



General Information for 2008 MO Valley Association Officials Certification and Two upcoming officials Clinics

Fellow Officials and Prospective New Officials,

This note is to provide you with some clarification on the certification clinics upcoming and the procedures for this year's recertification process for the next Olympiad. There have been some changes in this process and as well some USATF mandates that are now required. Please read through the process and let me know if you have questions. Additionally, our email list is not in the best of shape, so in the course of talking with your colleagues, if you hear "I didn't get that email", please have them contact me with their information so I may update the database. Also if you have any new contact information in the last 4 years please give me that as well so I can get that information in our database. If you received this multiple times I apologize and would like to know that as well.

** Certification Clinics

We have two upcoming certification clinics. There are no fees for these clinics. These clinics are for new officials that have not previously registered with USATF in the last Olympiad. New certifications will use the current 05-08 Olympiad tests and the 2005 rule book. These certifications will be upgraded to the next Olympiad and receive the new badge. These officials will not have to recertify again for the new Olympiad in August 2008.

2/17 KSU 1 pm

Registration contact: Andy Eggerth ... aeggerth@ksu.edu or 785-532-6568
Hadle Auditorium in Wagon Student Athlete Center

2/24 KU 1 pm

Registration contact: Debbie Luman ... dluman@ku.edu or 785-864-3486.
Ahearn Field House Room 205

** General Instructions for New Officials

In the Missouri Valley Association, we are now performing all certifications electronically. Enclosed you will find the current certification form. Please follow the directions on the back.
The link to the officials' center is <http://www.usatfofficials.com/certification.html> where the tests and rules books can be found. Make sure you are using the rules books as stated at the top of each test. You will also note that there are other exams on this site for future reference.
You must first certify as an Association level official.
We now require a digital picture and will no longer accept anything else. I suggest 1-3 megapixels in a 1.5x1.5 format. Anything else is too large and overkill.
Once you have completed the exam you can US mail the forms and answer sheets to me. I only need the answer sheet and the registration form. You can email me your digital picture.
Please place the words USATF in the subject line.
Please indicate in your email the areas of interest that you have as well as on the certification form.
Make sure that if you are interested in other areas besides Track & Field such as LDR, Weights/Measures, or Racewalk that you take the appropriate exams.
I will make sure all items are packaged and graded for the national office.
The fee for certification is \$25.00. Make the check payable to me. Please note this does not include a membership in USATF. It only covers the certification fee.
USATF now requires membership to become certified. You may become a member of USATF and our local association Missouri Valley by proceeding to this link and fill out the form here: <http://www.usatf.com/assoc/mv/> There is an additional cost for this membership of \$29.95 for 1 year.
There is an additional discount for multiple years.
I also suggest that each official make a copy of the form and test. As a 3 sport official myself I have more than once been in the situation where an assigner or state association lost my answer sheet. I am not intending to keep copies myself of each officials tests.



** Recertification Process

For current officials, the new tests will be available late July prior to the Olympics in Beijing. These current clinics will not certify you for the next Olympiad. Our current thought is to hold mini clinics for this group of officials to discuss rules changes and policies and procedures for the 09-12 Olympiad. Tentatively, we are thinking September/October for these events. I will keep you informed as to dates for these clinics. Officials would certify using the new rules book from March 2008. You will use the same form as below. If you want a new picture I will need it as well. Please note that we now accept only digital pictures. Upgrade certifications are to be strictly enforced. You must serve as an Association official for a minimum of two years and have a resume of events approved by the local association before being upgraded to National.

** USATF Requirements

USATF now requires that all officials that are certified be a member of USATF. The new badge will have 4 boxes on the back. In each box a sticker will be placed indicating membership for that year. We are holding badges until we can verify membership in USATF. Now that everything is electronic and in a single database, certification chairs can validate this immediately so we can expedite shipping the badges to the officials once they become a member. Failure to register each year, places an indicator as an unregistered official in the database and you may lose your USATF certification (this is under discussion in committee)

** General

2008 NCAA and NFHS rules books are available now
2008 USATF rules books are scheduled for late March

The New USATF uniform shirt is as of today not yet available
There are new patches available on the Online officials center

Here is the current certification form. Please follow all directions on the back....

I look forward to working with you in the next Olympiad...



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National Level - Starter/Clerk/Umpire/Throws
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