

**ARTICLE II
OFFICIALS**

**RULE 110
MEET PERSONNEL**

1. Officials necessary at athletics events: There shall be as many officials at a meet as are necessary for its orderly and efficient operation, and compliance with these rules.
2. Officials assigned as competition officials should be those certified by the National Officials Committee of USATF. See USATF Bylaws Article 17-H.
NOTE: *The training and certifying of officials for athletics is supervised by the National Officials Committee and by the Officials Committee of each Association of USATF. Information may be obtained by contacting the Association Officials Chair or writing to: Jim Flanik, 7300-D Forest Cove Lane, Northfield Center, OH 44067.*
3. The Games Committee shall appoint all Competition Officials, except for National Championships, Olympic Trials and other events covered by Regulation 4-H.
4. The following personnel are recommended as a minimum, including Chief Judges where applicable, for the conduct of track and field meets:

Event Management Personnel

Meet Director
Games Committee
Competition Director
Assistant Competition Directors, as needed

Management Officials	Minimum Indoor	Minimum Outdoor
Technical Manager	1	1
Jury of Appeal	3	3
Referee - Track	1	1
Referee- Field	1	1
Referee - Combined	1	1
Referee – Outside Stadium	1	1
National Technical Officials	1	3
Photo Finish Operator	1	1
Competition Secretary	1	1

Competition Officials	Minimum Indoor	Minimum Outdoor
Clerks of Course	4	6
*Finish Line Judges	9	12
Finish Line Coordinator	1	1
Field Judges		
Pole Vault, High Jump	4	4
Long Jump, Triple Jump	4	4
Shot Put, Weight	6	6
Discus, Javelin, Hammer	-	6
Umpires	8	12
*Timers	12	12
Photo Finish Judges	2	2
Starter	1	1
Recall Starter	1	2
Lap Scorers	2	2
Marshals	4	5
Wind Gauge Operator	-	2
Inspector of Implements	1	2
Walk Judges	5	5
Race Walking Officials	2	2
Recorder of Records	1	1

*Where adequate automatic photofinish devices are available, this number should be reduced substantially.

Support Personnel (as needed)

Announcer	Doctor
Surveyor	Performance Board Operators
Press Steward	Awards Custodian

- The following officials and support personnel are recommended for the conduct of cross country and road events:

Referee	Course Umpires
Starter	Course Recorders
Clerk of Course	Chute Umpires
Chief Finish Judge	Chute Controller
Finish Judges	Competition Secretaries
Judges' Recorder	Marshals
Timers	Doctors
Timers' Recorder	Press Steward
Jury of Appeal	Lap Counters

- Referees, National Technical Officials and Chief Judges should wear a distinctive armband or badge.

7. It is recommended that there be 6 to 9 Race Walking Judges, plus a sufficient number of Race Walking Officials.
8. Where feasible, no official should act in a dual capacity. A coach should not serve as an official or Referee for any single event(s) in which an athlete whom he/she coaches competes.
9. No track team or club team manager or coach should act as an official at a Championship, international selection competition, or international meet held under IAAF Rule 1.1(a) through (d) for any single event(s) in which an athlete whom he/she coaches competes.

**RULE 111
GAMES COMMITTEE**

1. In Championship meets, the Games Committee shall be appointed by the sport committee or committees of USATF.
2. In non-championship meets, this Committee may be appointed by the entity holding the meet.
3. This Committee shall be responsible for the correct conduct of the meet. They shall provide a place properly laid out and measured to conform to all the requirements of these rules and shall also furnish all implements and equipment necessary for the satisfactory competition of the events scheduled in the official program, and shall have jurisdiction of all matters not assigned by these rules to the Referee or other officials. They may delegate operational responsibility for some or all of these areas to a Competition Director.
4. In non-championship meets, a meet director or meet manager, or both, may exclusively, or with the entity holding the meet, carry out any of the above-described functions.
5. The Competition Director, or an Assistant, shall check that all officials have reported for duty, appoint substitutes when necessary and shall have authority to remove from duty any official for cause. In cooperation with the appointed Marshall, he/she shall arrange that only authorized persons are allowed in the competition area.

