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# The Equipment and Facilities Specifications Newsletter

An official copyrighted publication of the Equipment and Facilities Specifications Subcommittee of the National Officials Committee

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW SUBSCRIBERS

**T**his Newsletter has been sent semi annually as an educational tool to all Weights and Measures, Technical Managers and interested Throws Officials, and certification chairs for the last fifteen years. It is also available on-line at [www.usatfofficials.com](http://www.usatfofficials.com) Welcome to our new subscribers. There are 168 of you from 45 associations. Consequently I couldn't list all the new people in this newsletter. But it will be going out to 527 members which are just over 70% of those registered in the last Olympiad. About 84% are going out by email.

IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO COULD BENEFIT BY GETTING THIS INFORMATION, PLEASE SEND HIS OR HER ADDRESS or E-MAIL ADDRESS TO THE EDITOR. LIKEWISE, IF YOU ARE NO LONGER INTERESTED IN BEING ON OUR MAILING LIST, ALSO LET ME KNOW. FOR FASTER DELIVERY AND FOR UPDATES IN BETWEEN NEWSLETTERS SEND ME YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS. IF YOU'RE GETTING THIS BY MAIL, I DON'T HAVE YOUR CURRENT E-MAIL ADDRESS.

The new committee members for the 2005-2008 Olympiad are:

E&F Committee		
Last Name	First Name	Office/Representing
Brand	Norman	
Crowe	Shirley	Youth Rep
Eggers	Winifred	Secretary
English	Chris	RW Rep 2004
Griggs	Emmitt	
Hutchins	Denise	
Katz	David	IAAF Tech Rep
Kleeman	George	Chair
Lung	Kristine	
Post	David	
Seemes	Sam	Men's T&F Rep
Seese	Eddie	Masters T&F Rep
Springer	Robert	
Wayne	Anthony	

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I have not received the names for the Athlete representatives or that for the Women's T & F Committee.

## E&FS's ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING

**T**he annual meeting will be held on Thursday evening, December 1 tentatively at 2 pm. See the final schedule on the USATF website. The agenda will be:

- Introductions
  - Approval of 2004 Meeting Minutes (see last newsletter)
  - Agenda Review and Approval
  - Old Business
    - Status of Action Items/Goals from 2005
    - Implement Problems in 2005
  - New Business
    - Rules Changes for 2006
    - Goals for 2006
    - Weight Specifications Taskforce
    - Action Items for 2006
- Let me know if you have any other items you would like to have discussed.

## THE TRAINING CENTER

**T**his is a regular feature of this newsletter, where we discuss the method of measuring an implement, venue or a track facility. Your comments or areas of interest are welcome. It is through this kind of dialogue that we learn from each other and improve our skills. Send the editor your stories and questions. The IAAF now has their approved equipment list on line at the following address: <http://www.iaaf.org/downloads/type=publications/index.page=2.htmx>.

The implement for this month is the hammer handle since there are specification changes for the handle being implemented in 2006. The new IAAF handle rule ,191.7 reads:

Handle. The handle may be either of single or double loop construction, but shall be rigid and without hinging joints of any kind. It shall not stretch appreciably while being thrown. It shall be attached to the wire in such a manner that it can not be turned within the loop of the wire to increase the overall length of the hammer. The handle may have a curved or straight grip with a maximum width inside of 130 mm and a maximum length inside of 110 mm. The minimum handle breaking strength shall be 8 kN (800 kgf). The sides of the handle may be straight or slightly curved where the sides attach meet the grip so as to provide greater room for the thrower's hands. [From 1-1-2006]

Note: The strength of a handle shall be determined in accordance with the procedures given in the IAAF Calibration Handbook.

Note the underlined portion is what is new. The other section is the same wording as was in the 2000-2001 handbook. Thus there are two changes. One is the inside maximum width which has been increased to 130 mm as previously proposed and then the break strength was reduced from 20 KN to 8. This means that the new handles will not look much different from the old. I still don't know how they will be marked so that we know they will meet the new weight strength. Hopefully that information will be available by the next newsletter. Thus you have two new measurements to do if you haven't been doing them already, namely to measure the length and width of the handle. Unfortunately most current handles will meet all but possibly the break strength since most are at or less than 110 mm in length and are 110 mm in width. In IAAF tests the current handles tended to break at about 4 KN. Thus there is a need for some kind of label to confirm they meet the new spec. I am expecting the NCAA to adopt this same standard. USATF will.

Thanks to Jan Burch for catching an error that I made when the definition of the center of gravity for the mini Javelin was made in 2003. On page 117 in Rule 193.11 the Distance from tip of tail to CG Min (or Max) mm should read Distance from tip to CG Min (or Max) mm. The values shown are correct for the distance from the tip. Below is a drawing by David Post which should make the measurements clearer. Note I have also changed the drawing and dimensions in the W&M Handbook to conform to this correction email.

### Implement Specifications for Youth Development Javelin Event

by Dave Post, USATF Certified official #005006 and Tom Petranoff, USATF New England Athletes Representative and former 2-time world record holder

Overall length: 695 mm  $\pm$ 10 mm

Tip Length: 89 mm  $\pm$ 5 mm

Tip diameter at the largest location: 40 mm  $\pm$ 3 mm

Grip length: 104 mm  $\pm$ 5 mm

Grip diameter: 37 mm  $\pm$ 3 mm

Shaft diameter (forward of grip): 38/30 mm (Max. /Min.)

