

EDITORIAL

After the success of the Torun 2021 European Athletics Indoor Championships, I would like to pay tribute to all the officials who worked so hard to deliver this event.

The circumstances were challenging with all the additional sanitary protocols and everyone at European Athletics knew that the eyes of the athletics world were upon us after our sport had gone almost 12 months without any major international championships in Europe.

However, the collective enthusiasm and expertise of every single official meant that we have been able to say with confidence that championship athletics has returned to the arena.

Around 20 international officials and more than 100 local Polish officials were involved in Torun and I have to say, from a technical perspective, I have never witnessed a better European Athletics Indoor Championships.

As I write these words a few months later during the Olympic Games, we are in the middle of a busy summer that, since Torun, has seen us successfully deliver four leagues of the European Athletics Team Championships, the European Athletics U20 and the U23 Championships and several other events so this is a thank you to every official who has worked on these events as well as all of you who have been officiating at other athletics events, at whatever level.

It is not too grandiose to say that our sport could not continue its recovery from the devastating year we had to face in 2020 without your continued contribution and commitment.

On behalf of European Athletics, I would like to offer my gratitude to every single one of you.

Christian Milz
European Athletics CEO

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RULE OF THE MONTH

Horizontal Jumps: Crossing the (take-off) line



Photo: Predrag Vuckovic via Red Bull Content Pool

Major horizontal jumps rule change as of November 1st 2021!

One of the significant rule changes that will come into force on 1 November 2021 is the way take-off fouls are judged in long and triple jump.

The distance achieved in the long jump is strongly determined by an athlete's horizontal velocity at the end of the run-up and by their technique in the aerial phase. Every athlete wishes to generate a high vertical velocity to increase the time in the air, whilst also minimising loss of horizontal velocity to ensure fast forward travel. To achieve this, the last steps of the run up are crucial to have the optimal impact on the board and to allow the take-off foot to make the normal 'rotation' in preparation of the take-off.

But we all know that even one centimetre further back from the take-off line, compared to another athlete, could mean the loss of a medal or impede the achievement of a record.

Before the recent debate about road running shoes, in the 1980s and '90s shoes used in horizontal jumps had their 'moment of glory' with the development of increasingly rounded and arched toes curling up, with the intention to pass the imaginary take-off line, without touching the plasticine below.

This could ensure a theoretical advantage for some athletes over others as it occasionally allowed the toe of a shoe to visibly breach the take-off line without marking or touching the plasticine.

However, the rule stated that: "An Athlete fails if: he while taking off, touches the ground (including any part of the plasticine board - from 1/11/2017) beyond the take off line with any part of the body, whether running up without jumping or in the act of jumping". This was because no system could ensure, in an irrefutable way, and in a cost feasible way for lower level or youth competitions, that a minimum fraction of the athlete's foot did not cross the take-off line at the



time of the jump, also without touching the ground beyond the line.

However, the arrival of smartphones in recent years, the enormous improvements in the field of optics used on these devices, and the presence of increasingly sophisticated apps, have made it possible to take advantage of low-cost tools that can also be used in youth competitions or in the context of minor competitions.

Hence, one of the last major decisions of the former IAAF Technical Committee, not without a robust internal debate, was to introduce a new Technical Rule (number 30.1.1) stating that it will be a failure on take-off **if any part of the take-off shoe or foot breaks the vertical plane of the take-off line.**

It was felt that this would be more understandable and simpler to judge. In the future, such moments will be judged as a foul and **the plasticine board, if used, is to be set at 90°.**

The change was due to come into force from 1 November 2020 but in view of last year's exceptional circumstances, and the postponement of the Olympic Games to this summer, it was delayed for one year.

It's a Copernican revolution because we will change from having the imprint left on the plasticine, which sometimes led to validating jumps clearly made after the take-off line, to an optical evaluation on whether an athlete's foot and body goes over the take-off line. It's similar to what has happened with VAR and the offside rule in football.

If this guarantees that no athlete can achieve an unfair advantage, then it must obviously be examined whether plasticine (now at 90° - see Figure 1) remains the best method of evaluation

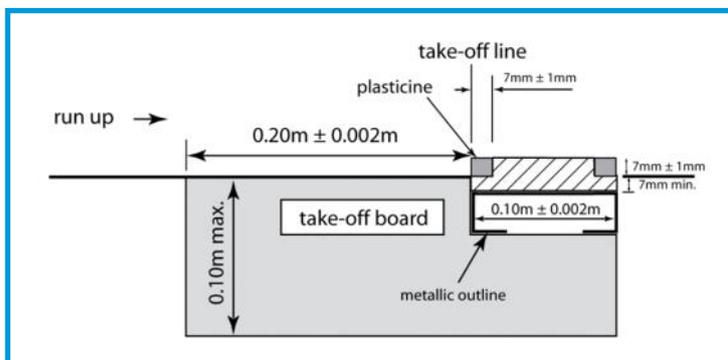


Figure 1: Source World Athletics Technical Rules; TR29 (Rule 184) - Take-off board and plasticine indicator board

Technological advancements beyond plasticine

Video imaging at the take-off board for has been used for a number of years as a back-up for potential protests, mainly in the USA where plasticine has rarely been used, and never in high school and college competitions.