**RULE 115
NATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS**

1. At the discretion of the Games Committee, National Technical Officials (NTOs) serve as assistants to the Referee to provide event oversight at major Championships.

2. The NTOs shall appoint one Chief among those already appointed for the competition if one was not previously appointed.
3. Whenever possible, the Chief NTO shall assign an NTO for every individual event, and the combined events, in the competition. The NTO shall provide all necessary support to the respective Referee of the event.
4. The NTO must be present at all times when an event, to which he/she has been assigned, is in progress and should ensure that the conduct of the competition is in full conformity with these Rules and the relevant decisions made by the Games Committee.
5. If a problem arises, or if they observe any matter, which in their opinion requires comment, they should, in the first instance, bring it to the attention of the Chief Judge of the event and if necessary, offer advice as to what should be done. If the advice is not accepted and there is a clear infringement of these Rules or decisions made by the Games Committee, the NTO shall bring it to the attention of the appropriate Referee for immediate resolution.
6. At the conclusion of field events the NTO shall also sign the results sheets.

RULE 118
PHOTO FINISH OPERATOR

The Photo Finish Operators have the responsibility for assembling, positioning, connecting and properly operating all components used in the capture of images used by the Photo Finish Judges. At the beginning of each session, the Chief Photo Finish Operator shall provide the technical expertise to the Chief Photo Finish Judge to ensure that the official and backup fully automatic timing equipment (i) is started automatically by the Starter's pistol/starting device and (ii) is correctly aligned with the finish line.

RULE 119
JURY OF APPEAL

1. A Jury of Appeal composed of 3 or 5 persons, preferably certified officials, may be established by the Games Committees to consider appeals from decisions of the Referee as to matters that developed during the conduct of the event.
2. One of its members shall be the Chair. If and when it is considered appropriate, a Secretary, who may be a non-member of the Jury, may be appointed. One or more alternates should also be named. Referees shall not serve as members of the Jury of Appeal. In no case shall any management personnel or competition official serve on a Jury of Appeal in considering any appeal where such person has previously performed an official function in respect of the matter being appealed.

3. For National, Regional, and Association Long Distance Running and Cross Country Championship events and events sanctioned under Regulation 14-A or 14-B-1, a Jury of Appeal shall be appointed. For all non-championship long distance running and cross country events, a Jury of Appeal should be appointed, where feasible.
4. The Jury of Appeal shall consult with all relevant officials. If the Jury of Appeal is in doubt, other available evidence may be considered. If such evidence, including any available video evidence, is not conclusive, the decision of the Referee shall be upheld. The decision of the Jury of Appeal shall be final. The Jury of Appeal may, however, reconsider decisions if new conclusive evidence is presented.

NOTE: *For appeal procedures, see Rule 146.5.*

RULE 123 TECHNICAL MANAGER

The Technical Manager shall be responsible for ensuring that the track, runways, circles, arcs, sectors, and landing areas for field events and all equipment are in accordance with the Rules, and shall certify such to the appropriate Referee prior to the commencement of the competition. This will include the verification of the calibration of electronic measuring equipment.

RULE 125 REFEREE

1. A separate Referee may be appointed for track events, for field events, for Combined Events, and for running and Race Walking events outside the stadium. The Referee for track events and for events outside the stadium shall have no jurisdiction over matters within the responsibilities of the Chief Judge of Race Walking events. See Rules 230 and 232.
2. The Referee shall ensure that the rules and decisions of USATF are observed and shall decide upon any matters which arise during the meet and for which provision has not been made in these rules. The Referee for track events and for events outside the stadium shall have jurisdiction to decide placings in a race only when the Chief Finish Judge is unable to arrive at a decision. The Referee shall not act in a dual capacity.
3. The decision of the Referee in all matters shall be final and without appeal except in those meets or events for which a Jury of Appeal has been established for that special purpose.
4. To arrive at a fair decision, the Referee may consider any available evidence which the Referee thinks necessary, including a film or picture produced by an official videotape recorder, or any available video evidence.

