USATF OUTDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

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The USATF Outdoor Championships is the highest domestic track and field event in the United States. Accordingly, the facility, equipment and standards used should conform to "optimal" standards, standards often higher than those listed in either/both the USATF and WA rulebooks. As such, the following is provided as a guideline for what is expected of USATF Outdoor Championships facility.

Interested bidders shall obtain the current USATF Competition Rulebook, the WA Handbook, the WA Track & Field Facilities Manual, and the WPA Rulebook containing the technical specifications for all track & field events and provide answers to most technical questions. While the standards in these books may be used in most areas, the specifications cited below supersede those contained in either/both of the rulebooks listed above.

The LOC must provide exclusive use of the facility beginning 4 days from the start of the USATF Outdoor Championships through (and including) the Monday following the last day of competition. This time period will allow for proper set-up of the event, tear-down, and clean-up after the event.

The following items are the desired and optimal specifications for each of the competition venues:

Track Oval

- Track must be a 400-meter oval, with a single radius turn between 35.0 and 38.0 meters (114'10" and 124'8").
    - A 36.5 to 37.0 meter (119'9" to 121'5") radius is seen as optimal.
    - A "broken back" [=double radius] track, equal to or better than the optimal distances listed above, is acceptable however challenging for wheelchair competitors therefore needing additional consideration should a broken back track be under consideration.
- Track must have 8 lanes.
    - Facilities with a 9th lane, particularly on the sprint straightaway will be looked upon favorably.
    - All lanes should be 1.22 meters (48") in width.
    - A steeplechase water jump must be part of the track, located either on the inside or the outside of the oval.
    - All lanes should be viewable by television cameras placed in the stands and at the finish line and without obstruction.
- The track must be striped and marked to USATF and/or WA specifications, and this striping should include all marks required to conform to current automatic timing requirements.
    - LOC must have a willingness to allow temporary taping of World Para Athletics specific markings on the track surface.
- All running, jumping and throwing surfaces and landing areas must meet WA specifications as to allowable slopes and inclinations.

    - The running track, horizontal and vertical runways and javelin approach must be a synthetic surface, with such material meeting the highest standards under the current WA Track Certification Program.
- The track must have the ability to accommodate or willingness to accommodate seated throws within existing throwing surfaces or temporary throwing surfaces within the stadium and/or an area with ease of viewing for spectators.
- The track must have curbing around its circumference, which meets WA specifications.
    - Curbing must, if necessary, be removable for the runners to access the steeplechase water jump and, where necessary, for jumpers' unobstructed use of field event areas/runways.

Race Walking Course

If the race walk is to be contested on the roads:

- Race Walk competitions may start on the track, with the ideal course created in an area near to the track stadium onto which a race walk loop course can be laid out.
- Typically, course will be a 2,000 USATF/WA certified meter loop on a paved flat and smooth road with very little grade; course should not have any road camber; and course to have a 4 meter minimum width racing lane with 4 meter radius turns, and should be located in a full or partially shaded area that is within 1,000 meters of the track itself.

Horizontal Jumps

- Two parallel, two-directional horizontal jump runways, located on the same side of the track facility are required
    - These runways must be 1.22 meters (48") in width.
    - These runways must be a minimum of 45 meters (1478") in length, as measured from the front edge of the take-off board to the beginning of the jumper's approach, for both the long jump and triple jump events.
- Recommended landing pit is 7m to 9m in length and 3m in width, with placement of horizontal jumps foul boards as follows:
    - Long Jump (men & women) at 3 meters (9'10")
    - Triple Jump (men) at 13 meters (42'8")
    - Triple Jump (women) at 11 meters (36'1")
- Sand filling the horizontal jump pits must be of highest quality, free of stones, pebbles and organic material, and professionally maintained throughout the competition season.

Pole Vault

- Two parallel, two-directional pole vault runways, located in one of the (two) "D" zones, in the "D" zone opposite the one planned for the high jump, are required.
    - Runways must be 1.22 meters (48") in width. R

    - Runways must be a minimum of 45 meters (147’8”) in length, as measured from the back of the pole vault box to the start of the runway.
- Pole vault landing pits must be of the current highest quality and size, with a minimum pit width of 6 meters (19’ 8”) and minimum pit length/depth, as measured from the back of the plant box, 5 meters (16.5”).
    - Minimum pit depth from the front to the back should be 6 meters (20.2”)

High Jump

- High jump area must be located in one of the “D” zones of the track facility, area must be large enough to hold two concurrent high jump competitions.
    - Each area should have a minimum approach of 22 meters (72’2”) as measured outwards from below the high jump bar.
    - Strongly recommended a greater distance than the above be provided, but it is understood this distance is subject to the limit of the “D” zone area (the size of which is dictated by the radius of the track).