Several systems are currently being studied around the world, in advance of the first phase of application of the Rule, mostly to be used as a reference in close calls and to deal with protests, not necessarily to judge every trial.

The mantra has always been the same: simplicity of use and low costs.

The US company Eagle Eye has developed and commercialised a system that was used in most of this year's US federation championships including their Olympic Trials.

https://www.eagleeyedv.com/Eagle_Eye_Video_Review_Services/s/729.htm.

The timing company uses IdLynx cameras in an adhoc but functional capacity. In practice, a camera is mounted at the foul line and the 'technician' is sitting next to the board judge.

The judges are instructed to make the call without looking at the video unless they have a doubt, then they can look at the video before making the call. If the technician knows what they are doing then a review can be done in just seconds.

If there is a protest, the video can also easily and quickly reviewed by the referee. More information can be found in the USATF Newsletter 31-1, MAR_21 <https://www.usatf.org/programs/officials/officials-newsletters>.

Hawk-Eye, the official supplier to European Athletics, is covering all aspects of judging in athletics, with high quality cameras and a full coverage of all in-stadia events using various TV feeds, including the dedicated camera at the take-off line.

At the moment, Hawk-Eye is not being used in a dedicated manner by the horizontal jumps jury only by the video referee and, if applicable, by the jury of appeal.

Seiko, the technical partner of World Athletics, is also developing a similar tool for judging horizontal jumps during World Athletics Series competitions.

In addition, US-based Flashresults, has multiple crews that work domestically and internationally, such as at the 2019 Pan Am Games in Peru. They work at nearly all the main US collegiate and professional meets and are able to provide video review for the horizontal jumps.

Recently, another company has entered the market, DV Sports. Coming from other sports (football, basketball, baseball, volleyball, gymnastics, hockey), they adapted their technology to athletics with a higher quality and better interface with television feeds. They managed the NCAA (collegiate) indoor championship in March this year.

Other available systems include vMix Replay <https://www.vmix.com/products/vmix-replay.aspx> and SMiD (used by some companies in Europe).



The costs of these sophisticated systems don't make them suitable for all levels of events and maybe we should not yet abandon plasticine for grassroots competitions such as at school and youth level, or even national championships.

Therefore, there still remains a need for new tools capable of assessing faults quickly, and in a reliable and cheap way.

The necessary devices to facilitate this are essentially just three: an image capturing tool, which can also be integrated into a smartphone, the software (an app) capable of processing images, and a laptop or tablet for viewing the images in a just a few seconds.

This system should be easy to assemble and remove, should ensure easy alignment and have flexible cabling (if necessary). Such a system should be intuitive for judges of all ages and levels, being either motion active or have a certain trigger to capture images during a limited timeframe, and should be easily integrated with or linked to a database containing the competing athletes, as well as able to save and export – for TIC or officials – an image showing the foul.

A good example available is *Video Replay Sports Official* <https://www.facebook.com/groups/98592597792/permalink/10156165604677793/>

This is an 'instant replay' app that's ideal for officials and specifically created for horizontal Jumps. The app is available for both Android and Apple (e.g. iPad) devices.

Using an iPad on a tripod, you can capture video with two taps - start, stop - and then review. The video shows how you can immediately review the board image without any delay.

Another good example is the system Sebastiaan Durand in the Netherlands is developing (see also Officials News - 2020-01).



Photos from Sebastiaan Durand, made in the Omnisport indoor Arena, Apeldoorn, the Netherlands.

Sebastiaan developed a video system using a Raspberry pi 60fps camera. The screen can be placed near the runway for use by the judges infield. The images can then be reviewed by the video referee and/or the jury of appeal using licensed security software.

An easy to use system is being developed by Günther Tautermann from the Austrian federation which uses an FHD-Webcam and, for recording, the webcam app from Windows, which is started manually at each trial.



To watch the video Günther prefers the app Media Player Classic Home Cinema. It is important that the camera is well positioned versus the take-off line.

To control this, Günther is calibrating the system by setting up lines in the photos to control the correct position of the camera ('zero control'). Drawing the red line is done by using the freeware image editor Gimp. Günther wrote a protocol to set-up the camera correctly (see page 4).

■ New developments

What other developments could arise from the adoption of a video technology in the evaluation of horizontal jumps?

The use of these tools could offer a good example how officiating can be moved slightly away from the immediate take-off board area, leaving it completely clean.

When applying such technology, depending on the venue and the competition, this should always be among the goals, as happened at the Zurich 2014 European Athletics Championships when only the flag judge was standing close to the take-off board.

The new rule will provide an opportunity to rethink the organisation of judges, particularly at major competitions and, perhaps once integrated with tools already in use like VDM, there will be benefits for spectators and television.

Will we soon only have someone raking the pit close to the take-off area? How close is this future?

Much will depend on the technological proposals but also on World Athletics' ability to adapting the rules for a new way of judging our sport.

Will we soon have screens infield alongside the throwing areas to judge the stopboard, circle and arc. Potentially the images could be shown immediately to the athlete, if needed.

Will this be the future of judging? Let us know what you think!