5. The appropriate Referee shall check all final results, shall deal with any disputed points and where there is no Measurement Judge (electronics), shall supervise the measurements of record performances. At the conclusion of each event, the official competition results shall be completed immediately, verified by signature if possible by the appropriate Referee or designee, and delivered to the Competition Secretary.
6. In the event of record performances, the appropriate Referee shall certify the result and duly note such on the appropriate form.
7. A Referee shall have the authority to warn any competitor for improper conduct or to exclude such a competitor from the competition. Warnings may be indicated to the athlete by showing a yellow card, exclusion by showing a red card. Warnings and disqualifications shall be entered on the competition card and official competition record.
8. If, in the opinion of the appropriate Referee, circumstances arise at any meet such that justice demands that any event should be contested again, except as indicated in the authority of the Starter, the Referee shall have authority to declare the event void and it shall be held again, either on the same day or on some future occasion, as the Referee shall decide.
9. The Combined Events Referee shall have jurisdiction over the conduct of the Combined Events competition. This Referee shall also have jurisdiction over the conduct of the respective individual events within the Combined Events competition. However, the track and field event Referees shall retain jurisdiction over the conduct of the respective individual events within the combined events competition if there is no Combined Events Referee.
10. The order of events stated in the official program shall not be changed, nor shall the announced arrangement of heats in any event be added to or altered, except by the Referee.
11. The Referee shall have the power to cancel or postpone to a future date any event, even though the same has actually commenced, if in the Referee's judgment the competition cannot be conducted or completed in a satisfactory manner and in fairness to the competitors and officials.
12. Should any event have actually commenced, it shall be conducted (by the competitors who reported on the first date) at a future date in the same manner as through the competition had never been started. In events where any competitors have been eliminated, the Referee shall determine whether any such athletes may compete on the postponed date and at which point or round the competition should commence.

RULE 126

JUDGES

Finish Judges

1. When an approved imaging device is properly functioning at the finish of an event, the image must be referred to the Photo Finish Judges for the primary determination of the order of finish. In the absence of such a device, the primary determination of the order of the finish shall be made by the Judges at the finish.
2. It is recommended that there be at least four Judges, and normally one more Judge than there are lanes used, at the finish, one of whom shall be designated as Chief Finish Judge, who shall decide the order in which the competitors finish and who shall assign the other finish Judges to their respective duties. The Chief Finish Judge shall only observe the finishes and his/her decision shall be given only in the case of a tie vote on the part of the other Judges. In case of a disagreement, the majority of the Judges concerned with the disputed place(s) shall decide, and if there is a tie vote on the part of such Judges, the Chief Finish Judge shall decide.
3. When possible, Judges shall be placed on the same side of the track, at least 5m back from and in line with the finish, on an elevated platform.

Field Judges

4. A Head Field Judge shall be appointed, if there is no Field Event Referee.
5. The Chief Field Judge of each event shall perform the appropriate facility verification and certification if for any reason such certification is not given by the Technical Manager. The Chief Field Judge shall allocate the duties of each Judge in the event, and coordinate the work of the Judges.
6. The Chief Field Judge in each field event should not have or assume any duties that will prevent or interfere with the ability to determine the validity of any performance by any competitor.
7. The Field Judges shall judge, measure, and record each valid trial of each competitor in all field events. In the High Jump and Pole Vault precise measurement should be made when the bar is raised. When it is practical, two Judges should keep a record of all trials, checking their recordings at the end of each round. In the case of a record, the measurement shall be read by three Field Judges, including the Chief Field Judge of that event. See Rule 148.2(a) and 181.2.
8. The appropriate Field Judge(s) shall indicate a valid performance by raising a white flag and shall indicate a foul or non-valid performance by raising a red flag.

