Vertical Jumps

26. General Conditions – Vertical Jumps

26.1 Before the competition begins, the Referee or the Chief Judge shall announce to the athletes the starting height and the subsequent heights to which the bar will be raised at the end of each round of trials, until there is only one athlete remaining having won the competition, or there is a tie for first place. (For Combined Events, see Rule 39.8.4 of the Technical Rules).

Trials

26.2 An athlete may commence jumping / vaulting at any height previously announced by the Referee or Chief Judge and may jump / vault at their own discretion at any subsequent height. Three consecutive failures, regardless of the height at which any of such failures occur, disqualify from further jumping / vaulting except in the case of a tie for first place.

The effect of this Rule is that an athlete may pass their second or third trial at a particular height (after failing first or second time) and still jump / vault at a subsequent height.

If an athlete passes a trial at a certain height, they may not make any subsequent trial at that height, except in the case of a jump-off for first place.

In the case of the High Jump and Pole Vault, if one or more athletes are not present when all other athletes who are present have completed the competition, the Referee shall deem that such athlete(s) have abandoned the competition, once the period for one further trial has elapsed.

Whilst Rule 26.2 of the Technical Rules provides that an athlete may not attempt the second or third trial at any particular height in Vertical Jumps if it has been deemed that they have passed an earlier trial at that height, it is suggested that in lower level competitions such as children's and school meets, the competition regulations could be adapted so as to allow an athlete to opt to take the second or third trial in such cases.

26.3 Even after all the other athletes have failed, an athlete is entitled to continue jumping until they have forfeited their right to compete further.

26.4 Unless there is only one athlete remaining and they have won the competition:

26.4.1 the bar shall never be raised by less than 2cm in the High Jump and 5cm in the Pole Vault after each round of trials; and

26.4.2 the increment of the raising of the bar shall never increase.

These Rules 26.4.1 and 26.4.2 of the Technical Rules shall not apply once the athletes still competing all agree to raise it to a World Record (or other record relevant to the competition) height directly.

After an athlete has won the competition, the height or heights to which the bar is raised shall be decided by the athlete, in consultation with the relevant Judge or Referee.

Note: This Rule does not apply for a Combined Events Competition.

Height Measurement

26.5 In all vertical jumping events, measurements shall be made, in whole centimetres, perpendicularly from the ground to the lowest part of the upper side of the bar.

26.6 Any measurement of a new height shall be made before athletes attempt such height. A re-measurement should be made if the bar has been substituted. In all cases of Records, the Judges shall also re-check the measurement before each subsequent Record attempt if the bar has been touched since last measured.

Crossbar

26.7 The crossbar shall be made of fibre-glass, or other suitable material but not metal, circular in cross-section except for the end pieces. It shall be coloured so as to be visible to all sighted athletes. The overall length of the crossbar shall be 4.00m ± 0.02m in the High Jump and 4.50m ± 0.02m in Pole Vault. The maximum weight of the crossbar shall be 2kg in the High Jump and 2.25kg in Pole Vault. The diameter of the circular part of the crossbar shall be 30mm ± 1mm.

The crossbar shall consist of three parts - the circular bar and two end pieces, each 30mm-35mm wide and 0.15m-0.20m long for the purpose of resting on the supports of the uprights.

These end pieces shall be circular or semi-circular with one clearly defined flat surface on which the bar rests on the crossbar supports. This flat surface may not be higher than the centre of the vertical cross section of the crossbar. The end pieces shall be hard and smooth. They shall not be of, or covered with rubber or with any other material which has the effect of increasing the friction between them and the supports.

The crossbar shall have no bias and, when in place, shall sag a maximum of 20mm in the High Jump and 30mm in Pole Vault.

Control of elasticity: Hang a 3kg weight in the middle of the crossbar when in position. It may sag a maximum of 70mm in the High Jump and 0.11m in Pole Vault.

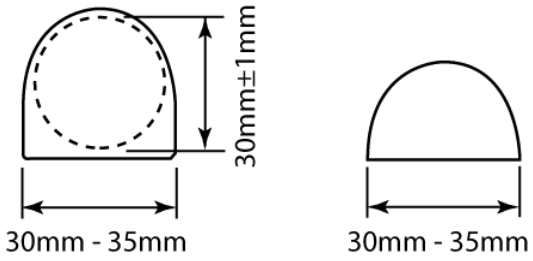

Figure TR26 - Alternative ends for crossbar

Placings

26.8 If two or more athletes clear the same final height, the procedure to decide the places will be the following:

26.8.1 The athlete with the lowest number of jumps at the height last cleared shall be awarded the higher place.

26.8.2 If the athletes are equal following the application of Rule 26.8.1 of the Technical Rules, the athlete with the lowest total of failures throughout the competition up to and including the height last cleared, shall be awarded the higher place.

26.8.3 If the athletes are still equal following the application of Rule 26.8.2 of the Technical Rules, the athletes concerned shall be awarded the same place unless it concerns the first place.

