USATF OFFICIALS BEST PRACTICES

Head Officials Meeting Topics

(Created for championship meets; adapt this to your circumstances)

- 1. Thanks for heading up your event!
- 2. Safety is a priority! -- for athletes, spectators, & officials. Check your venue well ahead of time track, runways, rings, cages, pits, sectors, implements; fix problems or report issues to the Referee
- 3. Issues requiring resolution during competition/potential DQs get your Referee
- 4. <u>Items you'll need to have/need to get</u>:
 - a. Rule books head officials have a personal copy with you
 - b. Event sheets (field events) get from _____; take results to ______
 - c. Radio, chairs, & event equipment box get from & take back to ______
 - d. Weights & Measures learn meet mark
- 5. <u>Field event athletes</u> check-in with _____, head judge picks them up there __ min before start of warm-up period. Give instructions to athletes there; please include the following:
 - a. Bibs are//are not required name on front; number on back (PV & HJ name only, front or back)
 - b. Events w/flights athletes will qualify for the finals, plus any ties
 - c. Athlete introductions close venue and line athletes up 3-4 minutes before start of event
 - d. Athletes may not cross the track to speak with coaches after 1st running event starts
 - e. Escorts are//are not required whenever they leave the venue get a marshal
 - f. Athletes may leave when done//must stay at venue to end of competition//escort to Mixed Zone
- 6. Implements inspected at _____; delivered to & from venue by _____
- 7. Records (field events) be aware (see event sheet), use steel tapes
- 8. Protests how we'll handle them; preserve/record marks as appropriate
- 9. Volunteers _____
- 10. Drug testing (if applicable) discuss procedures
- 11. Clean up your venue after the competition
- 12. Take care of your crew transportation, briefings, fluids, meals, performance feedback
- 13. See the "Officials Pre-Meet Notes" sheet questions on any item there? Other questions?

Introduce Meet Director & Referees for remarks.

General Officials Meeting Topics

- 1. Thanks for being here great crew of officials
- 2. Safety runways, rings, cages, pits, sectors, implements; athletes, spectators, officials
- 3. Reminders:
 - a. Sign-in: be sure to do so each day location
 - b. No cell phone or camera use on field of play
 - c. We're not the ones people came to see be unobtrusive, be seated at venue
 - d. Officials meals days, hours, location
- 4. Warm-ups: __minutes before event starts (HJ __, PV- __); that's when we start working, not chatting Officials in-place at least __ min before field event warm-ups.
- 5. Severe weather procedures
- 6. Please review the "Officials Pre-Meet Notes" sheet. Any questions on this? Any other questions?
- 7. Safety again if any question, stop event & fix it or get the Referee
- 8. We'll have a few remarks from the Referees and Meet Director, and then each event head will have a meeting with their crew.

Introduce Referees & Meet Director for remarks (may include details on lodging, parking, meals) Introduce event head officials; crews meet with them immediately after this meeting ends

USATF OFFICIALS BEST PRACTICES

Officials' Pre-Meet Notes

(Handout for all officials. Created for championship meets; adapt as needed)

All A	Athletes
1.	Bibs are//are not required – name on front, number on back, (HJ & PV – name bib only - front or back)
2.	Athletes are//are not required to depart from the field of play thru mixed zone, located at
3.	All athletes check in with the Clerk of Course//runners with the Clerk, field athletes at their venue
4.	Spikes - max length is:mm or in; except JT & HJ – mm
5.	Protest table is located at
6.	Trainers/medical staff – located in the
7.	Restrooms for athletes & officials – located at
8.	Results - will be posted
9.	Awards – the first places get awards; presented at
Run	ning Events
1.	Relay cards must be turned in the Clerk not later than minutes before the race start time.
2.	Hip numbers are worn on left//right//both left & right hips, and on singlet top for 1500m & longer; relays
3.	Clerks give all instructions to runners; Starters only give starting commands
4.	Starting blocks – athletes may use only meet supplied block (not their personal blocks)
Fiel	d Events
1.	Warm-up times: PV min, HJ min, all others min; events w/flights min general , then min
	flight-specific; for finals; all officials in-place minutes prior to start of warmups
2.	In field events with flights,athletes will qualify for the finals plus ties//no ties
3.	We'll have flights//no flights; second flight athletes stay at venue//go back to Clerking area
4.	Athlete introductions – yes//no; if so, close warm-upsminutes before event starts
5.	Athletes may leave the venue when done with their attempts//all must stay at the venue until event is
	complete; escorts are//are not required when leaving the venue; marshals will/will not be present
6.	Event equipment box – will be at venue//event head officials pick up at
7.	Implements are inspected (W & M) at; and will be delivered to venues//need to be picked up
	& returned by event crews min before warm-ups start; learn the mark of the day
8.	Coaches' boxes – yes//no; for warm-ups//for competition
9.	Timing – we'll use electronic countdown clocks//stopwatches
10.	
11.	Palm Pilots – will//will not be used; recorders compare event sheet and Palm after every round and at end
Offi	cials' Matters
1.	Safety is our top priority; check your venue, fix all issues or report them to the Referee
2.	Sign-in- be sure to do so each day at
3.	Check the assignment sheet for additional duties (lap counters, etc.)
4.	Severe weather – we'll have a PA announcement; the shelter is
5.	Officials' meals - served at; times:
6.	Officials' transportation between hotel & track (if any) – location, schedule
7.	Officials' parking – location/directions
8.	We're not the ones people came to see be unobtrusive
9.	No cell phone or camera use on field of play; when not working be off the field of play
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