Judging the new rule

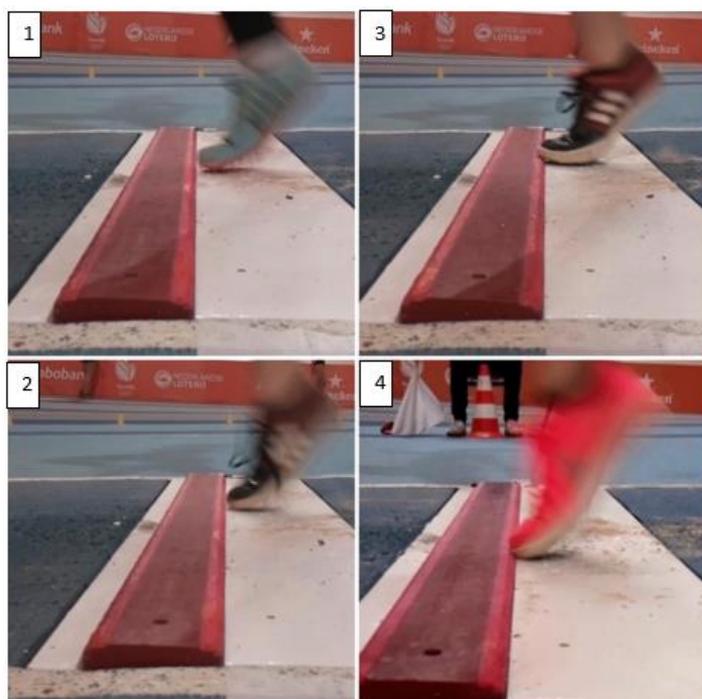


Figure 4: Photos from Sebastiaan Durand, made during the Dutch National Indoor Championships in the Omnisport indoor Arena, Apeldoorn, the Netherlands.

The above photos were taken during the Dutch National Indoor Championships and were selected from 288 jumps made during both the long and triple jumps.

Photos 1 and 2 were valid jumps under the current rules and are also valid jumps under the new incoming rule. However, it is clear that the camera needs to be well positioned in order to be able to make a fair judgement.

Photo 3 shows an invalid jump under both rules.

Photo 4 is an interesting case as the jump was given as valid in Apeldoorn as there was no clear visible mark in the plasticine (although on the video it looks like there is a slight mark).

However, this jump will be deemed invalid under the new rule that takes force on 1 November.

Short manual for setting up the video control at the take-off line during the long/triple jump, according to rule TR29.5 (184.5), valid from 1 November 2021

by Günther Tautermann
Austrian Athletics -Kampfrichterreferat (12 October 2020)

In order to guarantee a perfect result when judging 'valid/invalid' with video control or 'only' by the judge, the camera or the judge has to be exactly vertically above the extension of the take-off line.

Whether an official will always be placed correctly, I doubt. Therefore, in my opinion, the use of a plasticine board or a camera should be mandatory.

If a camera is used, analogous to the zero control for track events or the calibration for using EDM, the camera must be set up exactly vertically above the extension of the take-off line. To set up the camera, a 'perpendicular' must be established on the opposite side of the runway at the take-off line.

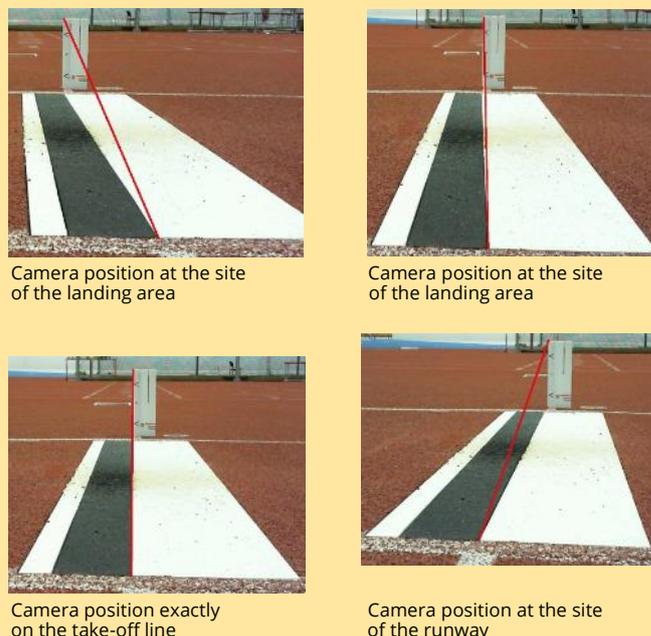
This vertical line must form a continuous straight line with the take-off line (red line on the picture) if the camera is positioned exactly in the extension of the take-off line.

If on the screen, where the perpendicular line is on the runway or the take-off bar (red dot), the camera is not perpendicular to the take-off line.

This camera is a FHD-Webcam. The app to make lines in the photos to control the correct position of the cam is the free-ware Gimp. The recording app is the webcam app from Windows, started manually at each trial.

For watching the video, we can use apps like Media Player Classic Home Cinema.

Corrected Image description for long jump technology



A dedicated video referee was appointed during the Torun 2021 European Athletics Indoor Championships and this provided the opportunity to follow the horizontal jumps closely with respect to arrival of the new rule relating to the take-off in November.

The photos in Figure 5 were selected from various long jump events.

Photo's 1 and 2 were both valid jumps in Torun but would be most probably be invalid jumps with implementation of the new rule.

Photo 3 was an invalid jump in Torun and will be also invalid when the rule is applied.

The triple jump finals of both women and men were approached more analytically. In total, there were 96 jumps: one pass, 59 valid and 36 invalid jumps.