Shot Put

- There shall be at least two shot put circles/landing areas, both located in the same “D” zone of the track complex, located within the synthetic surface or in an area specially prepared for the shot put event
    - A second set of shot put circles located in the opposite “D” zone would be considered optimal.
    - All shot put circles must have a concrete surface.

Discus Throw

- There should be at least one discus circle/area in one of the two “D-zones”, placed to take advantage of favorable wind conditions.
    - A second discus circle, in the opposite “D-zone”, would be considered optimal.
    - The circle(s) may also be used for the hammer throw, providing it can be fitted with proper inserts and protective cage.
    - The discus circle(s) must have a concrete surface.
- A protective cage, which conforms to USATF/WA standards and can be removed, is required for each discus throwing area.
    - Note that this can be a costly item to obtain and install.
    - Also, it is to be noted that if there is a combined discus/hammer throw area, then the protective cage must be one designed for use in both events and to the highest WA standards for such.

Hammer Throw

- There must be at least one combination discus/hammer area, consisting of either two separate circles or of one discus circle into which can be fitted an insert for the hammer throw (see the above section).
    - The hammer throw circle(s) must have a concrete surface.
- A protective cage, within the track oval and which conforms to USATF/WA standards and can be removed, is required for each hammer/discus throwing area.
    - Note that this can be a costly item to obtain and install.

Javelin Throw

- A javelin runway, located in one of the two "D" zones, is required.
    - A second javelin runway in the opposite "D" zone would be considered "optimal."
- The synthetic surface material for the javelin runways should be the same as that used on the track and jumping event surfaces.
    - The runway should be 36.50 meters (119'9") in length.

Seated Throws

- There must be at least one, preferably two options for seated throwing sectors.
    - This includes discus, javelin, shotput and club throw.
    - A protective cage, within the track oval and which conforms to USATF/WA standards and can be removed, is required for each club throw/discus throwing area.
    - Note that this can be a costly item to obtain and install.

Warm-Up Areas

In addition to the competition track, a separate warm-up track and/or area is required. This area will be used for athlete pre-competition warm-up, post-competition warm-down, and will be the location for the clerking and sports medicine facilities.

- In the absence of a 400m warm up track, the facility will have access to a smooth concrete path at least 150m or a barricaded street for wheelchair racing warm up.
- The ideal facility will have a second ("warm-up") track, which is located near to the competition track.
    - Ideally, this track will be comparable in size and surface to the competition facility.
    - Tracks with 6, or 4 lanes, 1.07m (42") lanes in width would be acceptable as the warm-up track; or

- If a separate track is unavailable, the next consideration would be to have a large grass field located near to the competition track.
    - Within or along-side of this field would be an 80-100 meters straightway, a minimum of 4 lanes (1.22m/48") wide, of the same synthetic surface material as the competition track itself; or

- If neither of the above are available, the final consideration would be to have a large, smooth grass field located near to the competition track.
    - This would be marginally acceptable since, in the event of inclement weather either before or during the days of competition, this grass area could become a problem for athletes and management.
    - As such, a grass warm-up area is seen as the least desirable of all possible warm-up facilities/track.

Other Technical Areas and Systems

- Within the entire track oval, there should be a 220v power system, with at least six (6) power outlets.
    - Four of these outlets should be located at/near the starting lines (start/CFL, 100m and 110mH, 200/5000 and 1500), and the remaining two located midway on both straight-aways.
    - Additionally, it is expected there will be power sources located in/near the stands on both sides of the track.
- It is recommended there be a minimum of four (4) conduits under the track, each to be located at/near the points of curvature of the track, to accommodate the needs for cabling of both timing/results processing and television.
    - At the common finish line, a 6–8-inch conduit is recommended, while 4–6-inch conduits are recommended for the remaining three “tangent” points.
- There must be a quality sound system for the entire stadium area.
    - This system must be capable of providing sound to the practice track/warm-up areas as well.
- There should be a state-of-the-art videoboard in the stadium, which has the capability of being interfaced with the timing/results processing system, as well as advanced graphics and/or video and TV network interface capabilities.
- The stadium must have a sufficient lighting system to meet the technical requirements of television broadcasting in the late afternoon and evening.
    - A minimum of 130-foot candles is requested (though this may vary by facility).
    - The system must provide even lighting throughout the oval (including turns), and the infield of the competition facility.
    - The host broadcaster will require dedicated power at the competition facility within the proposed broadcast compound.
        - The host facility will be required to meet the lighting, power and space requirements of the host broadcaster as determined during site visits and negotiations.
        - Depending on existing facilities, these can be high-cost items.