USA Track & Field
Welcomes You to
Officiating Track & Field

USATF National Track & Field Officials Committee
Prepared by Lawrie G. Robertson, Peter J. L. Thompson and Eric D. Zemper, Ph.D.

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Clinic Schedule

9:00  Welcome, Goals, Introductions
9:10  USATF Certification Process
9:20  Philosophy of Officiating
9:25  Event Planning and Management
9:35  Officiating the Track Events
11:20 Introduction to Officiating Field Events
11:35 Officiating the Jumps
12:15 Lunch Break
1:00  Officiating the Throws
2:00  Officiating Other Areas (RW, LDR, Disabled)
2:30  Summary, Questions, Next Steps
3:00-5:00 USATF written rules review

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Clinic Goals

• Promote an “athlete-centered” philosophy of officiating
• Identify effective officiating techniques
• Gain new skills and insights
Clinic Goals

• Understand key differences in rules
• Develop a proactive approach to ensure fairness
• Vision of an ongoing process necessary to develop skills & experience
• To keep this volunteer activity fun
Track & Field Acronyms

- NFSHSA  National Federation of State High School Associations
- NCAA    National Collegiate Athletic Association
- USATF   USA Track & Field
- IAAF    International Association of Athletics Federations

In the U.S. there are four different rule books we deal with, one from each of the above organizations.
USATF Certification Levels

- Association
- National
- Master
- Master Referee
- National Technical Official (IAAF)
The Primary Concern at All Times for all Officials is:

SAFETY!
The Golden Rule for Track Officials:

No athlete should be allowed to gain an unfair advantage, and no athlete should have to suffer an unfair disadvantage.
What Is an “Athlete-Centered” Officiating Philosophy?

• Proper application of rules to situation
  – Fairness
  – Objectivity
  – Impartiality

• Reports observations, never affects the competition

• Consistent and clear communications

• Positive proactive approach (including *preventive officiating*)

• Professionalism, integrity and teamwork
An Effective Official Is:

• Knowledgeable
• Systematic and aware
• Caring, but firm and consistent
• Congenial, but impartial
• Calm and composed
• Well groomed in appropriate uniform
• “Invisible”
• Able to see officiating as art and science
Self-evaluation Check for Officials

If you can leave the meet unnoticed, your job has been well done.

(The attention should always be on the athletes.)
An Effective Official is Prepared

Heat
- Sunscreen
- Hat
- Water or cool drink

Cold
- Gloves and hand warmer
- Waterproofs and hat
- Boots
- Water or warm drink

Snack

“A comfortable official is an effective official”
Event Planning and Management
Organization of Meet Personnel

Meet Director

Jury of Appeals

Track Referee  Field Referee

Starter  Race Walk Referee

Chief Clerk  Chief Finish Judge  Chief Umpire  Chief Field Judge

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## Officiating Tasks Assignment Sheet

**Meet:**  
Track Referee  
Starter  
Chief Clerk  
Chief Finish Judge

**Date:**  
Walk Referee  
Recaller  
Assistant Clerk  
Chief Umpire

**Officials Coord.:**  
Field Referee  
Recaller  
Assistant Clerk  
Chief Field Judge

**Place:**  
Finish Judge  
Umpire

**Area #:**  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
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8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16

**Implement Weight-in:**  
Wind Gauge (Track)  
Wind Gauge (Field)  
Long Jump Chief

**I mple me nt We ig h-in:**  
Wind Gauge (Track)  
Wind Gauge (Field)  
Long Jump Chief

**Chief Judge:**  
Race Walk Judge  
Jud. #

**Chief Timer:**  
Place  
Timer  
Watch #

**Chief Finish Judge:**  
Photo Panel  
Javelin Chief

**Chief Score:**  
Discus Chief  
Shot Put Chief

**Chief Score:**  
Disqualification Board  

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Role of Meet Director and Games Committee

- Coordinate subcommittees
- Promote event and secure sponsors
- Process entries and prepare event sheets
- Recruit and manage sufficient officials
- Secure needed equipment
- Prepare facility for competitions
- Record and distribute results
Role of the Referee

