



Athletics Canada Harmonization 2027 Participant Day-Of-Event Licensing and Insurance

As the Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) for Athletics in Ontario, operating under the authority of Athletics Canada, our role is to help ensure safe, fair, and well-regulated competition, provide appropriate insurance coverage, and support the long-term growth and sustainability of the sport across the province.

As part of a national harmonization initiative led by Athletics Canada, all Provincial and Territorial branches will be implementing a [revised participant licensing and insurance model](#) for sanctioned road and trail races. This update is intended to simplify administration for race organizers, improve clarity around participant insurance, and align road and trail racing nationally under a consistent, participant-focused framework.

At the core of these changes is collaboration. Race directors, officials, volunteers, and participants all play a role in delivering safe, welcoming, and sustainable events. By working together in Ontario and aligning nationally, we're strengthening our running community and setting the sport up for long-term success. Below is a summary of the key updates changing in 2027.

1. Course Certification

Events requiring Athletics Canada course certification must be sanctioned by the appropriate Provincial or Territorial branch of Athletics Canada. Course certifications remain valid for ten (10) years; however, the event must obtain annual sanctioning to maintain certification validity.

Please note the following change has been implemented: while the Measurement Report remains valid for 10 years, the certificate itself is only good for the year of the event. Please see the details [HERE](#).

2. Participant Licensing & Insurance

All participants in AO-sanctioned road and trail races will be required to hold either:

- a valid Athletics Canada (AC) membership, or
- a \$5 day-of-event license

This license provides participant insurance coverage and supports safety and sanctioning standards. Kids' and youth races under 5K in distance will be exempt.



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3. **Simplified Race Sanction Fee Structure**

The current fee model, which varies by race size, will be replaced with a flat fee

- \$50 per race organization, which includes sanctioning for one event (multiple distances are included)
- \$25 for each additional event sanctioned by the same organization.

This approach simplifies budgeting, removes uncertainty tied to participant numbers

4. **Streamlined Registration**

Race Roster can provide Athletics Canada membership verification and day-of-event licensing, creating a seamless registration experience for participants and reducing administrative work for race organizers. The Athletics Canada platform can also integrate into other race registration platforms through a simple API. Contact Race Roster for details or have your registration platform contact AO for additional details.

[Frequently Asked Questions](#) can be found on this webpage

As more updates become available, we will continue to share them with you.

Thank you for the work you do to grow and strengthen road and trail running in Ontario. We look forward to continuing to work together to set our sport up for long-term success.