

1  **Combined Events Officiating
Outline based on a 2006 clinic**

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2  **Abbreviations**

- IAAF: International Association of Athletics Federations
- USATF: USA Track & Field
- NCAA: National Collegiate Athletic Association
- NFHS: National Federation of State High School Associations
- WMA: World Masters Athletics

3  **Age Group Definitions**

- Open Men and Women (USATF):
 - No maximum age
 - Women: Minimum age is 14
- Junior Men and Women (IAAF):
 - Age 18 or 19 in the year of competition
- Youth Men and Women (IAAF):
 - Age 16 or 17 in the year of competition
- Junior Men and Women (USATF):
 - Age 14 on day of competition through age 19 in the year of competition

4  **Age Group Definitions**

- USATF Youth Athletics
 - Based on year of birth
 - For 2010
 - Young Men and Women: 1992 & 1991
 - Intermediate Boys and Girls: 1994 & 1995
 - Youth Boys and Girls: 1996 & 1997
 - Midget Boys and Girls: 1998 & 1999
 - Bantam Boys and Girls: 2000 and younger

5  **Types of Combined Events Competition**

- 1 • Indoor
 - Pentathlon
 - Heptathlon
- Outdoor
 - Triathlon
 - Pentathlon
 - Heptathlon
 - Octathlon
 - Decathlon
- 2 • Other
 - Weight Pentathlon
 - Ultraweight Pentathlon
-

6  **Indoor Pentathlon - Men**

- Dash Hurdles

- IAAF: 60 meters
 - USATF: 50, 55, or 60 meters
 - NCAA: 55 or 60 meters
 - Long Jump
 - Shot Put
 - High Jump
 - 1000 meters
- IAAF 222.1, USATF 200.2(c), NCAA 9-1-5

7 **Indoor Pentathlon - Women**

- Dash Hurdles
 - IAAF: 60 meters
 - USATF: 50, 55, or 60 meters
 - NCAA: 55 or 60 meters
 - High Jump
 - Shot Put
 - Long Jump
 - 800 meters
- IAAF 222.3, USATF 200.2(b), NCAA 9-1-6

8 **Indoor Heptathlon - Men**

- 1st Day:
 - 60 meters,* Long Jump, Shot Put, High Jump
- 2nd Day:
 - 60 meter Hurdles,* Pole Vault, 1000 meters
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 - * NCAA: 55 meters/hurdles permitted, but 60 meters/hurdles recommended

IAAF 222.2, USATF 200.1(d), NCAA 9-1-4

9 **Outdoor Triathlon**

- USATF Bantam Boys/Girls (USATF 301)
 - Shot Put
 - High Jump
 - 400 meters (boys) / 200 meters (girls)

10 **Outdoor Pentathlon - Men**

- ¹
- Long Jump
 - Javelin Throw*
 - 200 meter run
 - Discus Throw
 - 1500 meter run**

* NFHS: High Jump
 ** NFHS: 1600 meters

- ²
- IAAF Senior and Junior Men
 (IAAF 200.1)
 - USATF Men
 (USATF 200.1(a))
 - NCAA Men

- (NCAA 9-1-5)
- NFHS Boys
- (NFHS 8-1-2)

11  **Outdoor Pentathlon - Women**

- ¹ • 100 meter Hurdles
- High Jump
- Shot Put
- Long Jump
- 800 meters
- ² • USATF Women
(USATF 200.2(a))
- NCAA Women
(NCAA 9-1-6)
- NFHS Girls
(NFHS 8-1-2)
- WMA Women
(WMA 19.4)

12  **Outdoor Pentathlon**

- USATF Youth/Midget (USATF 301)
 - 80 meter Hurdles (Midget) /
100 meter Hurdles (Youth)*
 - Shot Put (Midget B/G & Youth G – 6 lb.; Youth B – 4 kg.)
 - High Jump
 - Long Jump
 - 800/1500 meters
- *Refer to USATF Rule Book for correct hurdle spacing

13  **Outdoor Heptathlon - Women**

- 1st Day:
 - 100 meter Hurdles, High Jump, Shot Put, 200 meters
- 2nd Day:
 - Long Jump, Javelin Throw,* 800 meters
- *NFHS: Discus Throw can be substituted

IAAF 200.3 & 200.6, USATF 200.2(c) & 301,
NCAA 9-1-3, NFHS 8-1-3

14  **Outdoor Octathlon**

- IAAF Youth Boys (IAAF 200.5)
 - 1st Day:
 - 100 meters, Long Jump, Shot Put, 400 meters
 - 2nd Day:
 - 110 meter Hurdles, High Jump, Javelin Throw,
1000 meters