RULE 127
UMPIRES

1. The Chief Umpire, who is directly responsible to the Referee, shall generally supervise Umpires. The Chief Umpire shall:
 - (a) brief and review with Umpires the appropriate rules of competition and any special regulations established for the competition by the Games Committee or the Referee;
 - (b) place Umpires at locations where they may best perform their duties;
 - (c) secure from Umpires complete details, orally and in writing, of any alleged violations and immediately submit the report of the alleged violation to the Referee; and
 - (d) check the number, condition, and height of the hurdles and the placement and distance between hurdles in the event no Hurdle Inspector or other official has been appointed to do so.
2. Umpires are assistants to the Referee, to whom the Chief Umpire shall report, and have no authority to make final decisions.
3. Umpires, among other things, should be assigned to oversee the conduct of hurdle races and the passing of batons at the exchange zones in relay events.
4. It shall be the duty of any Umpire (i) to stand at such point as the Referee or Chief Umpire may designate; (ii) to watch the competition closely and, in case of a foul or violation of the rules by a competitor or other person, to indicate such foul or violation by raising and waving a yellow flag, and (iii) to report, orally and in writing, to the Chief Umpire what he/she saw of the incident.
5. When an Umpire observes that a competitor has run in a lane other than the assigned lane or that a relay baton has been passed outside the takeover zone, it is recommended that the umpire mark the track with a suitable non-permanent material where the athlete ran outside the lane or where the baton was passed.
6. In walking events, the assigned Umpires shall perform their duties as in any other event, but shall not be responsible for technique rules, which are the responsibility of the Judges of Race Walking.

RULE 128
TIMERS

1. When an approved imaging device is properly functioning at the finish of an event, the image must be referred to the Photo Finish Judges for the primary determination of the finish times for each competitor. Timers shall act in a back-up capacity when fully Automatic Photo Finish equipment is in use. In the absence, or failure, of such a device, the primary determination of the finish times shall be made by the Timers at the finish in accordance with Rule 165.
2. A certified official shall be designated as Chief Timer.
3. The Chief Timer, among other things, shall:
 - (a) determine that all running and walking events are hand timed in accordance with these rules;
 - (b) assign to Timers their assignments;
 - (c) supervise the recording of all hand times taken;
 - (d) make note of the records for the events to be timed, so an immediate check can be made in the event of record performances;
 - (e) in the event of a record performance, inspect the watches of the Timers involved and in the case of not fully-automatic timing, certify on the official record application form the times recorded by such Timers, who shall also sign the record application form; and
 - (f) when feasible, examine all watches prior to competition to determine their accuracy.
4. There shall be three Official Timers and one or two Alternate Timers, who shall time the winner of each event. The time recorded by the Alternate Timers shall not be considered unless one or more of the Official Timers' watches fails to properly record the time, in which event the Alternate Timers shall be called upon in such order as has been previously determined so that, if possible, in all races three watches shall have recorded the official winning time. Times for all finishers shall be recorded.

NOTE: *It is recommended that there be four more Timers than there are places being recorded (Chief Timer, two additional first place Timers and one alternate).*
5. When it is feasible to do so, intermediate or lap times should be recorded in races of 800 meters and over and at every 1000m in races of 3000 meters and over. Split times should be given to all competitors in events longer than 400

meters either by use of a visible time clock, orally, or both. For races partially or entirely off the track, split times should be given to the competitors either by a visible time clock, orally, or both at appropriate locations on the course.

6. When a fully automatic timing device is used, the Photo Finish Judges shall determine the places of the runners or walkers and the times as recorded by the device. At the beginning of each session, the Chief Photo Finish Judge, in cooperation with the Chief Photo Finish Operator, the Starter and the Referee, shall initiate and supervise control tests to ensure that the fully automatic timing equipment (i) is started automatically by the Starter's pistol/starting device and (ii) is correctly aligned with the finish line.
7. The Chief Photo Finish Judge shall record and certify the places and times and forward them to the Competition Secretary and/or such other officials designated by the Games Committee or Meet Director. When a computerized result system is used, the placings and times of the competitors may be entered directly into the computer system under the direction of the Chief Photo Finish Judge. Results shall subsequently be certified as official by the Referee or the Referee's designee. The determinations of the Photo Finish Judges may be appealed to the Referee for a final determination.
8. In the event of record performances, the Referee should certify the times and duly note them on the records of the Photo Finish Judges. In the event of a record performance, the Chief Photo Finish Judge shall certify on the official record application form the time recorded for such record, and also sign the record application form. If a record is timed by a videotape based system or a computer based system, a printed picture shall be made where required.