- Overall responsibility for the meet
- Supervises all chief officials
- Reviews reports of officials concerning possible violations and takes action
- May reschedule or add events in consultation with the Meet Director
- Serves as a non-voting member of the Jury of Appeals
Keeping the Meet on Schedule

Announcer → Clerk → Starter → Finish Area
Clerk of the Course Duties

- Know the facility
- Assign competitors to heats and lanes
- Provide starting and advancing instructions
- Proactively checks uniforms
- Gather, hold, escort and place in lanes
- Anticipate and resolve challenges
- Attend to keeping the meet on schedule
- Remain calm and organized
Know the Facility
Starting Line Locations and Markings
Clerk of the Course Duties
Assign Competitors to Heats and Lanes
Assigning Heats and Lanes
Trials Serpentining
(Example of 3 Heats)

**Fastest**
1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21

**Slowest**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heat #1</th>
<th>Heat #2</th>
<th>Heat #3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Competitors advance by taking places 1 - 4 from each heat plus 4 fastest times from all heats = 16 to semi-final
## Assigning Heats and Lanes

### Semi-final Rounds

#### Selecting Semi-Finalists

Serpentining by Place & Time

#### Establishing Lanes

Random “Double Draw”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semi-Final #1</th>
<th>Semi-Final #2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H1 - 1st</td>
<td>H2 - 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H1 - 2nd</td>
<td>H3 - 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H2 - 2nd</td>
<td>H3 - 2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H2 - 3rd</td>
<td>H1 - 3rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>H3 - 3rd</td>
<td>H1 - 4th</td>
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<tr>
<td>H3 - 4th</td>
<td>H2 - 4th</td>
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<tr>
<td>NFT 1</td>
<td>NFT 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFT 4</td>
<td>NFT 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Assigning Lanes

(for each heat)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lane</th>
<th>Heat 1</th>
<th>Heat 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>8</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- 4 fastest from heats draw for lanes 3 - 6.
- 4 slowest from each heat are randomly drawn for lanes 1, 2, 7 & 8.
Assigning Heats and Lanes Final

• Qualify for the finals by taking the first 4 placers from each heat
• Draw lanes by lot assigning 4 fastest finishers in lanes 3, 4, 5, and 6; the 4 slowest in lanes 1, 2, 7, and 8

Assigning Lanes
(for each heat)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 fastest from heats draw for lanes 3 - 6.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 slowest from each heat are randomly drawn for lanes 1, 2, 7 &amp; 8</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: High School events randomly assign lanes in pairs
Clerk of the Course Duties
Provide Instructions on Advancing
Clerk of the Course Duties
Gather, Check Uniforms and Escort

Issue Hip Numbers

Check Uniforms

Escort to Start Line
The Starter
Qualities of a Good Starter

• Is knowledgeable and decisive
• Provides brief, concise instructions
• Is firm, patient and fair
• Possesses common sense and tact
• Creates/maintains calm atmosphere at the starting line
• Keeps meet on schedule
• Shares leadership tasks - delegates
• Works as part of a team
• Keeps the focus on athletes
Position of Starter and Recall For Staggered Lanes Starts
Starting Straightaway Sprints

Sprint Type Starts (Non-Stagger)

Assistant Starter

X — POSITION OF STARTER

3-5 Yds.

5-6 Yds.

Starter

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Position of Starter
800m and Longer

Step Up Line

Start Line
False Start Rules

• No false start rule (HS and college)
• One false start rule or ‘One to the Field’ (IAAF and USATF)
• Two false start rule (for Combined Events, Youth and Masters)
UMPIRES

• “The eyes and ears of the Referee” Observe & report.
• Umpires do not disqualify athletes; they report what they see to the Referee (and the Referee makes the decision).
• If you see an infraction, raise the yellow flag and stay at your position until the Referee (or Chief Umpire) comes to you.
• Be prepared to give a full (written) description of who did what to whom and when.
• If you’re not sure, don’t make the call.
• If you see a situation you know is not a foul, but there may be a question, write a report to pass on to the Referee.