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15  **Outdoor Decathlon - Men**

- 1st Day:
 - 100 meters, Long Jump, Shot Put, High Jump, 400 meters
- 2nd Day:
 - 110 meter Hurdles, Discus Throw, Pole Vault, Javelin,* 1500 meters**

* NFHS: Triple Jump can be substituted

** NFHS:1600 meters

IAAF 200.2, USATF 200.1(b), NCAA 9-1-1, NFHS 8-1-1

16 **Outdoor Decathlon - Women**

- 1st Day:
 - 100 meters, Discus Throw, Pole Vault, Javelin, 400 meters
- 2nd Day:
 - 100 meter Hurdles, Long Jump, Shot Put, High Jump, 1500 meters

IAAF 200.4, USATF 200.2(d), NCAA 9-1-2

17 **Types of Combined Events Competitions**

Other

18 **Weight Pentathlon**

- Hammer Throw
- Shot Put
- Discus Throw
- Javelin Throw
- Weight Throw
 - »USATF 201, WMA 19.5

19 **Ultraweight Pentathlon**

- Five Weight Throw Events (USATF 202)
 - Men
 - Open through Age 49
 - 35 lb, 56 lb, 98 lb, 200 lb, 300 lb
 - 50-59
 - 25 lb, 56 lb, 98 lb, 200 lb, 300 lb
 - 60-69
 - 20 lb, 56 lb, 98 lb, 200 lb, 300 lb
 - 70-79
 - 16 lb, 35 lb, 56 lb, 98 lb, 200 lb
 - 80+
 - 12 lb, 25 lb, 35 lb, 56 lb, 98 lb
 -

20 **Ultraweight Pentathlon**

- Women
 - Open through Age 49
 - 20 lb, 35 lb, 56 lb, 98 lb, 200 lb
 - 50-59

- 16 lb, 25 lb, 35 lb, 56 lb, 98 lb
- 60-79
 - 12 lb, 25 lb, 35 lb, 56 lb, 98 lb
- 80+
 - 12 lb, 20 lb, 35 lb, 56 lb, 98 lb

21  **Scoring**

22  **Scoring**

- Each performance in an individual event is worth a specified number of points
 - IAAF Scoring Tables for Men’s and Women’s Combined Events Competitions
 - NCAA Rule Book for 50/55 meters and 50/55 meter hurdles
 - If a performance is not listed, use the nearest performance which results in LESS points being scored

23  **Scoring**

- Points earned through all the individual events are totaled.
- The winner is the competitor with the highest cumulative point total.

24  **Scoring Notes**

- USATF Youth Athletics (USATF 302.6(b))
 - Midget Boys 80 meter hurdles:
 - Multiply time by 1.13
 - Use the 110 meter hurdles table
 - Midget Girls 80 meter hurdles:
 - Multiply time by 1.07
 - Use the 100 meters table

25  **Scoring Notes**

- WMA Events
 - Age Factor is applied prior to scoring points for the individual event
 - Hand Timing:
 - Convert time to FAT equivalent (if applicable) before applying Age Factor
 - » 50 to 300 meters – Add .24
 - » 400 meters – Add .14
 - » Over 400 meters – No conversion necessary

26  **Scoring Notes**

- WMA Events
 - Example: Men 40-44 in 110 meter Hurdles
 - » Stopwatch reads 17.67
 - » Hand Time is 17.7
 - » FAT Conversion (add .24) is 17.94
 - » Age Factor (.9328) Time is 16.734432 → 16.74
 - » 16.74 is worth 652 points

27  **Scoring Notes**

- Failing to Start an Event
 - Considered to have abandoned competition
 - NCAA: Listed in final results; no point total is recorded
 - “Honest effort” rule does not apply to combined events. NCAA 4-2-2 Note 2

- USATF: Point total before abandonment is recorded

28 **Scoring - Ties**

- NCAA
 - Ties are not broken (NCAA 9-2.8)

29 **Ties – IAAF and USATF**

- IAAF 200.13, USATF _____
- Step 1:
 - Compare individual event points by tying competitors
 - Count the number of individual events Competitor A scored more points than Competitor B
 - The competitor who won the greater number of individual events wins the combined events competition

30 **Ties – IAAF and USATF**

- Step 2:
 - If a tie still exists, identify the most points scored in any one event for each of the competitors
 - NOTE: That may not be the same event for each competitor (e.g. Competitor A's might be the Long Jump and Competitor B's might be the 100 meters)
 - The competitor who has the higher individual event point total wins the combined events competition.

31 **Ties – IAAF and USATF**

- If a tie still exists, compare the second (or third, . . .) highest individual event point total.