Of the 59 valid jumps, at least one would have been invalid if the incoming rule was applied. But some of the other valid jumps were also close calls!

See Figure 6... and the importance of aligning the camera with the take-off line.

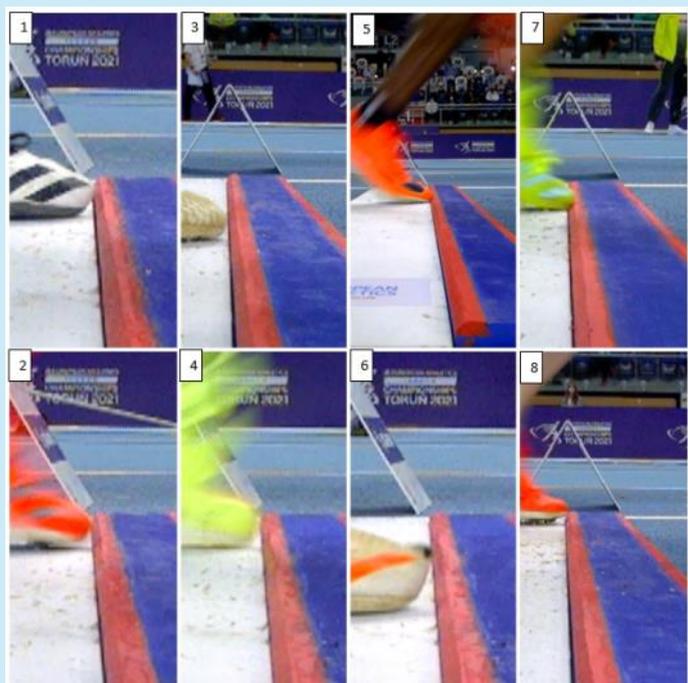
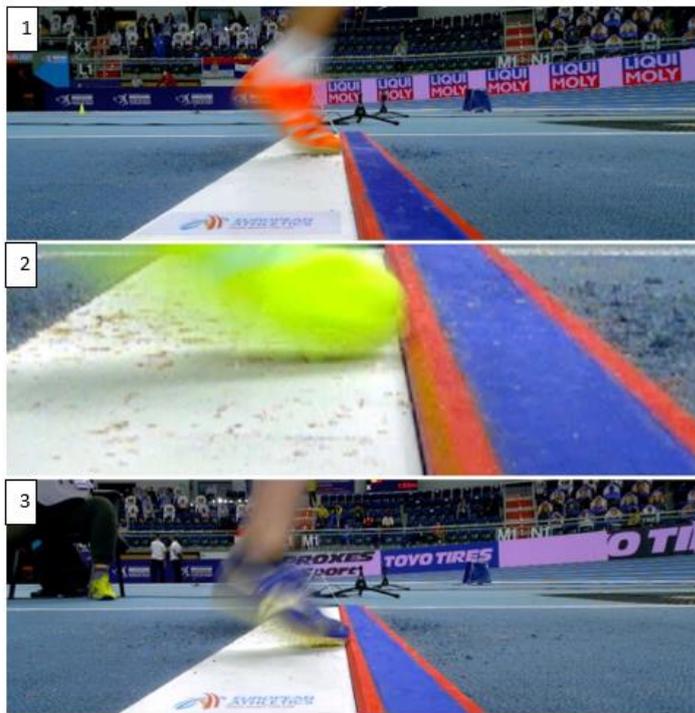


Table 1: Analysis of photos in Figure 6 under the old rule and the new rule.

Photo #	Old Rule	New Rule
1	Valid	Invalid
2	Valid	Valid
3	Valid	Valid
4	Valid	Valid
5	Invalid	Invalid
6	Valid	Valid
7	Invalid	Invalid
8	Invalid	Invalid

by Luca Verrascina & Niels van der Aar
(European Athletics ITOs)



ROLE OF THE MONTH : Start Referee

The Start Referee is a relatively recent figure to feature in the World Athletics Rules, following on from the specialisation of referees in other different disciplines such as races, jumps, throws and combined events.

In this article, we are going to deal with some of the issues relating to the Start Referee's tasks and responsibilities. In particular, we are going to focus in detail on the aspects related with how to interact and work with the start team.

We will start with the tasks and responsibilities that include the following:

- The Start Referee is the one appointed to oversee the race starts and they should exercise all the powers of the Referee in relation to the start and is not required to report or act through any other track referee.
- The Start Referee imposes and notifies any disciplinary warning or disqualification to an athlete. The Start Referee must therefore also be aware of any previous disciplinary warnings given to athletes.
- The Start Referee communicates with the athletes when appropriate and / or necessary to

ensure the good conduct of a competition, which also includes specific duties to deal with an official protest about a start, the failure of the Starter to recall or abort a start or a warning / disqualification.

In addition to these three responsibilities, the Start Referee must attend to other operational parts of its functions.

He/she works alongside and in support of all other members of the starting team and, from my point of view, the Start Referee must not interfere or comment on starts except when issues need addressing.

I usually say that the Start Referee works 'a step behind the start team'.

They are also required to keep an accurate record of all starts.

Regarding the operation with the systems he/she, in conjunction with the Chief Photo Finish Judge and a Starter, carries out an initial check of the SIS and a zero control test and monitors the operation of SIS.



