

**NEWS** 

Double-Amputee Sprinter Blake Leeper To Appeal World Athletics' Use Of Racially Discriminatory 'MASH' Rule To Ban Him From Competition Against Non-Disabled Athletes

APRIL 26, 2021

On April 26, 2021, World Athletics denied American double-amputee track-and-field athlete Blake Leeper's application seeking approval to compete in World Athletics-sanctioned events, including the Olympic Games, while using his new, modified running-specific prosthetics (RSPs), and to have his results listed alongside those of non-disabled athletes. This denial was based entirely on the application of the Maximum Allowable Standing Height ("MASH") standards to Leeper, notwithstanding that those standards are based on outdated and racially exclusionary data and discriminate against Black athletes of African descent such as Mr. Leeper.

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