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Umpiring

How would you prioritize:
if you have 4, 8, or 12 Umpires?
Umpiring Positions - Prioritized
Umpire Tasks

Minimum of 4 required - to cover curves, straights and relay exchange zones
Observe & Report Possible Violations

- Impeding or jostling
- Illegal hurdling – dragging or intentional knocking down
- Unfair assistance or contact
- Exchanging the baton beyond the relay exchange zone
- Failing to run in a direct line on final straight
- Running on or over inside lane line on a curve
Umpire Tasks

Observe for and report if competitor fails to clear the horizontal plane of a hurdle or intentionally knocking down a hurdle
Steeple Chase Barrier Clearance Methods
Relay Passes
Baton Must Be Within the Zone
Relay Passes
Baton Must Be Within the Zone
Umpire’s Report of a Possible Infraction

MEET: WIAA State Champions ____ CLASS _____AAAA

DATE: 5/30/99 _______ TIME OF DAY: 3:00 PM

EVENT: 400 Meters ____ HEAT/SEMI NO. 2 of 2

GIRLS / BOYS (circle) LANE NUMBER: _______ 5

COMPETITOR’S NAME: Samantha Johnson

BIB NUMBER: ___717____ TEAM: _______ Excell

COLORS: JERSEY: _______ Maroon and Gold
          SHORTS: _______ Navy Blue

LANE LINE X _____ EXCHANGE ZONE ___ HURDLE ___

VEERING ___ JOSTLING/INTERFERENCE ___

POSSIBLE INFRACTION SPECIFICS (mark diagram on back)

(who/what/how/where) Athlete in lane 5 took 4 consecutive steps on or over the inside lane line of her assigned lane while running on the south curve.

__________________________

UMPIRE’S SIGNATURE: Lawrie Robertson

LOCATION NO. 15 USATF CERT NO. 002679

CHIEF UMPIRE’S SIGN.: Bob Springer

DECISION OF REFEREE (Rule No., Rule Book, Year, Page)

By rule, the athlete shall be disqualified.


REFEREE’S SIGNATURE: Sally Tuffgal
The Finish
Finish Judges

- Assigned to a place, NEVER to a lane
- Stop the watch, identify placer, follow placer
- Communicate immediately if problems occur
- Don’t bluff; not a contest
- Work as a team
Competitors Timed and Placed to Near Edge of Finish Line
Time/Place Finishers Based on Position of the "Torso"

Torso = Trunk
NOT - head, neck, arms, hands, legs or feet

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Converting Hand Times

• For track events - convert times to next higher 1/10th of a second
  – Time on watch = 10.43
  – Reported time is 10.5
  – Time on watch = 10.50
  – Reported time is 10.5

• For races not fully on the track, convert times to next highest second; e.g., marathon:
  – Time on watch = 3:29:45.12
  – Reported time is 3:29:46
Differences in Times

• If 3 watches disagree, select the middle time
• If 2 of 3 watches agree, select the time of the agreeing watches
• If only 2 timers and they disagree, take the slower of the 2
• Priority given to timer assigned to time the higher place
• Important to have back up timer

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### Fully Automatic Timing - F.A.T.

(Courtesy of FinishLynx ®)

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Carl LEWIS</td>
<td>Santa Monica TC</td>
<td>20.28</td>
<td>20.28</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jeff WILLIAMS</td>
<td>Los Angeles CA</td>
<td>20.49</td>
<td>0.21</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Daniel EFFIONG</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>20.56</td>
<td>0.28</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Andrew TYNES</td>
<td>Bahamas</td>
<td>20.65</td>
<td>0.37</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ron CLARK</td>
<td>Nike TC</td>
<td>20.72</td>
<td>0.44</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Koji ITO</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>20.81</td>
<td>0.53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Carl Lewis - Men's 200M Final**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start</th>
<th>Wind</th>
<th>Camera 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21:16.23</td>
<td>+1.9</td>
<td>1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>M/S</td>
<td>530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ave 3</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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In Summary

• Organize to keep meet on schedule
• Work as a team
• Use written task descriptions
• Secure enough officials to time, place and observe each competitor
• Be as “invisible” as possible
Officiating Field Events
SAFETY!
Your Most Important Consideration in Officiating Field Events
Officiating Field Events

• Think Safety First!