All of these tasks are very important because they form the basis of the work during a competition but I would like to emphasise the 'SOFT' part of the Start Referee's job.

This is those actions based on the personal and relationship skills of the Start Referee and complement the 'HARD' part of the job i.e. technical functions.

It is quite important to have a meeting with the team since it enables the Start Referee to discuss with the International Starter, if necessary, some level of training and instruction to the local team.

The meeting with the start team positions the Start Referee as part of the team and also enables them to support the local officials and subsequently report on their performance, which should enable future improvements.

It is especially relevant that the Start Referee also has certain interpersonal and leadership skills, because these skills will be necessary in the more difficult moments; in other words, when decisions have been made that could involve the disqualification of an athlete or need the application of sanctions for disciplinary conduct.





Among these skills we can highlight the following:

- Strength of character to take decisions
- Control and diplomacy
- Calmness under pressure
- Teamwork and flexibility
- Empathy and communication
- Ability to work with technology

Finally, I would like to provide a brief list of 'Tips and good practices' which might be helpful to prospective and current Start Referees.

- Introduction of each member of the team to each other
- Integrate with the team
- Be aware of distribution of tasks
- Become familiar with the national protocols
- In conjunction with International Starter, standardise international protocols
- Identify communication protocols: language, radio channels, etc.

If these suggestions are combined with the technical part of the job, the Start Referee is almost assured of having success in his work.

**By Antonio Perez,
European Athletics ITO**

TRIVIA QUIZ

1. How many gold medals did Usain Bolt win at the 2011 World Athletics Championships?
2. In the 5000m, which athlete was the first to run under 13 minutes?
3. USA's Dick Fosbury shocked and impressed everyone in the world with a revolutionary new high jump technique and won an Olympic gold medal at which Games?
4. In this year Paula Radcliffe was crowned World Cross Country champion, European and Commonwealth Games champion, and she set a marathon world best in for the first time. What year was it?
5. "By the time I was 12, I was challenging every boy in our neighbourhood at running, jumping, everything." Wilma Rudolph demonstrated a remarkable athletic ability in her youth, but what sport did she play in high school?
6. "He is crazy". At his first international race meeting, the second Inter-Allies Games held in Berlin in 1946, Emil Zatopek emerged a winner. However, what strange circumstance could have cost him the race?
7. In 1992, at age 18, Haile Gebrselasse was competed in at what was then called the IAAF World Junior Championships. He would complete a remarkable double winning which two distance gold medals?
8. At the 2002 World Junior Championships in Kingston, Jamaica, in which event did a 15-year-old Usain Bolt set a personal best and also win a gold medal?
9. Usain Bolt turned professional in 2004 at the age of 18. He went to the Athens 2004 Olympic Games and was entered in the 200m. How far did he get in the competition?
10. Al Hall and Harold Connolly were both on the USA's 1956, 1960, 1964, and 1968 Olympic teams, an exceedingly rare feat. Which other famous thrower was also on the same four teams and is known for his four gold medals in an individual event?
11. How many times has Czech javelin legend Jan Zelezny won at the World Athletics Championships?
12. Asafa Powell ran a great number of sub-10 second 100m sprints in the year 2006 season, how many times did he do so?
13. Which US University did Steve Prefontaine attend?
14. Which runners, and in what order, beat Steve Prefontaine in the Munich 1972 Olympic Games 5000m final?
15. Where did the 1936 Olympics take place?

SPECIAL EVENTS: Innovative, creative and entertaining

The list at the Wikipedia page of best performances in non-standard events is impressive. Maybe you are familiar with a 150m outdoor or a 300m indoor but 400m hurdles indoor or even a steeplechase indoor!?

Why are such events organised? What is the idea behind staging these races? We asked these types of questions and more to **Jean-Pierre Wattle**, Director of the annual World Indoor Tour meeting in Liévin, France.

Why are you organising such an event as a 2000m steeplechase indoors? What is the idea behind? Was it organised upon request?

It wasn't organised because of a specific request but it came from conversations our organisation had with a couple of athletes and their managers who found the idea interesting to do a women's 2000m steeplechase indoors. Because it's just an 'exhibition event',



and there is no water jump, it's not an official world record competition but performances can be considered as world ranking performances.

The goal was to develop a very good atmosphere inside the stadium and to show something new, not only inside

the arena but on TV as well.

We organised it for the first-time last year in 2020, everyone enjoyed it, and the atmosphere in the stadium was phenomenal. The experience was very positive, so we decided to do it again this year.



Who participated in this event (athletes, age groups etc)?

Only professional athletes participated. You see attached the results of the event from February 2021. Note: Winfred Yavi's winning time in 2021 was, according to the Wikipedia list, a world best performance.

What are the basic rules for this innovative event because there are no real rules existing?

Exactly! As there are no existing rules, we've been inspired by what Germany and Russia have done in the past so we have placed two steeplechase barriers 10 metres after the curves, which represent about 10 metres after the 800m break line and the 400m break line (note: for this event there are a total of 20 barriers at 0,762m over 10 laps).



What was the feedback afterwards from athletes, coaches and/or public?

All the feedback was very positive. Everybody appreciated the race. We organised the 2000m steeplechase as the opening event in 2020 and the 5500 spectators really enjoyed the event.