32 **Ties – IAAF and USATF**
Example #1

33 **Ties – IAAF and USATF**
Example #1

34 **Ties – IAAF and USATF**
Example #2

35 **Ties – IAAF and USATF**
Example #2

36 **Ties – IAAF and USATF**
Example #2

37 **Conduct of Competition**

- General Conduct
- NCAA Qualifying Notes
- Grouping Competitors
- Event-Specific Information

38 **General Conduct**

- The first event of the day in a combined events competition begins at a specified time.

39 **General Conduct**

- The second and subsequent events for that day generally begin "at least 30 minutes" after the conclusion of the prior event.

- Notes:
 - Some combined events competition, because of facility, television, or decision of meet management, have a designated start time for each individual event.
 - If the competitors agree, there can be less than 30 minutes between events.

40 **NCAA Qualifying**

- A “combined events only” competition must start with at least six competitors.
 - »NCAA Part III, 4h
- If competitor abandons competition, points cannot be used for qualifying unless medically excused from further competition.
 - »NCAA Part III, 4i
- Wind Readings:
 - Required for all divisions
 - Division I and II: Must be included on official results.
 - Cannot exceed +4.0 meters / second
 - »NCAA Part III, 4l & 4m

41 **NCAA Qualifying**

- Moving events indoors:
 - High Jump and Pole Vault may be moved indoors “for safety reasons” by a decision of the games committee. (NCAA Part III, 12b)

42 **Conduct of Competition**

Grouping Competitors

43 **Grouping Competitors**









- Basic Principle:
 - “[P]rovide competitive and equal competition for all events.”
 - »NCAA 9-2-3
- When?
 - NCAA: With more than 14 competitors, two flights “should be considered.” (NCAA 9-2-4)
 - USATF: With more than 16, more than one facility for field events is recommended. (USATF 200.5d)

44 **Grouping Competitors**








- How?
 - Permanent Groupings:
 - Remain through 7th event of decathlon or second to last event of other combined events (USATF 200.5(a))
 - USATF Youth Athletics: Groups remain through entire competition unless referee determines desirable to rearrange (USATF 302.6(f))
 - Minimum Size:
 - USATF: Not less than six (USATF 200.5(a))
 - IAAF: Preferably five or more (IAAF 200.8)
 - Never less than three

45 **Grouping Competitors**

- How?
 - Non-Permanent Groupings:
 - Running Event Heats
 - Field Event Flights

- 46  **Conduct of Competition**
Event-Specific Information
- 47  **Event-Specific Information**
- Running Events
 - Horizontal Jumps and Throwing Events
 - Vertical Jumps
- 48  **Running Events**
- Heat and Lane Assignments
 - Final Event
 - Non-Hurdle Races
 - Hurdle Races
 - Timing
 - False Starts
- 49  **Heat and Lane Assignments - Final Event**
- NCAA: "When possible and practical," run one section (NCAA 9-2-5(c))
 - 800 or 1000 – if number of competitors exceeds lanes on track, use waterfall start or double waterfall start
 - Double waterfall: 2/3 of competitors on inside, 1/3 on outside
 - If more than one section:
 - Current point leaders going into last event should run in same section and that section should be last.
 - »IAAF 200.8, USATF 200.5(d), NCAA 9-2-5(c)
 -
- 50  **Heat and Lane Assignments – Non-Hurdle Races**
- If past performance data available:
 - Heat assignments can be made using that data
 - Lane assignments are random
 - If past performance data is not available:
 - Heat and lane assignments are random
- 51  **Heat and Lane Assignments - Hurdle Races**
- No longer a requirement that every other lane be used
 - USATF 302.6(c): In Youth competitions, use of only even-numbered lanes "suggested."
 - NCAA 9-2-6: Lanes used determined by games committee, but hurdles placed in all lanes
 - Case book suggests decision be based on the following:
 - Facility, field size, length of race, and quality of the competition
- 52  **Heat and Lane Assignments - Hurdle Races**
- Heats should have three or more competitors
 - »IAAF 200.8, USATF 200.5(d), NCAA 9-2-5b
 - Heat assignments can be seeded or random
 - Lane assignments are random
- 53  **Timing**
- Only ONE system of timing may be used during each individual running event
 - »IAAF 200.10, USATF 200.11, NCAA 9-2-2d
 - Therefore, if FAT fails for one heat → hand timing must be used for all heats in that