Shaft diameter (behind grip): 27 mm  $\pm$ 3 mm

Location of front of grip: 327 mm  $\pm$ 5 mm from the tip of the tail section

Location of balance point (CG): 380/365 mm (Max/Min) from the tip

Number of straight fins: 4 (exactly)

Fin length: 165 mm  $\pm$ 3 mm

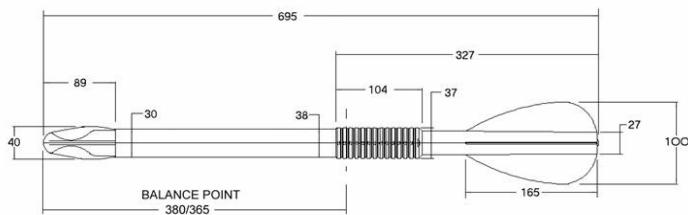
Fin diameter (peak-to-peak of opposed fins): 100 mm  $\pm$ 5 mm

Weight: 300 grams (Minimum for 300-gram model)

Weight: 400 grams (Minimum for 400-gram model)

Weight: 500 grams (Minimum for 500-gram model)

Tip material: soft rubber with a blunt point



## RULE CHANGES

**T**his was a Rules Change year for IAAF but not for USATF. There are several rules that impact us as W&M, throwing or Technical Managers. Likewise there are some NCAA rule changes and one significant National Federation rule change.

The full list and text of IAAF rule changes is available online at <http://www.iaaf.org/newsfiles/30823.pdf> (53 pages). Some wording may change by the time the Competition Rules 2006-2007 are published later this fall.

Official Lane width for all tracks and runways post January 1, 2004 is 1.22m +/-0.01m. #94 pg. 23 & 165 pg. 34, #169 pg. 34  
New Junior hurdle height for 110m hurdles 0.995 m (39 inches) # 122 pg 27

Plasticine layer on top of board increased from 3 to 10 mm. #177 pg 35

Minimum depth for sand now set at 30 cm. #179 pg. 35

Specifications set for testing protective netting for hammer and discus cages. # 200 pg 38 & #211 pg. 40

Finalized new spec for hammer handle. # 206 pg. 39

Set maximum banking for indoor tracks at 12 degrees. # 226 pg, 43.

I expect USATF to adopt most of these changes. Some more work is being done to insure fair competition for weight implements so you can expect some modifications there.

### NCAA Rule Changes

The NCAA rule changes have received final approval this month. A more complete list is available on [www.usatfofficials.com](http://www.usatfofficials.com) under the Rules section. Some highlights affecting equipment are:

Seven takeoff lines for Pole vault are specified and will become mandatory. (1-5-2)

Pole vault and high jump bar specifications are being changed to conform to IAAF and USATF standards. 2-5-6 & 2-6-5)

Add electronic device ban for all competition areas designated by the games committee. (New 4-4)

Add disqualification for bring an untested implement into competition or warm-up area. (6-1-13)

Recommend use of International color code for lines. (1-1-4)

Some minor rounding of dimensions for new construction of vault runways and horizontal jump runways (1-5-2, 1-6-2)

Change of javelin runways to conform to maximum of USATF and IAAF length of 36.5 m (1-12-1)

Add minimum weight of 50 gm for baton. (2-4-1)

Change hammer handle to conform to new IAAF specs. (2-10-3)

Add maximum and minimum diameters for the weight which are the same as USATF. (Fig. 31 pg. 126)

Update and convert Lane Stagers to metric units. 1-1-5

### NFHS Rule Change

The only major change for the high school rules is in Rules 6-4-5, 6-4-8 and 6-5-1 where they are being modified to require all references and diagrams to reflect one standard sector at 34.92 degrees for shot put and discus competitions, effective 2006-07, thus conforming to the rest of the rulebooks.

## EQUIPMENT CORNER

**I**f you have any information on equipment that you have purchased or built to help with your weight and measure activities, please pass along the information. One of our goals is to disseminate that kind of information.

In the last newsletter I asked for W&M equipment you use at your various schools. I only received a few replies, mostly in my own association. The results were three were using Trackmaster, one Gill and four their personal equipment in all or part.

As a result of the changes in the hammer and the controversy over measuring the hammer, Brian Springer of Springco Athletics has now imported a hammer measuring device from Europe which he will be showing at our meeting in December and at the convention.

## CERTIFICATION

**H**ow do I become certified Weights and Measures Official, a Technical Manager or become recertified if I have let my membership lapse? Currently USATF is the only organization having a national training and certification program for Track and Field officials (particularly in the area of Weights and Measures Officials or Technical Managers). You can become an USA Track & Field official by contacting your local association. To find out whom to contact, send the editor a note and he will send you the appropriate address.

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If you have Internet access, you can look at the Association's Web page, which is part of the USATF Website. It can be found at <http://www.usatf.org/about/associations.htm>. The Certification Chairs are also listed in the Officials' section of the web site. They are also on the officials' web page at [www.usatfofficials.com](http://www.usatfofficials.com) under the Certification Chair, Jim Flanik. In addition to the paper work that your local association requires to become a certified official, your local Officials Chair can send you the Weights and Measures open book exam. This exam is intended to test you on your knowledge of W&M techniques and specifications so that you can be certified in this specialty. It covers all of the rulebooks. See the next article on the handbook. If you would like to have a clinic let the editor know. He can try to get some nearby clinicians to help out. Note all current officials have to be recertified for this Olympiad ending in October 2004. There is currently no test for becoming a Technical Manager. However, both specialties do have monographs which explain their duties. If you're interested in the Technical Manager's specialty contact George Kleeman for more details.

## UPDATED W&M HANDBOOK FOR 2005

**A**n updated version of W&M Handbook (29 pg.) with all the changes for 2005 is available on the [usatfofficials.com](http://usatfofficials.com) website under Training and then Manuals. I will be updating the handbook for 2006 although the changes are minor.