• Administer an organized event
  – Review rules prior to competition
  – Provide clear and complete instructions
  – Inspect all implements and competitors
  – Assure accurate measurements
  – Create a fair competition environment

# Officiating Field Events

Time Limits for Field Events:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># Remaining</th>
<th>Throws/</th>
<th>HJ</th>
<th>PV</th>
<th>Horiz. J.</th>
<th>Throws/</th>
<th>HJ</th>
<th>PV</th>
<th>Horiz. J.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Greater than 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USATF/IAAF</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCAA</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1½</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1½</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1½</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **2-3 Remaining** | | | | | | | | |
| USATF/IAAF | 1 | 1½ | 2 | 1 | 1½ | 2 | 1 | 1½ |
| NCAA | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| HS | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1½ | 3 | 4 | 1½ | 3 |

| **1 Remaining** | | | | | | | | |
| USATF/IAAF | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| NCAA | 1 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| HS | 1 | 5 | 6 | 1½ | 5 | 6 | 1½ | 5 |

Yellow warning flag at ¼ min. remaining for USATF/IAAF, at ½ min. for NCAA
Consecutive attempts: generally 2 minutes, 3 minutes for PV
Tips for Conducting Safe Competitions

• Limit access to jumps and throws areas
• HS rules **require** responsible adult supervision during warm-ups
• Provide adequate time for warm-up, prior to (30 min.) and between flights (10 min.)
• Closely supervise all warm-up activities
• Use calls, rules and assertive leadership

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Tips for Conducting Safe Competitions

• Practice throws within sectors only
• Control access to implements (impound)
• Check implements for damage (and for W/M ‘mark of the day’)
• Walk all implements back, no tossing
Officiating Horizontal Jumps

Approach to Officiating Field Events
Long/Triple Jump Positions

- Judge
- 2nd Recorder
- Wind Gauge
- Head Judge
- Runway
- Pit Judge
- Recorder
- Performance Indicator
- Communications
- Timing Light
- Flight Coord
- Athletes Bench
- Escort
- Pit Officials [3]
- Pit Judge
- Plasticine Official
-

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Preparation - Assigning Officials

• Match assignment with experience and skill
• Assign the duties for entire event
• Rotate positions between events
Preparation - Minimum Coverage

Competition requires at least 2 officials:

• Judge 1 (Head Judge)
  – Call athletes
  – Judge the take-off board
  – Hold tape at right angle to foul line
  – Check and record distances

• Judge 2 (Pit Judge)
  – Mark break in sand
  – Hold tape’s zero end at break point
  – Prepare pit for next competitor
Preparation - Essential Supplies

- Fiberglass tape (20 meters)
- Clipboard and Pencils
- Stopwatch
- Rake
- Shovel
- Broom
- Access to water/hose
Preparation - Higher Level Competitions

- 50 Meter/100 foot metal or fiberglass tape
- Wind gauge
- Leveling bar
- Plastic clipboard cover
- Flags and cones
- Clock
- Seating for all officials
- Plasticine, putty knife, roller, white polish
- Towel
Preparation - Readying the Competition Area

- Check the board
  - condition and steadiness
- Moisten the pit
- Turn pit with shovel or roto-tiller, remove debris
- Level pit
- Sweep area around pit, clean the runway
- Sweep and rake following warm-up period
Long/Triple Jump
Sand Break Points
Requirement for a Level Pit
### Field Events Results Form

**MEET** ___________________________ **DATE** ____________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>CIRCLE ONE</th>
<th>SHOT</th>
<th>DISCUS</th>
<th>LONG JUMP</th>
<th>TRIPLE JUMP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PRELIMINARIES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FINALS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Preparation - Wind Gauge