It brought an excellent ambiance and this event also had a world best performance at the time.

Beatrice Chepkoech, the 3000m steeplechase world record holder, wasn't in this year's steeplechase because she ran the 3000m in Liévin in February but told us afterward she would be interested to compete in the event if we were to organise the 2000m steeplechase again in the future.

Any other ideas for novel events?

Yes, we are considering a couple of

19/02/20 - Meeting World Athletics Indoor Tour de Liévin
LIEVIN - H-F - 062

>> Statistiques July <<

2000m Steeple | F | Finale directe 1 | Chr: E | 20:12

Inv. (5:47.79)	MISMAS Marusa (Slo)	SEF/	0
Inv. (5:48.88)	YAVI Winfred mutile (Brn)	SEF/	0
Inv. (6:02.51)	CHEPKURUI Mercy (Ken)	SEF/	0
Inv. (6:01.27)	CHEPNGETICH Roseline (Ken)	SEF/	0
Inv. (6:13.77)	CHERONO Fancy (Ken)	SEF/	0

Meeting d'Athlétisme Hauts-de-France Pas-de-Calais
Liévin (France)
9 Février 2021

WORLD ATHLETICS INDOOR TOUR WORLD INDOOR TOUR LIÉVIN

TUE 9 FEB 2021 18:55

2000m Steeplechase Women
Final

Results

Rank	Bib	Name	Ctry Code	Date of Birth	Order	Result
1	5	YAVI Winfred	BRN		5	5:45.09
2	2	MISMAS-ZRIMSEK Marusa	SLO		2	5:48.71
3	4	KIPKOECH Fancy	KEN		4	6:10.11
4	3	CHEPKURUI Mercy	KEN		3	6:10.99
5	1	LEMITRE Alexa	FRA		1	6:15.35 PB

Intermediate Times:

200m	34.12	4	KIPKOECH Fancy (KEN)
400m	1:08.69	4	KIPKOECH Fancy (KEN)
600m	1:43.51	4	KIPKOECH Fancy (KEN)
800m	2:19.48	4	KIPKOECH Fancy (KEN)
1000m	2:54.95	2	MISMAS-ZRIMSEK Marusa (SLO)
1200m	3:29.29	2	MISMAS-ZRIMSEK Marusa (SLO)
1400m	4:03.80	2	MISMAS-ZRIMSEK Marusa (SLO)
1600m	4:38.81	2	MISMAS-ZRIMSEK Marusa (SLO)
1800m	5:13.06	5	YAVI Winfred (BRN)



ideas for novel non-standard events year's meeting- I think there will be and there is a high probability that some entertaining surprises in store for everyone. We'll stage some of these events in the future. We will reveal all close to next



BEST PRACTICE : Covid-19, training & competitions

As we move to a situation where we all hope to be in a position to stage competitions during the second half of 2020, we need to think about what the risks are associated with them going ahead and, in the context of thinking about COVID, the dangers posed to athletes, technical officials, volunteers, spectators (if they're allowed into the venue) and the wider community.

Remember, athletes, officials and everyone else at an athletics meeting still have to go home to their families after the event.

Here is a simple risk assessment taken from a practical example of an athletics club in the UK.

by Chris Cohen

Lack of awareness around COVID-19 risk factors and the key government / England Athletics / local guidance for limiting the transmission and spread of the disease

Who might be harmed and how?

Athletes, officials, volunteers, parents, coaches, and anyone else involved in attending or participating in the meeting.

What are you already doing?

- ◆ Rules published for training to raise awareness of the issues.
- ◆ Athletes have signed a waiver form to indicate they agree to the rules and understand the risk.

Risk Rating : Medium

What else can you do to control this risk?

- ◆ Pre-event communication with athletes and parents giving the rules.
- ◆ Appointment of a Covid-19 coordinator.
- ◆ Signage at the stadium.

Resultant Risk Rating : Low

Spreading / transmission of COVID-19 through contact with the disease on a surface

Who might be harmed and how?

Athletes, officials, volunteers, parents, coaches, and anyone else involved in attending or participating at the meeting.

What are you already doing?

- ◆ Rules published for training to raise awareness of the issues.
- ◆ Athletes have signed a waiver form to indicate they agree to the rules and understand the risk.
- ◆ Disinfectant regimes.

Risk Rating : High

What else can you do to control this risk?

- ◆ Reinforcement of rules used in training.
- ◆ Briefing of officials before the meeting.
- ◆ PPE and hand sanitiser available for officials.
- ◆ Separate entry and exit for competitors.
- ◆ Volunteers to oversee flow.
- ◆ Registration for athletes, officials and spectators in advance of the meeting.
- ◆ Pre-packing number/pins for each athlete in an envelope.
- ◆ Timetable published in advance of the meeting
- ◆ Warm-up in designated areas.
- ◆ All events are free - no payments.
- ◆ No seeding.
- ◆ No food or drink.
- ◆ No toilets except for officials .
- ◆ Athletes and spectators to take their rubbish home.
- ◆ First-aiders in full PPE to deal with injuries .
- ◆ Major incidents dealt with by paramedics/ emergency services.
- ◆ Zones for athletes to enforce social distancing.
- ◆ Results processed after the meeting and displayed on the club or meeting website.
- ◆ PA system used by only one announcer.
- ◆ No inappropriate spitting or nasal clearance allowed.

