

# Class 1

PE 343

Track & Field Officiating  
Spring Quarter 1999

**USA Track & Field  
Pacific Northwest  
Track & Field Association  
Western Washington University**  
*welcome you to*

**Physical Education 343  
Track & Field Officiating**

# Class Goals

- Promote an *athlete-oriented* philosophy of officiating
- Establish a pro-active approach to ensure fairness
- Understand key differences in rules of various governing bodies
- Gain effective officiating techniques
- Develop new skills and insights
- Learn skills on an ongoing basis
- Keep this volunteer activity fun
- Learn skills for future employment

# Class Schedule & Content

March 30	Welcome and introduction to officiating Philosophy and structure of the sport
April 6	Meet / event management
April 13	Track events - clerking, starting, refereeing
April 20	Track events - finish line, results, scoring
April 27	Jumping events & wind gauge
May 4	Throwing events & implements
May 11	Multi events
May 18	Race walks & long distance events
May 25	Cross country running
June 1	Special rules and audiences
June 8	Final examination

# Class Practicum Opportunities

March 27	Spring Break Open, Edmonds District Stadium
April 3	WWU Triangular Meet, Civic Field
April 10	Ralph Vernacchia Meet, Civic Field
April 11-12	WWU Multi Meet, WWU Campus Track
April 30	NW Twilite Meet, Civic Field
May 7	NW Regional Invite, PLU Campus Track
May 15	SPU/PNTF Open Meet, UW Husky Stadium
May 26	Summer All-Comers #1, Edmonds Stadium
June 2	Summer All-Comers #1, Edmonds Stadium
June 5	NW Corporate Relays, Shoreline Stadium
June 9	Summer All-Comers #1, Edmonds Stadium

**All practicum must be finished by June 11!**

*You may work other events, including high school – but these opportunities are limited to situations where supervision can be arranged.*

# What event areas can you choose from?

- Clerk, Starter, or Announcer
- Umpire or Marshal
- Finish Judge or Timer
- High Jump
- Pole Vault
- Long Jump or Triple Jump
- Shot Put or Indoor Weight Throw
- Discus Throw, Hammer Throw, or Javelin Throw
- Road Run or Race Walk Event
- Special Roles, such as Special Olympics, etc.

# What will you be evaluated on?

- **APPEARANCE:** To what degree does the candidate's appearance conform to officiating standards for the event or situation, seem applicable for the weather, and suit the requirements for the job?
- **ATTENTIVENESS:** To what degree does the candidate's attention maintain its focus on the event and not wander to other events or to non-officiating aspects of the meet?
- **JUDGEMENT:** To what extent does the candidate exercise appropriate judgement in making decisions before, during, and after the event?
- **FLEXIBILITY:** To what degree is the candidate flexible in handling situations which arise during the event – does s/he still manage to keep the event in control and the best interests of the competitors at heart?
- **SUPERVISIBILITY:** To what degree does the candidate submit to supervision by fellow officials who are in supervisory capacities over him/her?
- **KNOWLEDGE:** To what degree does the candidate exhibit the necessary knowledge of the rules to make correct interpretations in given situations, keeping in mind that differing situations call for different interpretations?
- **TEAM WORK:** To what extent does the candidate exhibit the ability to work easily and competently with fellow officials in creating a situation conducive to optimal performances for each athlete?

## Class Grading

- Item 1 – Attendance – 50 points
- Item 2 – Practicum – 30 points
- Item 3 – Evaluations – 30 points
- Item 4 – Notebook – 50 points
- Item 5 – Final Exam – 50 points

**TOTAL POSSIBLE – 200 points**

# Grades by Points

	<b>A</b> <b>191-210</b>	<b>A-</b> <b>181-190</b>
<b>B+</b> <b>171-180</b>	<b>B</b> <b>161-170</b>	<b>B-</b> <b>151-160</b>
<b>C+</b> <b>141-150</b>	<b>C</b> <b>131-140</b>	<b>C-</b> <b>121-130</b>
<b>D+</b> <b>111-120</b>	<b>D</b> <b>101-110</b>	
	<b>F</b> <b>0-90</b>	

