



## **Rules Subcommittee Report National Officials Committee 2009 Rules Subcommittee Report**

**Date:** October 13, 2009

**From:** George Kleeman, Rules Vice Chair

**To:** National Officials Committee and Secretary

**Subject: 2009 Activity Report for the Rules Subcommittee**

The rule changes approved by the NFHS and the rule interpretation changes by the NCAA were posted on the Officials Website as soon as they were available this summer. This is not a rules year for USATF but we have about ninety changes approved by IAAF and WMA (World Masters Athletics) or tabled from last year for consideration. The USATF Rules Proposal package was posted in mid October when it became official. Most are recommended for approval.

The Rules subcommittee was reconstituted this year and added several additional members to reduce the workload in updating the 20 reviews for the 2009-2012 Olympiad. I had a number of candidates for the subcommittee. I thank all those that showed interest but I had to limit it to eight and needed to have officials with the necessary background for each area of expertise. Likewise I tried to distribute the membership across the country (see table below for members and assignment areas).

As a result of feedback from officials and the NOC Executive committee, it was decided that future reviews would be limited to questions from the NCAA and USATF rulebook. Some associations already have separate exams for high school and the number using IAAF rules is somewhat limited. If officials or associations wanted to also have reviews for high school and IAAF rules then there will be separate reviews for each at each level and discipline for that purpose. The biggest complaint was about the Master level reviews. The subcommittee has been working to implement that directive. The subcommittee will review progress at its convention meeting on the afternoon of December 3. See your convention meeting schedule for the room assignment. All interested parties are welcome. We will be discussing the Rules Package which is available on line. Emphasis will be on rules that affect the competition official. If you have input on any of the proposed rule changes, that meeting on Wednesday is the place to make them so that they can be properly discussed. Only a brief summary of the rule changes will be given in the Officials Committee meeting.

### **Summary Table of Assignments for 2009-2012 Olympiad**

#### **Members**

<b>Disciplines</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Association</b>
Track & Field	Boyd	William	Virginia
Track & Field	Smyth	Jim	North Carolina
Long Distance Running/Cross Country	Price	William	Potomac Valley
LDR/XC	Mc Latchie	Carol	Oregon
Race Walking	De Weese	Carroll	Michigan
Race Walking	Daniels	Ron	Connecticut
Combined, Implement Inspector, Technical Manager, other	Smith	Eric	Florida
Combined, Implement Inspector, Technical Manager, other	Hott	Sherry	Ozark



## Rules Subcommittee Report

The goal for 2010 is to update the reviews for any changes and or points of interest that have occurred in the 2009 and 2010 books. If possible the length of the tests should be reduced to about 25-30 questions. The goal for the 2012 issue is to reduce the reviews to about 25 questions and incorporate the most important rule changes during the Olympiad as well as any areas that seem to be interpretation problems nationally. Each discipline group (T&F, RW, and LDR/XC) will be responsible for making the new officials, association, national, masters and referee exam(s) for their area current. The new official review should be in book order and just on USATF rules. The association level is the same review but with the questions not in book order. For a given discipline an official will only take the top level for which they are qualified or trying to be qualified for. They only need to take multiple reviews if they want to be certified in a specialty or another discipline(s). Thus some question might appear on all of the reviews if they seem appropriate. Remember the definition of each level should be association for newer officials or ones that only want to work within their association as non head officials. National for those that want to be heads of areas and/or work national meets mainly as part of the crew and Masters as those that are experts in their chosen area but with some general knowledge of all areas of officiating and are capable of being heads of events at a national meet. The track & field group has responsibility for both the track and the field referee exam. The Specialties group has reviews for Implement Inspector, Technical Manager, Combined Events and Combined Events Referee. They need to decide if they think there needs to be more than one review for the specialties.