- Place the gauge
  - 20 meters from foul line
  - 2 meters back from runway
  - 1.22 meters above ground
- Record the wind reading for every attempt
The Competition

Warm-up and Run Through Period

• Announce a specific time period allotted for open pit run-through practices
• Supervise to maintain a safe pit
• Close pit at the predetermined time - cone at board
• Level and prepare the pit for the competition
• Ensure that no marks are placed on the runway
The Competition

Competitor Instructions

• End warm-ups five minutes prior to start
• Gather all competitors
• Review:
  – Applicable rules
  – Any special rules applying to this meet
  – Time limit per attempt (60 sec.) and calls
  – Procedures for checking out of the event
  – Order of jumps and method for advancing to the final
The Competition Sample Competitor Instructions

• “You will place no marks on the runway or in the pit”
• “You have 1 minute after your name is called to initiate your attempt”
• “You must exit the pit beyond your mark”
• “You must check out with the head official before leaving for another event in preliminaries and return promptly”
• “You may not leave during the finals”
Take-off Board - Foul vs Fair

[Diagram showing the difference between foul and fair take-offs.]

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Typical High School Board
Triple Jump Technique

Triple Jump Sequence

Hop
- Take off and land on same foot

Step
- Lands on opposite foot

Jump
- Must land in pit
Elements of a Valid Jump

- foot behind foul line
- no jump indicator
- measure
- zero end of tape
- direction of leaving pit
- mark in landing area
- take off board
- foul line
- runway

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Types of Violations

Long and Triple Jump Landing Area

No Jump
It is a foul if an athlete touches the ground beyond the foul line

No Jump
or the foul line extended

direction of run

direction of leaving pit

No Jump
It is a foul of an athlete walks back through the landing area

No Jump
It is a foul if an athlete touches the ground outside the landing area nearer the foul line than the mark in the pit

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Long/Triple Jump Measurement
Sand Break Points

1
2
3
4
The Competition
Proper Measurement

• Mark closest point of landing to the board
• Zero end of the tape is placed on the edge of the break in sand closest to the take-off board
• Measure perpendicular to take-off board and parallel to the edge of runway
• Announce distance to lesser centimeter, or “foul” as the red flag is raised after attempt is complete
Points of Measurement
The Competition - The Final

- Determine the competitors who will advance
  The number should be on results sheet
- Determine the order in the final
- Announce names, order and preliminary marks
- Announce final round, final attempt for each competitor
- Recheck results, sign, submit results
- Leave competition area in good condition
The Competition
Potential Problem Areas

• Competitors jumping out of order
• Jumpers checking in, then “disappearing”
• Unacceptable language, behavior
• People walking across the runway
• Safe use and storage of equipment
• Pit edge visible and surface kept level
• Officiating crew in the proper positions
• Conflicts with other events
In Summary

- Remove the cone
- Make announcing calls: "Up" - "On deck" - "On hold"
- Start the clock/watch
- Watch the board for legal take-off
- Signal "fair" or "foul"/"no mark" after the competitor has exited the pit
- Announce clearly, don’t shout
Officiating
Vertical Jumps

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Vertical Jump Tasks

• Preparing area
  – Set standards and mark their placement
  – Set and mark the bar
  – Measure the height of crossbar at standard point

• Time limit
  – 60 seconds (HS PV 90 sec.)

• Clearance

• Breaking ties
Pole Vault Area

Note: PV landing pad requirements are rapidly evolving; check your rule book for current dimensions. HS event not allowed if pad does not meet rule requirements.
Pole Vault Officiating Positions
High Jump

Bar Placement and Measurement
High Jump

Observing the Bar
Officiating Throwing Events
All throwing implements should be weighed and measured prior to the competition.
Shot Put, Discus and Hammer
Officiating Positions
Shot Put and Discus Considerations