RULE 129

STARTER AND RECALL STARTER

1. The Chief Starter shall:
 - (a) allocate the duties of the start team judges, assigning the task of giving the start to the member of the team who, in the opinion of the Chief Starter, is best for the event.
 - (b) supervise the duties to be performed by members of the team.
 - (c) inform the Starter, after receiving the relevant order from the Competition Director or otherwise ascertaining, that everything is in order to initiate the start procedure (i.e. the applicable Timers, Judges, Photo Finish Operators and Wind Gauge Operator are ready).
 - (d) act as an interlocutor between the technical staff of the timing equipment company and the judges.

- (e) keep all papers produced during the start procedure including all documents showing the reaction times and/or false start waveform images if available, and deliver these to the Competition Secretary.
2. The Starter shall have entire control of the competitors at their marks and shall be the sole judge, except as herein otherwise provided, of whether or not any competitor has committed a false start. See Rule 162 for method of starting.
3. One or more Recall Starters shall be provided when possible to assist the Starter. The Chief Starter shall assign a specific task and position to each Recall Starter, who is obliged to recall the race if any fault is observed. They shall have the authority to recall the competitors, by appropriate means, in any race in which, in his/her opinion or that of the Starter, the start was not fair. If a Recall Starter is assigned to observe one or more competitors, they shall place themselves so that each competitor can be clearly seen. After a recalled or aborted start the Recall Starter shall report his observations to the Starter who decides whether and to whom a warning or disqualification shall be issued.
NOTE: *For events conducted with a staggered start, it is recommended that there be at least two Recall Starters.*
4. In races where a false start control apparatus is used, a protest may be based on the failure of the starter to recall a false start. The protest may be made only by, or on behalf of, an athlete who has completed the race. If the protest is upheld, the Referee shall disqualify the athlete who committed the false start.
5. Warnings and disqualifications concerning the start may be made only by the Starter.
6. To assist the Starter in races using crouch starts, a false start detection apparatus may be used. When such an apparatus is used, the Starter, or an assigned Recall Starter, shall wear headphones in order to hear clearly acoustic signals that are emitted to indicate the orderly operation of the apparatus and to indicate a false start.
7. The Starters shall be clearly identifiable and shall be positioned so that there is full visual control over all runners during the start of the race.

RULE 131 LAP SCORERS

1. Lap Scorers shall keep a record of the laps covered by each competitor in races longer than one mile. For races of 3 miles and over (3000 meters and over in indoor races), Lap Scorers shall also record on their lap scoring cards the times over each lap (as given them by an Official Timer) of the competitors for whom

they are responsible. No Lap Scorer shall be responsible for more than four competitors (six in the case of walking events and ultramarathons).

2. One lap scorer shall be responsible for maintaining at the finish line a display of the laps remaining. The display shall be changed each lap when the leader enters the straight that ends at the finish line. In addition, manual indications shall be given, when appropriate, to competitors who have been, or are about to be, lapped. The final lap shall be signaled to each competitor, usually by ringing a bell.
3. Transponder systems complying with Rule 165.16 may be used for lap scoring.

RULE 132 COMPETITION SECRETARY

1. The Competition Secretary shall have the responsibility of preparing all entrant and start lists referred to in Rule 10 and Rule 11, or otherwise as appropriate, and worksheets for use by other officials. The Competition Secretary shall work closely with the Clerk of Course and the Referee in the reforming of heats and the preparation of start lists for subsequent rounds of competition. The Competition Secretary shall cause all start lists, including any amendments to start lists, to be distributed appropriately to other officials.
2. The Competition Secretary shall collect the results of each event, together with times, photo finish pictures, heights or distances furnished by the Judges and Timers or other officials, and the wind gauge information provided by the Wind Gauge Operator. As soon as possible thereafter, he/she shall communicate such information to the Announcer, Press Steward, or other appropriate officials and, after recording the places, times, heights, distances, and wind gauge readings, he/she shall turn in the official results, together with all official cards and photo finish pictures, to the Meet Director.
3. The Competition Secretary shall oversee the scoring of team competition, combined events and handicap races.

