8. **BALKAN HALF MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Championships will be a part of an international half marathon held in any one of the Balkan countries. It will be staged every year.

8.1. **Entries:**

8.1.1. The Championships is an individual and team competition.

8.1.2. Two (2) male and two (2) female athletes from each country may compete. The athletes must be named by their Federation to be eligible for Balkan classification.

8.1.3. No athletes younger than 18 years shall be accepted.

8.1.4. Preliminary entries: Not later than 2 (two) months before the day of the Balkan Marathon Championships, each Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a preliminary list of athletes and the numbers of accompanying officials.

8.1.5. Final Entries: Not later than 10 (ten) days before the day of the Balkan Marathon Championships, each European Athletics Member Federation shall send to the hosting country and to ABAF Headquarters a final list of its athletes, plus the names of accompanying officials.

8.2. **Financial Obligations:**

8.2.1. The host Federation shall cover the board and lodging expenses for a maximum of 2 nights of a maximum of 4 athletes and 1 official.

8.2.2. The visiting delegations shall pay travelling expenses in both directions to and from the venue of the competition.

8.2.3. Local transportation between the hotels and the various venues related to the event, as well as transfers from the airport in case of teams travelling by plane, shall be arranged and paid for by the hosting Federation.

8.2.4. The hosting Federation shall also cover the board and lodging expenses for Balkan Athletics President and/or General Secretary should they attend the event.

8.2.5. The travelling expenses of Balkan Athletics President and General Secretary shall be covered by the ABAF.

8.3. **Awards:**

8.3.1. First three placed athletes shall receive medals.

8.3.2. First three placed teams in overall scoring shall receive trophies.

8.3.3. There shall be prize money for Balkan individual classification when possible.

8.4. **Ceremonies:**

There shall be no opening/closing ceremonies, other than the victory ceremonies where the first three placed athletes and teams shall mount on the podium.

8.5. **Doping Control:**

No particular doping control for the championships. The procedures of the half marathon organisers shall apply.

8.6. **Printed Materials and Announcements:**

8.6.1. Every kind of printed material intended for distribution exclusively to the participants of the Balkan Half Marathon Championships such as invitation letters, information notes, bulletins, competition documents, official result sheets as well as the announcements during the competition shall be either in English, or in both English and in the language of the host country. All printed materials must contain the official ABAF logo.

8.6.2. The hosting federation shall send a full set of results immediately after the end of each competition day to ABAF headquarters and to the ABAF statistician.