Arc Angles:
IAAF, USATF, NCAA:
  Shot put/Discus = 34.92°
High School Federation:
  *Shot Put = 65.5°
  *Discus = 60° (outside the track)
  = 40° (inside the track)
  * State association may adopt 40°
Sector - Fair/Foul
Shot Put Circle Fouls
Hammer and Discus Cage Positions
Javelin Throw
Officiating
at the Arc

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Javelin Throw Measurement

1. Point of contact

1. Tape lies flat

1. The “read” point

2. Tape drawn through the center point
In Review

- Think and practice safety - in warm-ups and competition
- Consistent communications and practices
- Accuracy and athlete-centered
Officiating Long Distance Running and Cross Country
Officiating
LDR and Cross Country

• Referee/Race Director and Jury
• Officials to cover
  – Start
  – Course
  – Finish
  – Results
Course Design Issues

• Registration Area
  – Overhead signs
  – Weather protection
  – Cut-off deadline for on-time start

• Start Area
  – Safe, open, straight area for 600-800 meters
  – Arc and boxes for teams in cross country
  – Assembly line with rope across
  – Use of predicted pace signs (road races)
Cross Country Course Design

- Umpires
- Course marshals
- Split time readers
- Spectator areas
Start Procedure

- Clerks - check in competitors, set starting positions on start line - arc
- Marshals - start line, assembly, pace signs
- Starter - standard commands, no count down
On Course

Issues

• Course considerations:
  – Marking and signage
  – Splits – visual and oral
  – Aid stations – consistent organization
  – First aid and communications
  – Marshaling and guiding

• Applicable USATF rules on assistance and why umpires are important

• Written procedures and process for major events

• Role of the Event Director as Referee (not recommended)
Cross Country Finish Area System
For Mass Finishes at Championship Events

KEY
- Fixed Pennant
- Moveable Gate
- Chute Aide

- Timer and # Recorder
- Place Caller/Director Sorter
- Timer and Random Timer
- Quick Scorer

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LDR/Cross Country Finish Steps

Finish

- Chute Director
- Recording Timers
- Select Timers
- Sorters
- Chute Aides
- Pullers
- Spikers
Results

Generation Methods

Total field finish times method
- Finishers timed at the front of the chute
- Tags removed from finishers at end of chute
- Issues: “turkeys”, staying in chute, fallen finishers

Estimated time method
- All chutes open
- Interval times taken
- Time estimators sent down chutes
- All tags removed
Results Entry

• Finisher tag information entered into computer
• Direct or indirect entry of times
• Select times used to adjust recorded times
Officiating
Race Walking
Rules of Race Walking Technique

• **Rule # 1** The walker is to maintain continuous contact with the ground.

• **Rule # 2** The walker’s advancing leg is to be straightened from first contact with the ground until the leg is in the vertical upright position.
Judging Sectors on Track
Proper Area of Observation

competitor(s) in lane one

6-9 meters
(20-30 feet)

judge in lane eight

48°
Race Walk Caution Paddles

Loss of Contact

Bent Knee
Recording Calls Process
Race Walk Judge’s Cards

Tally Sheet

Warning Card

Judge’s Tally Sheet

Judge’s Warning Card

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### Chief Judge’s Tally Sheet

#### Explanations
- $\checkmark$ = Caution, Loss of Contact
- $\triangleright$ = Caution, Bent Knee
- ✔️ = Warning, Loss of Contact
- 🎓 = Warning, Bent Knee

#### Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Recorder’s Name (Please Print)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Judges Name &amp; Rank</td>
<td>🎓</td>
<td>🎓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comp. No.</td>
<td>$\checkmark$</td>
<td>$\triangleright$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time of Day</td>
<td>🎓</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Officiating Track & Field for Athletes with Disabilities
Officiating Track & Field for Athletes with Disabilities

There are six Disabled Sports Organizations promoting T&F for disabled athletes:

- Wheelchair Sports, USA
- National Disability Sports Alliance (Cerebral Palsy)
- Special Olympics
- United States Association for Blind Athletes
- USA Deaf Track & Field
- Disabled Sports USA (Amputee)

All base their rules on IAAF and USATF rules, making modifications only as necessary to accommodate the particular needs of the type of disability.