Resultant Risk Rating : Low

OFFICIALS NEWS

Transmission of disease in field events – throws

Who might be harmed and how?

Athletes / Officials.

What are you already doing?

- ◆ Rules published for training to raise awareness of the issues.
- ◆ Athletes have signed a waiver form to indicate they agree to the rules and understand the risk.

Risk Rating : Medium

What else can you do to control this risk?

- ◆ Social distancing.
- ◆ One-way systems.
- ◆ Number of athletes restricted to eight.
- ◆ Number of officials restricted to five.
- ◆ Normal competition format.
- ◆ Equipment sanitised by officials.
- ◆ Athletes bring own seating if required.
- ◆ Pre-prepared field cards.

Resultant Risk Rating : Low

Transmission of disease in field events – jumps

Who might be harmed and how?

Athletes / Officials.

What are you already doing?

- ◆ Rules published for training to raise awareness of the issues.
- ◆ Athletes have signed a waiver form to indicate they agree to the rules and understand the risk.

Risk Rating : Medium

What else can you do to control this risk?

- ◆ Run up measurement – tape provided alongside run-up.
- ◆ Sanitisation before, during and after the competition.
- ◆ Social distancing.
- ◆ One-way systems.
- ◆ Number of athletes per pool limited to eight and officials to four.
- ◆ The competition format – normal competition format.
- ◆ Rakes, sprays, spades used by officials with gloves, hand sanitiser and masks.
- ◆ Uprights and bar management by a single official.
- ◆ Cleaning of all landing surfaces (sand/bed) before, during and after the competition.
- ◆ Pre-prepared field cards.

Resultant Risk Rating : Low

Transmission of disease in track events – sprints

Who might be harmed and how? Athletes / Officials

What are you already doing?

- ◆ Rules published for training to raise awareness of the issues.
- ◆ Athletes have signed a waiver form to indicate they agree to the rules and understand the risk.

Risk Rating : Medium

What else can you do to control this risk?

- ◆ Blocks and track sprayed before and after use by starter's assistant.
- ◆ Starting area includes socially distanced holding area.
- ◆ Post-race Officials to lead athletes away from the finish.
- ◆ Falls sprayed.
- ◆ Communication of procedures before competition.

VENUE OF THE MONTH

Entertainment in the city centre!!

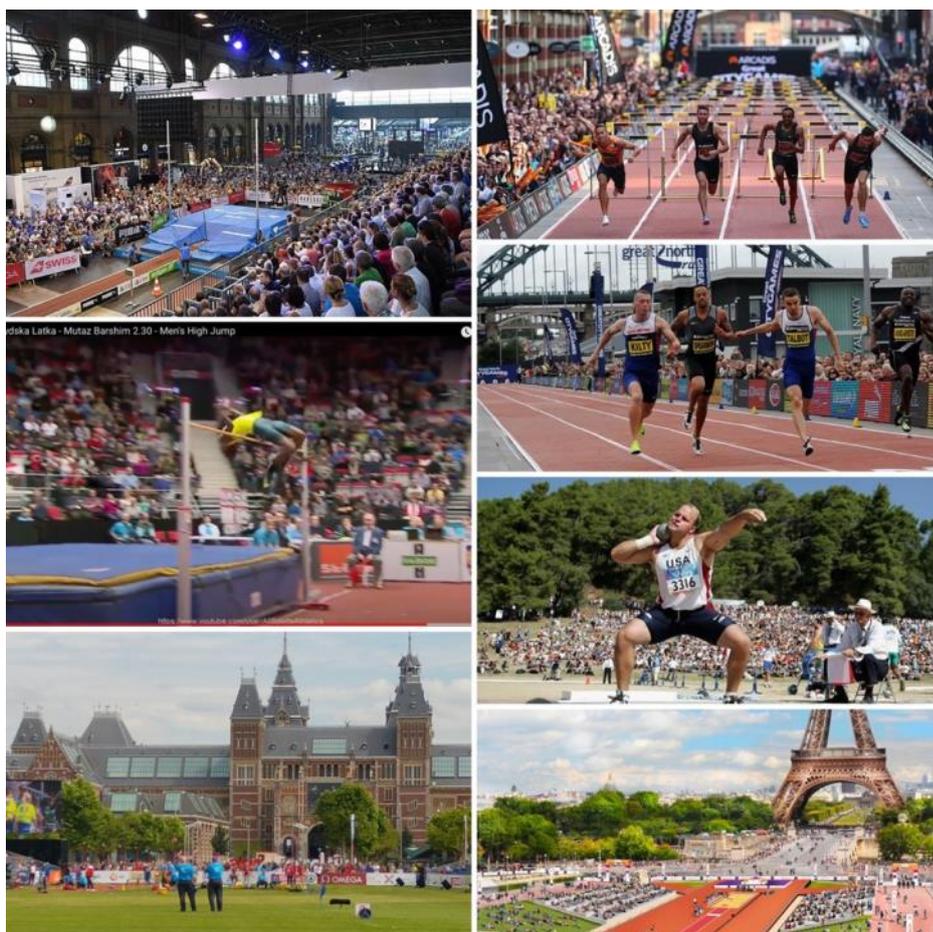
Introduction

Pole vault at the Central Station (Zurich Diamond League), javelin and discus in the Museum Square (Amsterdam 2016 European Athletics Championships), shot put at the ancient stadium in Olympia (Athens 2004 Olympic Games), 100m or 100m/110m hurdles on a four-lane track in the city centre (Great City Games in Newcastle), high jump in special arenas (often in Germany, Czech Republic or Slovakia) or a long jump in front of the Eiffel Tower (planned for the sadly cancelled Paris 2020 European Championships).

