WORKING WITH PLASTICINE

Plasticine is used to assist officials in making the close call on fair/foul efforts in the horizontal jumps. It provides a visual indicator for both the athlete and official to see after the attempt without having to resort to video replay. Best for the color of the Plasticine to be contrasting with the color the board.

Officials or meet management must prepare the foul indicator boards before the competition. Typically 10 -12 boards are made before a championship competition. Boards are repaired in place if possible; however, the quality of the Plasticine board must not be compromised for speed. If you’ve prepared sufficient boards, you can change out damaged boards and repair them off-line during the completion.

Required Tools:
Small flexible putty knife (metal, or plastic carrying it in a carry on)
Wallpaper seam roller
Small plastic tub & fine sponge
Painters tape

Optional Tools
½ inch schedule 40 PVC (12" long)
#230 O-rings - 2 ea (7/8" OD; 1/16" wall thickness)

There are two methods for preparing Plasticine boards. The Roller Method is preferred – it’s faster and creates a more uniform layer of Plasticine on the board.

Traditional Method –
1. Using the painters tape, make a straight edge on the top of the foul indicator board approximately ½” from the bevel.
2. Take a small piece of Plasticine and roll in your hands to make a “worm”.
3. Using your thumbs, work the worm onto the board on both the beveled face and the top all the way up to the tape line.
4. Use even strokes from the putty knife to smooth the Plasticine. The Plasticine layer should be 1-2 mm thick across the entire beveled face.
5. Peel off the painters tape revealing the straight edge on the top of the board.
6. Use the sponge to smooth out the edges.

Roller Method –
1. Using the painters tape, make a straight edge on the top of the foul indicator board approximately ½” from the bevel.
2. Tape a piece of waxed paper to a clean, smooth table surface so it doesn’t slip.
3. Place a row of Plasticine pieces on the waxed paper to make an approximate strip.
4. Cover the Plasticine pieces with a piece of plastic wrap.
5. Using your rolling pin (PVC pipe with O-Ring spacers at the ends), roll the Plasticine pieces into a continuous strip. Don’t be afraid to press down as the O-rings will set the thickness for you.
6. Remove the plastic wrap revealing the strip of Plasticine on the waxed paper. Don’t worry if it is irregularly shaped as the painters tape edge on top of the board will ensure you have a clean, regular line.

7. If transporting the Plasticine, you can roll it up with the waxed paper like plumbers putty.

8. Unroll the Plasticine onto the board and use your fingers to press it down onto the board.

9. Peel off the waxed paper and you now have a uniform layer of Plasticine on the beveled and top faces of the board.

10. Use the putty knife to trim the front face, and peel off the tape to reveal the clean top edge.

**Repairing the Plasticine during Competition**

If the Plasticine has a severe mark, pull the board and put in a new one. If the mark is minor, you can repair it in place - spike marks can be filled with small pieces of Plasticine, and then smoothed with the putty knife or sponge.

During competitions, mark every jump and maintain the mark in the pit until an athlete has had a chance to protest (returns back past the foul line). If the athlete does protest, measure the mark and record it off to the side.

**Protest Procedures**

1. Pull the protested foul board and place in a controlled area. The board needs to be secured from interference.

2. Put in a new foul board and continue with the competition.

3. Contact the Field Referee and show them the protested board. The referee will decide on the protest (possibly with the help of Eagle Eye or other video evidence).