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While Masters and Youth competitions are grouped by age, disabled competitions are grouped by age and by type and level of disability.
Examples of rule modifications:

- In wheelchair racing, the start and finish are determined by the hub of the front wheel
Examples of rule modifications:
- In wheelchair racing, the relay exchange zones are doubled in length and two lanes are allowed per team.
Examples of rule modifications:

- In wheelchair racing, an athlete passing carries the responsibility of ensuring full clearance of the chair being overtaken, and the athlete being passed has the responsibility to not obstruct or impede once the front wheels of the passing athlete are in sight.
Officiating Track & Field for Athletes with Disabilities

Examples of rule modifications:
For all running events, leg amputees must wear prostheses; but...

for field events, they can wear them...

or not wear them.
Examples of rule modifications:

- When starting races for deaf athletes, the starter must use visual cues such as a flag or a strobe light.
- Blind athletes are allowed sighted guides in running events, do not have to use a baton in relays (exchange is by touch), and are allowed aural cueing in field events.
Field events for wheelchair athletes involve the use of chair tie-downs or a throwing frame (maximum height of the seat is 75 cm)
A complete set of rule modifications for each disability group is in a special section of the USATF Rule Book, and in your clinic notebook.
Officiating Track & Field for Athletes with Disabilities

And…

Persons with disabilities can be officials, as well.
Next Steps
Next Steps to Certification

✓ Check for fees made out to: [insert appropriate info here]

✓ Complete data forms (two copies; complete one, sign both)

✓ Complete the rules review(s)
Next Steps to Certification
Get started on completing the practicum

| Name of Candidate: | Phone #: (__) |

**Instructions:** The Pacific Northwest Association requires that new officials serve in an apprentice role in 10 different capacities at 10 separate meets over a two-year period. Of the ten meets, at least one must be from each of the following types of meets: a Youth or Masters meet, an Open meet, a High School meet, and a College/University meet. You are also urged to officiate at a Special Olympics or disabled athletes meet. You may complete the tasks in any order, but please secure a sign-off from your supervising official at each competition.

Please Print All Information

1. **TASK:** Serve as either a timer or finish judge (place picker).  
   - Name of Meet:  
   - Meet Type (check): ___ Youth ___ Masters ___ Open ___ High School ___ College ___ Disabled  
   - Officiating Task(s) Performed:  
   - Supervisor's rating/comments:  
   - Supervisor's Name: ___________ Signature: ______________________

2. **TASK:** Serve as an assistant to the Clerk, Starter or Meet Scorer  
   - Name of Meet:  
   - Meet Type (check): ___ Youth ___ Masters ___ Open ___ High School ___ College ___ Disabled  
   - Officiating Task(s) Performed:  
   - Supervisor's rating/comments:  
   - Supervisor's Name: ___________ Signature: ______________________

3. **TASK:** Serve as an Umpire (formerly known as Inspector)  
   - Name of Meet:  
   - Meet Type (check): ___ Youth ___ Masters ___ Open ___ High School ___ College ___ Disabled  
   - Officiating Task(s) Performed:  
   - Supervisor's rating/comments:  
   - Supervisor's Name: ___________ Signature: ______________________
Continuing Education

• This was a Level I clinic
• There also are Level II clinics available, half-day in length and focused on specialty areas (e.g., race walk judging, starting, weights and measures, clerking, throws, jumps)
• National and Master level officials are required to attend a minimum of one Level II clinic per Olympiad
Welcomes You to Officiating

and

[Your] Association Officials Committee

Welcomes You to Officiating

and

Thanks you for attending today’s course

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Go for it!
Acknowledgments

ALLSPORT Photographs. 1998


Robertson, L.G., Kleeman, G., Thompson, P. J. L. *A Guide to Track & Field Officiating*. USATF, Indianapolis, Indiana, 1999

Seese, Eddie, Photographs, Personal Record Sports, Vallejo, California, 1999

Zemper, Eric D., *Starters* USATF Training Monograph

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