# Resource Book (Notebook)

- The notebook itself
  - 0-3 points
- Cover sheet
  - 0-3 points
- Contents page
  - 0-3 points
- Dividers
  - 0-3 points
- Class notes
  - **WARNING:** This is an area most people lose points on!!
  - 0-15 points
- Practicum form
  - 0-3 points
- Handouts
  - 0-15 points
- Class evaluation
  - 0-5 points
- Certification test
  - Points scored separately

**TOTAL  
50 POINTS**

# Class Introductions

- Your **name and class standing**
- Where you are **from**
- What your **major course of study** is
- Major learning outcome – **what do you want from this class?**

# About Me

- Western cross country and assistant track & field **coach** and **home event director**
- Graphic designer / illustrator, Technology Services in **Woodring College of Education**
- Founder and current vice president of **Club Northwest**
- Board member and founder of **Pacific NW Track & Field**
- Vice President of **USA Track & Field** & officer since 1988
- **USATF Men's Cross Country Chair**
- Secretary of **USATF Men's Long Distance Running Committee**
- Eight-time coach or manager for **USA international teams**
- Frequent traveller to **New Zealand**

# A Track & Field Overview

- Sprints
  - 100m
  - 200m
  - 400m
  - 4x100m
  - 4x400m
- Hurdles
  - 100m/110m
  - 400m
- Middle Distances
  - 800m
  - 1500m / Mile
- Distances
  - 3000m
  - 5000m
  - 10000m
  - Steeplechase
- High Jump
- Pole Vault
- Long Jump
- Triple Jump
- Shot Put
- Discus
- Hammer
- Weight
- Javelin
- Multi Events
- Race Walks
- Road Runs
- Marathoning
- Cross Country
- Ultras
- Trail Running
- Mountain Running
- Youth
- Seniors
- Masters

# Safety is our number one concern



There are many ways of putting yourself, athletes, coaches, spectators, media, and others in danger at a track & field event - or even a road race or cross country race.

- Being prepared to deal with danger is part of the solution – first aid training certainly helps.
- Watching for potential danger spots is another.
- Being aware of events where danger is ever-present is another.

## Key elements of an athlete- oriented officiating philosophy

- Viewing officiating as both an *art* and a *science*
- A positive pro-active approach
- Knowledge of proper rules application
- Common sense, simplicity, judgment
- Fairness, objectivity, impartiality
- Consistency
- Professionalism and integrity

# Act like an official!

- Be fair to all athletes
- Be the best you can be
- Know the rules and explain them clearly
- Apply common sense in all situations
- Look and act like you are in charge
- Be in the correct position to do the job
- Identify situations clearly
- Communicate clearly to athletes and coaches
- In the field, call out measurements clearly
- Remember – officials *can* make mistakes!

# Ten quick steps to good officiating

- It's a sport...
- Dress appropriately...
- Fairness always...
- No "homers," please...
- Stay calm...
- Older isn't always better...
- When in doubt, look it up...
- You'll get hungry...
- K.I.S.S. - keep it simple, stupid...
- Why are you here?...