Great examples, and there are many more so **send photos of your examples to the Officials News coordinator and we will publish the best of them in the next newsletter.**

The intention: to introduce athletics to a wider public; to bring athletes closer to the audience. To inspire children and people who have never watched our favourite sport can get a thrilling experience and admire the speed, strength and technical skills of top-class athletes.

However, to make sure the results of competitions held at temporary facilities are valid, the applicable Rules need to be complied with.



Sources photos: 1. www.germanroadraces.de 2. Amsterdam 2016 LOC 3. www.worldathletics.org 4. AllSportsAthletics 5. Paris 2020 LOC.

Temporary athletics facility compliance

The organisation of competitions conducted outside of conventional athletics facilities, such as those held in town squares, basketball or tennis courts, on beaches etc, or using temporary facilities built within a stadium, are covered by Rule 11.2 of the Technical Rules.

The acceptance of the results on behalf of World Athletics is subject to all of the following conditions:

- The relevant governing body (World Athletics, Area or National Federation) has issued a permit for the event.
- A qualified panel of National Technical Officials are appointed to and officiate at the event.
- Where applicable, equipment and implements in conformity with the World Athletics Rules are used.
- The event is conducted in a competition area or facility in

conformity with the World Athletics Rules and in respect of which a survey has been made in accordance with Rule 10 of the Technical Rules on the day of the event.

For World Athletics to confirm compliance with these conditions and accept the results, it is necessary to submit a specific Application Form, which is composed of three parts: the main Application Form (general), the Event Site Measurement Form and the Survey Form (facility specific).

cont'd on page



General (World Athletics Application Form)

This part is to be completed and undersigned by the Member Federation, which has the ultimate responsibility for confirming that all the required conditions are fulfilled.

Facility Specific (World Athletics Event Site Measurement Form plus Survey Form)

This is generally completed and undersigned by the company conducting the survey.

Key items to be provided in this section are:

- Identification of the competition facility (including diagrams).
- Identification of the surveyor facility measurements.
- Information on the measuring instrument, including a certificate of accuracy.

When a competition is held over more than one day, the survey should be made on the day of the first event. If the surveyor can be satisfied that there will be no movement or alteration to the facilities being surveyed then the survey may be completed up to two days prior to the day of the first event.

If these conditions are met, the results will then be considered as valid and able to be included in performance lists, rankings, records etc.

Answers to the Trivia Quiz (page 7)

1. Two
2. Said Aouita (MAR)
3. Mexico 1968
4. 2002
5. Basketball
6. He had to cycle 220 miles (390km) to reach the event
7. 5000m and 10,000m
8. 200m
9. 1st round.
10. Al Oerter
11. Three
12. 12
13. University of Oregon
14. Viren, Gammoudi, Stewart
15. Berlin, Germany

NEWS IN BRIEF

Events Calendar

The following events were allocated by the European Athletics Council in May 2021:

- **2023 European Athletics Team Championships – Super League** were allocated to **Madrid, Spain.**
- **2023 European Athletics U23 Championships** were allocated to **Espoo, Finland.**
- **2023 European Athletics U20 Championships** were allocated to **Cluj-Napoca, Romania.**

All these three championships have been included in the comprehensive online European Athletics Calendar. <http://www.european-athletics.com/calendar/>.

The Council also approved the reintroduction of the European Clubs Cup Cross Country from February 2022. The provisional date is 6 February 2022 and the programme includes a mixed cross country relay.

Officials education

Further to World Athletics decision to postpone the TOECS to 2022 and RWJCS to 2023 due to the pandemic in 2020, and the fact that no sporting event could take place, the European Athletics Executive Board confirmed that the **TOECS Level 2 and RWJCS Level 2 will be also respectively staged in Autumn 2022 and 2023.**

The Officials Webinar, which was initially planned to take place in the spring of 2021, with the main topic of addressing the tasks and duties of Technical Delegates appointed to Permit Meetings, has now been scheduled for 29 September 2021.

Additional content about officials education can also be found in the USATF Officials Newsletter. <https://www.usatf.org/programs/officials/officials-newsletters>

Onside Project

European Athletics was involved as one of the partners of the ONSIDE project funded with support of the European Commission, the aim of which was to define the generic skills and competences common across different sports needed by sport officials, and then to develop innovative fit-for-purpose e-learning courses for sport officials with modules to engage, inform and upskill them.

The project officially ended on 31 December 2020.

The public ONSIDE Final Outputs are:

- ONSIDE Occupational Descriptor
- ONSIDE Occupational Map
- ONSIDE Functional Map
- ONSIDE Occupational Standards
- ONSIDE Handbook of Training Modules
- ONSIDE Guide to Sustainability and Quality Assurance Strategies

They can be downloaded from the library section of the ONSIDE website: <http://www.onside-sport.eu/library/>

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Please do not hesitate to send us any questions or suggestions for topics you would like to be discussed in the next issue.

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