

SINGAPORE MASTERS ATHLETICS
(Member of the Singapore Athletics)
(Member of the Asia Masters Athletics)
(Member of the World Masters Athletics)

2//2019

Dear fellow Affiliates/Members

Greetings from Singapore  Masters Athletics.

After we released a mail with the qualifying time for the Asia Masters Athletics Track & Field Meet in Kuching, Sarawak there social media is being flooded with messages amongst themselves. Messages of notable interest are:-

1. How we came to set the qualifying times.

Answer:- The qualifying times are based on the 8th placing during the 19 th Asia Masters Athletics Track & Field Meet held in Singapore in 2016. The times for 8th placing achieved in the 20th Asia Masters Athletics Track & Field Meet in China in 2017 is tougher.

2. Which party don't allow free participation was another concern.

Answer:- Just like IAAF don't interfere in the day to day affairs of the it's affiliate Singapore Athletics the WMA and AMA don't interfere in it's affiliate's day to day running.

WMA and AMA don't set qualifying marks but it is up to the affiliate(SMA) to set the qualifying times, just like the SNOC sets qualifying marks for the SEA Games,Asian Games or The Olympic Games.

As an Affiliate of the Asia Masters Athletics and World Masters Athletics Singapore  Masters Athletics sets the standards for representation in any AMA or WMA meets. We want a quality Singapore Team to represent this tiny dynamic nation. We want reasonable performance by our Singapore athlete.

With this qualifying process we aim to achieve recognition for our athletes achievements at these meets.

Just like National Sports Associations makes recommendations to SNOC for their athletes to be considered for participation in major meets our affiliates or friends can request SMA to consider their athletes to participate if they fail to meet the qualifying mark. SMA reserves it's right to approve or disapprove such request.

3. There is concern as to the use of the word honeymooners' and 'fun runners'. Well from our experience with athletes in the previous meets we have couples travelling and using the travel time for competition and mixing it with their personal agenda. Fun runners travel to use the occasion as a get away with friends. We feel that these athletes don't have a competition prepared mind.

We want a very competitive minded team there to bring glory to Singapore. These

are not strongly worded words but included casually and should drive the message to those who treat the AMA or WMA meets lightly.

Those who wish to travel to Kuching, Sarawak as supporters are welcomed to travel with the team. SMA will help with their travel arrangements.

4. There were also questions on Permanent Residents representing Singapore.

Singapore  Masters Athletics is only going to send Singaporeans to any AMA or WMA meets. No Permanent Residents will be entertained.

Permanent Resident will not be barred from participating in AMA or WMA Affiliates meets like the Malaysia Masters Athletics Meet etc.

5. Singapore  Masters Athletics will not organise a briefing for individuals who want to participate in the AMA or WMA Meets however SMA don't mind organising a discussion session with key personnel of our fellow Singapore Athletics Affiliates and leave it to the representatives to brief their athletes.

Hopefully we have answered some of your concerns which were circulating in the social media. Hopefully Athletes with queries can go through your Association and get them to discuss with SMA.

Thank you.

A Kannan

Secretary-General

Singapore  Masters Athletics

CC :- Mr Govindaraju, V-President Competition

Mr Chris Chan, Secretary-General Singapore National Olympic Council

Mr Sivaprakasam, General-Secretary Asia Masters Athletics and Executive Council Member Of the World Masters Athletics.