek accreditation in Unit 1 (Track), Unit 2 (Field), Unit 3 (Ancillary), and Unit 4 (Operations).

†Cost of accreditation: £300 (4x units @ £75 per unit).

Example 2:

A Track and Field facility that wishes to apply for a [UKA Competition licence](#) for a National Championships (Level 2) held in hours of dusk/darkness, would need to accredit in Units 1 (Track), 2 (Field), 3 (Ancillary), 4 (Operations), 5 (Floodlighting) and 6 (Competition).

†Cost of accreditation: £450 (6x modules @ £75 per module).

How long will accreditation last?

†Unit accreditation last for a period of 3years after which time the facility operator will be required to reaccredit.

What does working towards TrackMark accreditation involve?

In working towards achieving accreditation in TrackMark units, Facility operators are required to answer online questions about facility provision and management at their venue and upload supporting evidence e.g. an independent track surface and throws cage inspection, examples of completed facility checklists, images of track and field equipment etc.

Submitted answers and evidence will then be reviewed by UKAs TrackMark assessment panel and, in some cases, further information and a site visit may be required to ensure the achievement of minimum standards.

Successful accreditation: Once a unit(s) has been assessed the venue contact will be notified by email as to the status of the application and, if successful, the venue will be emailed an electronic UKA TrackMark certificate acknowledging the unit(s) that have been accredited. In addition, the venue will be formally recognised as a TrackMark accredited facility on UKA's website.

Unsuccessful accreditation: If any submitted units are unsuccessful the venue will receive detailed feedback about any deficiencies and will be given the opportunity to address these prior to resubmission. *Note: Resubmission will not incur any additional cost if a revised assessment is submitted within 6 months of the original submission.*

Benefits of TrackMark

- TrackMark accreditation is a simple unit-based accreditation process that facility operators can use to demonstrate to hirers, athletes, officials, coaches and parents that their venue is well managed, well maintained and accessible to all users
- Demonstrates that a venue has met minimum standards of provision stipulated by the National Governing Body for Athletics in the UK
- Provides operators with independent, professional condition surveys that helps avoid shock areas of expenditure and facilitates prudent medium and long term investment planning aimed at protecting the long-term future of track and field venue(s).
- From April 4th, 2020 only TrackMark accredited venues will be able to apply to host UKA licenced Track & Field competitions
- Adds weight to future funding applications
- Receipt of an official UKA TrackMark certificate
- TrackMark accredited venues help to support athletics clubs to attract more members and build a sustainable future