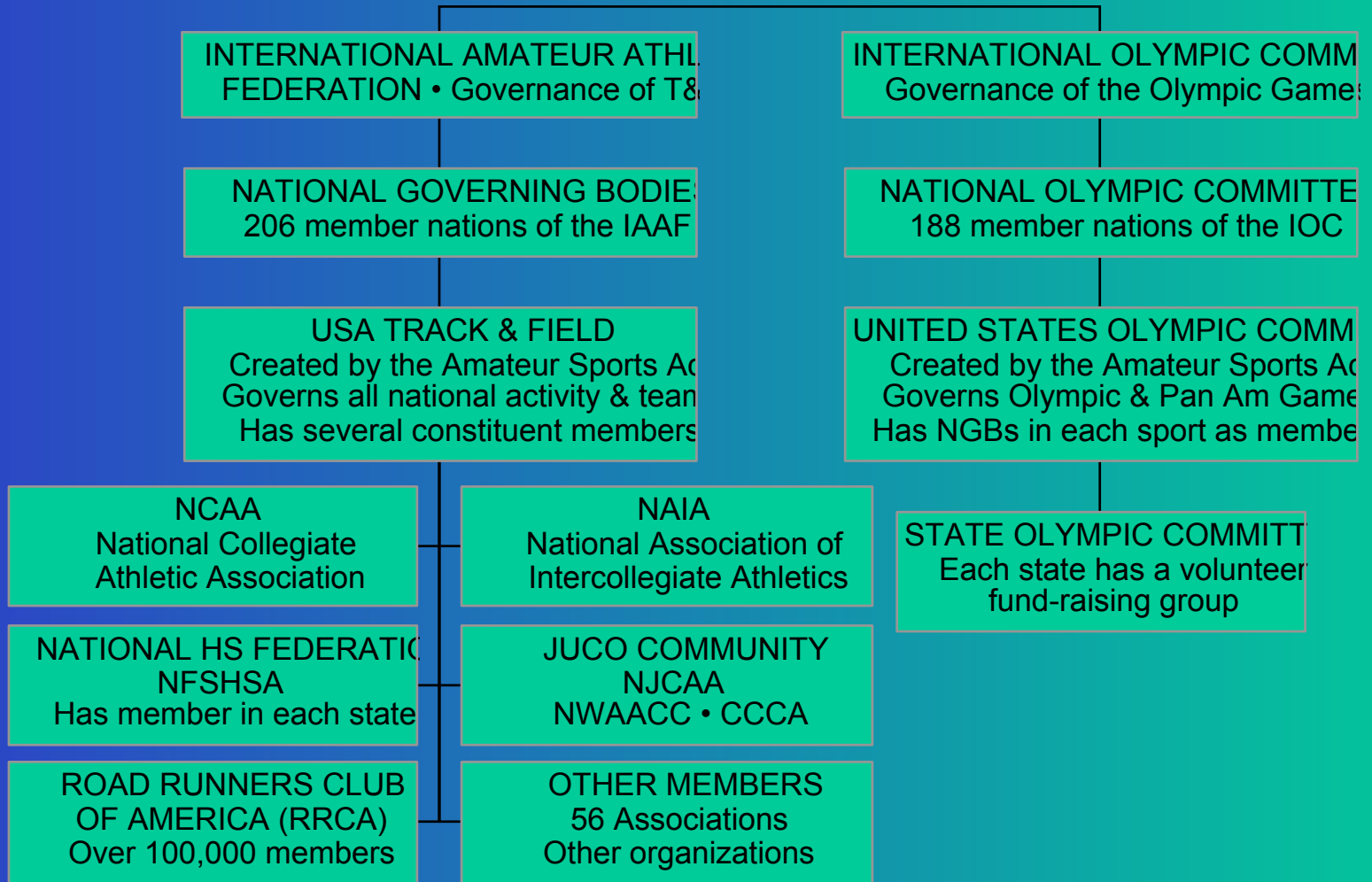
# Athlete's Bill of Rights

- You have a right to participate in sports
- You have a right to participate in sports at a level suited to you
- You have a right to have qualified leadership
- You have a right to play using rules suited to your age and ability
- You have a right to share in leadership and decision-making roles in your sport
- You have a right to a safe and healthy environment
- You have a right to proper preparation before being asked to compete in an event
- You have a right to participate in a wide range of sports
- You have a right to strive for success and to work toward realistic team and individual goals
- You have a right to be treated with dignity
- You have a right to have fun in sports

## Major track & field governing and rule-making bodies

- **IAAF** – International Amateur Athletic Federation
- **USATF** – USA Track & Field
- **NCAA** – National Collegiate Athletic Association
- **NFHS** – National Federation of State High School Associations

# Structural relationships of the alphabet-soup organizations



# USATF Certification Levels

- **Association** Level Official – *everyone begins here*
- **National** Level Official – *after four years of experience*
- **Master** Level Official – *our highest certification level*