

## OFFICIALS' CLINIC - POLE VAULT

### “What Can Go Wrong in the Vault?”

Should an attempt be ruled successful; failed; or no jump in the following circumstances?

The pole breaks during the vaulter's attempt

The crossbar breaks during the vaulter's attempt

The standards slip downward during the vaulter's attempt

The wind blows the crossbar down before or during the vaulter's attempt

The wind blows the pole into the crossbar and knocks it off during the vaulter's attempt

The vaulter makes a run-up, plants the pole, but aborts and returns down the runway for another run-up

The vaulter clears the bar but upon exiting the pit, knocks into the standard, dislodging the crossbar

The vaulter makes contact with the crossbar, causing it to bounce and land back on the pegs, with the crossbar facing 90° from its original position

The vaulter makes contact with the crossbar, causing it to bounce and one end land on top of the standard

The vaulter fails the attempt but claims that the standards were not set to the measurement specified before the attempt

The timer does not function properly and apparently more than a minute had elapsed before the initiation of an attempt that is otherwise successful

The vaulter fails to initiate an attempt within the time limit but claims there was interference due to someone or something obstructing the runway

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How do you deal with the following situations?

The vault landing pit is one meter short in length or width vs. the size specified in the rulebook

A team is delayed in arriving at the meet; the vaulter checks in as soon as possible and asks to enter at the current height

The wind is strong at the vaulters' backs and threatens to, or has blown the crossbar off the pegs

A vaulter's only pole breaks and the other competitors decline to allow the use of their poles

During the event the wind direction changes and three vaulters or coaches ask to have the runway direction reversed for safety reasons

During the event rain falls and two vaulters or coaches ask to suspend the competition for safety reasons

A vaulter who has left to compete in another event has not returned, and all others are done at that height

In measuring the height of the crossbar, do you place the base of the measuring device on the metal frame of the vaulting box, or on the surrounding surface of the track which is slightly higher?

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Overall, what are the two most important factors in conducting a field event?

Key items for officials

Early arrival & event setup; measurements; instructions to athletes and to event crew; teamwork