*George Kleeman*

George Kleeman

**Vice Chair, Officials Rules Committee**

**Associate USATF Rules Editor**

**Attachments: 2009 Agenda and MOD for 2008 Meeting**



**National Officials Committee**  
**Rules Subcommittee Agenda**  
Thursday, December 3, 2009  
Indianapolis  
4:00-5:50 pm

Updates for 2010 Rule Changes for NCAA, NFHS, IAAF,  
and WMA

Discussion of Proposed Corresponding Rule Changes  
for USATF

Status of Rule Review Updates for 2009-2012 Olympiad

How Keep Reviews Current

Goals for 2010



**National Officials Committee**  
**Rules Subcommittee Meeting**  
Wednesday, December 3, 2008  
4:00-5:30 pm, Silver Legacy, Reno, Nevada  
Silver Baron Room 2

Attendees:

George Kleeman, Chair	Jim Skelly, San Diego Imperial	Diane Hopkins, San Diego Imperial
Bill Boyd, Virginia Member	Leon Bailey, New Jersey	Elinor Tootle, Ohio
Bill Price, Potomac Valley, Member	Eric Smith, Florida	Roger Burbage, North Carolina
Carroll De Weese, Michigan, Member	Gregory Evans, Illinois	Jim Hanley, So. California
Bob Podkaminer, Pacific	Eugene Stemm, So. California	Al Minturn, So. California
Norman Brand, Potomac Valley	DeLewis Johnson, So. California	Valerie Smith, So. California
Gordon Scruton, Hawaii	Margaret Sheehan, Pacific	Bruce Long, Three Rivers
Dick Moss, Georgia		

The meeting was called to order at 4 pm. The agenda was discussed and approved. The meeting notes from 2007 at Hawaii were approved as presented (see attached).

The updates of changes for High School, NCAA and IAAF were discussed briefly and the group was referred to the Officials website where most have been posted since early fall. The only significant high school changes was redefining that leaving the ground briefly in pole vault without really making an attempt would not be considered a foul but if truly an attempt it would be considered a foul. The rule is stricter on pole vault pole markings, in those visible etchings which appear on poles shall not meet the requirement of the manufacturer's pole rating appearing on the pole in a contrasting color. The other high school change has to do with the shot put & discus. A thrower can leave the circle and return if not in the act of throwing and if within the time limit. Also, only closed barrel starting guns may be used. The group was told that not all the proposed NCAA rule changes were passed and that the proposed NCAA rules on the website would be updated with the actual changes. The major changes are requiring cones at the break line, conformance of implement specifications to those of IAAF, addition of a table for field event time limits, limiting use of foot patterns in horizontal jumps to warm-up period, allowing single marker for throwing circle events, increase flight sizes to 16, elimination of cart wheeling in shot put, conformance with USATF and IAAF on high jump tie jump off start, in the PV and HJ after the competition has been going for one hour, may have warm ups without the bar, but must then enter the competition, restricting shot indoors to using synthetically covered implements. The biggest rule change from IAAF is the allowing of taping of hands without a cut in field events as long as fingers can act independently.

We then discussed a number of items which might impact competition officials but did not discuss those associated with management and entry issues. Including items 17, 20, 47(passing), 52 (spacing HJ), 55 (taping like IAAF), 56(wood shot circles), 59 (weight stamp on cast shots), 60 (corrections to Master Implements), and 62 (Weight specs).

The chair then discussed briefly about how often the rules reviews should be updated. It was decided it should be done after each rules year which will be the goal for 2009.

The status of goals for 2008 was that all were completed. The meeting was adjourned about 5:30 pm.

Submitted by George Kleeman, Chair.  
12/10/08

Attachments:

2008 Agenda  
2008 Annual Report for the Rules Subcommittee  
2007 MOD of Subcommittee Meeting at Honolulu



**National Officials Committee**  
**Rules Subcommittee Agenda**  
Wednesday, December 3, 2008  
Silver Legacy, Reno  
4:00-5:50 pm

Updates for 2009 Rule Changes for NCAA, NFHS, and IAAF

Discussion of Proposed Rule Changes for USATF

Status of Rule Review for 2009-2012 Olympiad

Membership for New Olympiad

How Keep Reviews Current

Goals for 2009



## **Rules Subcommittee Report**

11/1/08