- event
 - FAT time may be used for record purposes
 - FAT
 - NCAA: Use of two systems suggested (9-2-2(c))
 - Hand Timing
 - Three timers shall be used for each competitor
 - » IAAF 200.9(b), USATF 200.3(b), NCAA 9-2-2(c)
- 54 **False Starts – NCAA, USATF Youth and Masters**
- False starts are charged to individuals, not “on the field”
 - A competitor is disqualified after he or she commits two false starts
 -
- USATF 200.3(c), NCAA 9-2-2b
- 55 **False Starts – IAAF and USATF**
- The first false start in a heat is charged to the field.
 - The competitor committing the second or subsequent false start in a heat is disqualified.
- 56 **Horizontal Jumps and Throwing Events**
- Competitors “shall be allowed three trials only.”
- IAAF 200.9(a), USATF 200.3(a), NCAA 9-2-2a
- Like running events, if past performance data is available and flights are used, flights may be seeded
- 57 **Vertical Jumps**
- Initial Height
 - Increment
 - Attempt Timing
 - 5-Alive
- 58 **Vertical Jumps – Initial Height**
- The initial height should be set at the lowest height requested by a competitor *within a series set by the games committee or Combined Events referee.*
 - Because competitors are competing for points, each should be given an opportunity to score some points in each individual event.
- 59 **Vertical Jumps – Increment**
- Once the initial height is set, the bar is raised by a set increment.
 - IAAF 181.4 & USATF 200.6:
 - *Required* 3 cm (High Jump) and 10 cm (Pole Vault)
 - USATF 302.6(d) (Youth Athletics):
 - *Required* 5 cm (High Jump) and 15 cm (Pole Vault)
 - NCAA 9-2-2i:
 - *Recommended* 3 cm (High Jump) and 10 cm (Pole Vault)
 - Unlike in open competition, even when only one competitor remains in the event, he or she must jump/vault at the set increment (or a multiple of that increment)
- 60 **Attempt Timing – High Jump**
- 61 **Attempt Timing – Pole Vault**

- 62  **5-Alive**
- NCAA:
 - 5-Alive MAY be used (NCAA 9-2-4)
- 63  **Records**
- Competitor can set an individual event record for a performance during a combined events competition
 - Not required to complete Combined Events competition for individual event record to count
 - » IAAF 260.11, USATF 262.7, NCAA 7-2-6
- 64  **Records**
- Combined Events Records
 - (IAAF 260.27, USATF 262.4(b), NCAA 7-2-6)
 - Must follow conditions in each individual event for Combined Events record except wind velocity:
 - Shall not exceed +4.0 meters/second for any individual event
 - Average of all individual events with wind readings shall not exceed +2.0 meters / second
- 65  **Combined Events Referee**
- Jurisdiction over conduct of Combined Events competition and respective individual events within the Combined Events competition.
 - » IAAF 125.7, USATF 125.10, NCAA 9-2-1
 - If no Combined Events Referee appointed, the running referee and field referee(s) "shall retain jurisdiction over the conduct of the respective individual events within the combined events competition."
 - » USATF 125.10
- 66  **Duties of Games Committee, Combined Events Referee, or Coordinator/Director**
- Find out the number of competitors from meet management
 - Make a decision about groupings based on facility and number of officials
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- 67  **Duties of Games Committee, Combined Events Referee, or Coordinator/Director**
- Plot estimated time schedule
 - NCAA gives suggested times (NCAA 9-3-2)
 - 45 seconds per shot put
 - One minute per discus or javelin throw
 - One minute per high jump (avg: 10 jumps/competitor)
 - 90 seconds per long jump
 - Two minutes per pole vault (avg: 8 vaults/competitor)
 - Eight minutes for one heat of any running event less than 800 meters
 - 10 minutes for one heat of any running event 800 meters or more
- 68  **Duties of Games Committee, Combined Events Referee, or Coordinator/Director**
- Plot estimated time schedule
 - This is for reference only – not posted for competitors
 - Look for potential facility conflicts between decathlon and heptathlon
 - High Jump
 - Shot Put

- Javelin
- Set initial start time
 - Decathlon should start at least one hour before heptathlon on both days (NCAA 9-3-2d)
 - If possible, at least 10 hours should elapse between end of first days' events and start of second days' events (IAAF 200.7, USATF 200.4(b))

69 **Duties of Games Committee, Combined Events Referee, or Coordinator/Director**

- During competition:
 - Record actual start and finish times
 - Assists referee in establishing start time for next individual event
 - Statistical data for plotting estimated times in the future
 - Coordinate with the running referee and clerk to schedule running events within the regular running schedule

70 **Sources:**

- "*Rules for Multi-Jurisdiction Combined Events'*" by Rex Harvey, USATF National Officials Committee Training Monograph Series, 2002.

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