



**USATF National Officials Committee
Master Level Track & Field Rules Review- 2005-2008 Olympiad Edition**

PART 3 – APPLICABLE FOR MASTER LEVEL CERTIFICATION

Instructions: The following review is divided into three sections.

Section I- The True/False questions are taken from the NFSHSA, NCAA, and IAAF Rule Books.

Section II- These essay questions are derived from situations that are conducted under the *USA Track & Field 2004 Competition Rules*.

Section III- Explain your officiating philosophy, goals, and the role of a Master level official.

Note: This 2004-2008 Olympiad Rules Review requires the *USA Track & Field 2004 Competition Rules*, in **CONJUNCTION** with any subsequent USATF updates, the NFSHSA, NCAA, and IAAF Competition Rule Books of 2004.

Please **PRINT** your answers on the **ANSWER SHEET** provided and return to your Association Certification Chair for his/her review.

SECTION 1 – TRUE/FALSE response. (If the question is partially false, the entire question is to be considered false)

A. NFSHSA (High School-please note that each state may have adopted their own interpretations)

T F 1. Shoes are considered part of the uniform.

T F 2. If a competitor or relay team qualifies for an event through earlier competition in that meet and then withdraws, a substitute can replace them.

T F 3. Pacing by a teammate is allowed.

T F 4. The baton shall not be thrown following the finishing of any relay.

T F 5. It is an infraction if a competitor deliberately knocks down any hurdle by hand or foot.

T F 6. In both preliminaries and finals, the head event judge may allow trials to be taken in succession to accommodate those excused to participate in other events.

T F 7. A discus which hits the cage and/or an object outside the sector before landing within the sector is a valid throw.

T F 8. Pole Vaulters have 1 minute to initiate a trial.

T F 9. It is a foul in the Pole Vault if the competitor leaves the ground in an attempt and fails to clear the bar.

T F 10. In the Vertical Jumps, a competitor shall be credited with his/her best achievement if it occurs in a jump-off for first place.

B. NCAA

T F 11. A starting area marshal shall be assigned to assist in keeping the starting area clear and quiet.

T F 12. In all races run in lanes, competitors shall start within their assigned lane but do not have to finish in that same lane.

T F 13. A competitor, in a race run on a curve, who steps on or over the left lane line with a minimum of three consecutive steps with the left foot shall be DQ'd.

T F 14. Pacesetting is not permitted.

T F 15. In sprint relays, outgoing runners may place two separate pieces of tape on the track to designate take-off point.

T F 16. All throwing events require a competitor to initiate an attempt within one minute.

T F 17. In the horizontal jumps and throws, a competitor may be allowed to take qualifying/prelim attempts out of the official order in certain circumstances.

T F 18. A throw will be considered invalid if it lands within the sector, even though it may have touched the cage.

T F 19. Only a steel tape measure is acceptable for record purposes in field events.

T F 20. During warm-up, in the throwing events, a competitor may be allowed to retrieve their implement in the impact area.

C. IAAF

T F 21. In field events, at least two judges should keep a record of all trials, checking their recordings at the end of each round.

T F 22. A start coordinator will be in charge of allocating the duties of the start team judges, among other listed duties.

T F 23. Athletes are required to compete in footwear.

T F 24. Pacesetting is not permitted by persons not participating in the race.

T F 25. A Wind Sock is required in all field events to show the athlete the approximate direction/strength of the wind.

T F 26. Ultrasonic wind gauges shall be used at all International Competitions under 1.1(a) to (f).

T F 27. In hurdle races, an athlete is subject to disqualification if, in the opinion of the referee, the athlete deliberately knocks down any hurdle by hand or foot.

T F 28. In the 4x400 relay, the third and fourth legs, while waiting for their respective team members as they complete that leg of the relay, are allowed to exchange positions at anytime prior to receiving the hand off.

T F 29. If the relay baton is dropped in the exchange zone, either runner is permitted to retrieve it.

T F 30. In field events, where there are eight athletes or fewer, each athlete shall be allowed six trials.

SECTION II - Please select one question from each of the two categories listed below and present the steps in resolving the situation. Please apply USATF rules of competition.

Track Events (Category 1)

1. At a major 3 day championship, it is determined that the markings for the 400M Hurdles are incorrect. In lanes 2, 3, & 4, on the first flight, the markings are incorrect. The Men's 400M Hurdle prelim has already been contested (Day 2) before the error had been determined. The Women are preparing to start their prelims (Day 2). The finals are scheduled for Day 3. Please resolve this situation.
2. In a championship steeplechase contest, the competitor in the lead fails to negotiate the first water jump that was located on the inside of the track. The athlete realizes the mistake after running beyond the horizontal plane extended of the water jump barrier. Realizing that, the athlete doubles back and jumps the water jump. The umpires raise a yellow flag and reports in writing to the Chief Umpire that the athlete failed to clear the hurdle. Please apply the rule that would reinforce the umpire in their decision and rule on the case as the referee.
3. In a hurdle race, competitor (A) knocks over a hurdle in his lane and causes it to land in the lane of another competitor (B) and as a result causes competitor (B) to be impeded. No violation was reported but the coach of competitor (B) protests. Please resolve this situation.

Field Events (Category 2)

1. In a horizontal jump, a competitor's toe is over the indicator (foul) board but does not mark the plasticine. The judge raises a red flag for foul. The athlete immediately protests before the landing area is prepared for the next competitor. Please discuss the steps to resolve this situation.
2. In a championship meet where a qualifying round in the vertical jumps is required, the number of competitors needed for the finals include 12 competitors plus all ties. Twenty-four competitors are entered and begin competing. At the end of the 2nd height, 10 athletes have no misses, 3 athletes have 1 miss at the 2nd height but cleared the 2nd height on their 2nd attempt. One athlete has 2 misses but clears the height on their 3rd attempt. As the head official, what decision do you make at this time?
3. A male competitor in a throwing event is the last thrower in the finals. In preparing to throw he removes his uniform top, including bib number, and completes his final throw without a uniform top. The final throw appears to be a new American record. What steps would be followed and what decisions are made?

SECTION III - Explain your officiating philosophy, goals, and the role of a Master level official

1. Please state your officiating philosophy.
2. What are your goals as an official?
3. What do you consider to be your role as a Master official within your Association?