26.8.4 If it concerns the first place, a jump-off between these athletes shall be conducted in

accordance with Rule 26.9 of the Technical Rules, unless otherwise decided, either in advance according to the regulations applying to the competition, or during the competition but before the start of the event by the Technical Delegate(s) or the Referee if no Technical Delegate has been appointed. If no jump-off is carried out, including where the relevant athletes at any stage decide not to jump further, the tie for first place shall remain.

Note: This Rule 26.8.4 does not apply for a Combined Events Competition

There are a number of ways in which a jump-off may be cancelled/terminated:

a. by provision in advance of the competition set out in the regulations;

b. by decision during the competition by the Technical Delegate (or Referee if there is no Technical Delegate);

c. by decision of the athletes not to jump further prior to or at any stage of the jump-off.

Whilst any decision by the Technical Delegate or Referee not to conduct a jump-off should be made before the start of the event, there may be circumstances where this might not be possible such as where conditions at the place of competition make it impossible or undesirable to begin or continue with a jump-off. The Referee could use their powers under Rule 18 of the Competition Rules or Rule 25 of the Technical Rules to deal with this situation. It is emphasised that the athletes may make the decision not to jump further either before or at any stage during the jump-off.

Jump-off

26.9 Jump-off, as follows:

26.9.1 Athletes concerned must jump at every height until a decision is reached or until all of the athletes concerned decide not to jump further.

26.9.2 Each athlete shall have one jump at each height.

26.9.3 The jump-off shall start at the next height determined in accordance with Rule 26.1 of the Technical Rules after the height last cleared by the athletes concerned.

26.9.4 If no decision is reached the bar shall be raised if more than one athlete concerned were successful, or lowered if all of them failed, by 2cm for the High Jump and 5cm for the Pole Vault.

26.9.5 If an athlete is not jumping at a height, they automatically forfeit any claim to a higher place. If only one other athlete then remains, they are declared the winner regardless of whether they attempt that height.

High Jump - Example

Heights announced by the Chief Judge at the beginning of competition: 1.75m; 1.80m; 1.84m; 1.88m; 1.91m; 1.94m; 1.97m; 1.99m…

Athlete	Heights							Failures	Jump Off			Pos
	1.75m	1.80m	1.84m	1.88m	1.91m	1.94m	1.97m		1.91m	1.89m	1.91m	
A	O	XO	O	XO	X-	XX		2	X	O	X	2
B	-	XO	-	XO	-	-	XXX	2	X	O	O	1

C	-	O	XO	XO	-	XXX		2	X	X		3
D	-	XO	XO	XO	XXX			3				4

"A", "B", "C" and "D" all cleared 1.88m.

Rules 26.8 and 26.9 of the Technical Rules now come into operation; all four athletes have the same number of jumps at the height last cleared. Now, the Judges add up the total number of failures, up to and including the height last cleared, i.e. 1.88m.

"D" has more failures than "A", "B" or "C", and is therefore awarded fourth place. "A", "B" and "C" are still equal and as this concerns the first place, they shall jump at 1.91m which is the next height after the height last cleared by the athletes concerned.

As all the athletes failed, the bar is lowered to 1.89m for another jump-off. As only "C" failed to clear 1.89m, the two other athletes, "A" and "B" shall have a third jump-off at 1.91m which only "B" cleared and is therefore declared the winner.

When an athlete unilaterally decides to withdraw from a jump-off, the other athlete (if only one remains) will be declared the winner in accordance with Rule 26.9.5 of the Technical Rules. It is not necessary for that athlete to attempt the applicable height. Where more than one athlete remains in the jump-off, the jump-off continues with the athletes who have not withdrawn. The athlete(s) who withdraw, shall be placed according to their then finishing place as they have forfeited any right to any higher placing (including first place) available to the remaining athletes.

Extraneous Forces

26.10 When it is clear that the bar has been displaced by a force not associated with an athlete (e.g. a gust of wind)

26.10.1 if such displacement occurs after an athlete has cleared the bar without touching it, then the trial shall be considered successful, or

26.10.2 if such displacement occurs under any other circumstance, a replacement trial shall be awarded.

27. High Jump

Competition

27.1 An athlete shall take off from one foot.

27.2 An athlete fails if:

27.2.1 after the jump, the bar does not remain on the supports because of the action of the athlete whilst jumping; or

27.2.2 they touch the ground, including the landing area, beyond the vertical plane through the nearer edge of the crossbar, either between or outside the uprights with any part of their body, without first clearing the bar. However, if when they jump, an athlete touches the landing area with their foot and in the opinion of the Judge, no advantage is gained, the jump for that reason shall not be considered a failure.

Note: To assist in the implementation of this Rule a white line 50mm wide shall be drawn (usually by adhesive tape or similar material) between points 3m outside of each upright, the nearer edge of the line being drawn along the vertical plane through the nearer edge