RULE 133 MARSHAL

The Marshal shall have full charge of the enclosure or course and shall prevent anyone but officials and actual competitors from entering or remaining therein. The Marshal shall control the Marshal's assistants and assign to them their respective duties.

RULE 134 ANNOUNCER

The Announcer shall announce to the public the names and numbers of the competitors taking part in each event and all relevant information such as the composition of the heats or lanes drawn and intermediate times. The results (placings, times, heights, and distances) of each event should be announced at the earliest practical moment after the Announcer receives the information. The Announcer or an assistant shall keep a log that records the time of day of all results announcements and shall make this log available to the Referee, the Jury of Appeal and the Competition Secretary on request.

RULE 135 SURVEYOR

The Surveyor shall, immediately prior to the meet, survey the track and runways, and measure all distances that are to be contested, and also the circles, arcs, sectors, and other measurements relating to the field events. The Surveyor shall also measure the levelness of the track and of all runways and landing areas and shall furnish a written statement of such to the Games Committee or the Referee before the meet.

RULE 136 WIND GAUGE OPERATOR

The Wind Gauge Operator, except as provided in Rule 163.14, shall maintain the wind gauge, and take and record in writing, on the forms provided for that purpose by the Competition Secretary, the wind velocity in the direction of running for all running events (including hurdles events) up to and including the 200 Meters and the Long Jump and Triple Jump. The Wind Gauge Operator shall report each wind gauge measurement to the appropriate recorder for each event and shall provide a compilation of all measurements to the Competition Secretary.

RULE 138 CLERK OF COURSE

1. The Clerk of Course shall control the Assistant Clerks of Course and assign them to such duties as deemed proper.
2. The Clerk of Course shall be provided with the names and the numbers of all competitors entered in running or walking events, and he/she shall notify them to appear at the starting line or other assembly area before the start in each event in which they are entered.
3. The Clerk of Course, and Assistants, shall ensure that competitors are wearing clothing, shoes and spikes which are in accordance with USATF Rules. The Clerk shall verify that number bibs correspond to those on the start list and are worn correctly. The Clerk shall also be responsible for distribution and proper placement of additional identification items used to aid in announcing and

judging.

4. In handicap events from marks, the Clerk of Course shall place each competitor behind the proper mark and shall immediately notify the Starter should any competitor attempt to advance after the Starter has given the final oral command to the field.
5. In time allowance handicap events, competitors shall be assigned their positions by the Clerk of Course, who shall also furnish the Starter with the number and time allowance of each competitor.

RULE 139 ADDITIONAL OFFICIALS

1. **Finish Line Coordinator:** The Finish Line Coordinator shall be responsible for alerting all finish line officials that a track event is about to begin and to ensure that these officials are ready to perform their assigned duties prior to the start of that event. When this is accomplished, the Finish Line Coordinator shall inform the Starter of this condition. It is also the duty of the Finish Line Coordinator to ensure that the finish line area is free of all unauthorized personnel during the start, the progress, and the finish of a track event. A Finish Line Coordinator may be assigned to assist the Chief Finish Line Judge and/or Chief Timer in recording times and places.
2. **Inspector of Implements:** The Inspector of Implements shall weigh and measure implements used in competition, and shall place a designating mark on each implement passed as complying with all relevant specifications. He/she shall impound the non-complying ones for the duration of the competition. In an event that includes a qualifying round, he/she shall impound all implements that will be available for the final competition between the qualifying round and the competition proper. Under special circumstances (*e.g.*, implements are damaged), the Referee may authorize the Inspector of Implements to certify additional implements between the qualifying round and the competition proper.
3. **Recorder of Records:** For all athletic meets there shall be included in the list of officials a Recorder of Records. He/she shall see that records are properly applied for. He/she shall have at the site of the competition an adequate supply of record forms. He/she should have no other duties.
4. **Combined Events Coordinator:** A Combined Events Coordinator may be assigned for the Combined Events. He/she shall be present at all times to assist in the conduct of the event and shall report to the assigned Referee.