

## **PART C – WORLD PARA ATHLETICS COMPETITION RULES**

Interpretation – where a number appears in brackets next to the heading of any of the following Rules it shall generally refer to the corresponding World Athletics Rules. This is for guidance only and the World Athletics rules must not be used to determine any issue at an WPA Recognised Competition (see Part – B 3.1.2), except in the limited number of places where these Rules clearly specify that the World Athletics Rules shall apply.

### **SECTION I – INTERNATIONAL OFFICIALS**

#### **Rule 1: Appointment of Officials**

1. At the Paralympic Games and WPA Championships the following international officials should be appointed by WPA:
  - a) WPA Technical Delegate(s);
  - b) WPA International Technical Officials;
  - c) Medical Delegate;
  - d) Doping Control Delegate;
  - e) Chief Classifier;
  - f) International Classifiers;
  - g) International Starter
  - h) International Photo Finish Judge;
  - i) Jury of Appeal.

*Note: International Officials should wear distinctive attire or insignia.*

At the Paralympic Games and WPA Championships (see Part B - 3.1.2 (a) and (b)), the number of officials appointed in each category, how when and by whom they shall be appointed, shall be indicated in the respective WPA Technical Requirements.

The travelling and accommodation expenses of each individual appointed by WPA under this Rule shall be paid to the individual by the LOC of the competition according to the relevant Regulations.

2. Appointment of Officials for WPA Sanctioned and Approved Competitions (see Part B - 3.1.2 (c) and (d)):
  - a) A WPA Technical Delegate(s) for International and National Competitions must be appointed by WPA.
  - b) If WPA Classification is being conducted in conjunction with the respective competition, then the Chief Classifier and International Classifiers must be appointed by WPA.
  - c) Such other officials as the STC and the TD shall (in consultation with the LOC) decide is necessary.

## **Rule 2: Description of Officials and Their Duties**

### **2.1 Technical Delegate**

The Technical Delegate(s), in conjunction with the LOC, which shall afford them all necessary help, are responsible for ensuring that all technical arrangements are in conformity with these Rules and the World Athletics Track and Field Facilities Manual.

Technical Delegate(s) appointed for competitions other than one day meetings shall ensure:

- a) That the submission of the final timetable of events is concluded and published together with any entry standards for the competition;
- b) For Field events, to approve the list of implements to be used and whether athletes may use their own implements or those provided by a supplier;
- c) For Field Events, to determine the qualifying standards, and for Track Events the basis on which the rounds shall be arranged;
- d) That the applicable Technical Regulations are issued to all competing delegations in good time before the competition;
- e) All other technical preparations necessary for the holding of the athletics events;
- f) To reject entries for technical reasons;
- g) The seeding and draws for all events are made in accordance with the Rules and any applicable Technical Regulations and approve all start lists;
- h) Decide upon any matters which arise prior to the competition and for which provision has

not been made in these Rules (or any applicable regulations) or the arrangements for the competitions, where appropriate in consultation with the LOC and/or conjunction with WPA at the Paralympic Games and WPA Championships (see Part B - 3.1.2 (a) and (b)).

- i) Decide (including where appropriate in conjunction when available with the relevant Referee(s) and the Competition Director) upon any matters which arise during the competition and for which provision has not been made in these Rules (or any applicable regulations) or the arrangements for the competitions or which might require a deviation from them in order for the competition to continue in whole or in part or in order to ensure fairness to those taking part.
- j) That if requested, to chair the Technical Meeting and brief the Technical Officials
- k) The submission of written reports in advance of the competition on its preparation and after its conclusion on the execution, including recommendations for future editions. Technical Delegates appointed for one day meetings shall provide all necessary support and advice to the LOC and ensure the submission of written reports on the execution of the competition.

## 2.2 Medical Delegate

The Medical Delegate shall:

- a) Have ultimate authority on all medical matters. They shall be given full access to the available medical information and communicate with the LOC chief medical officer.
- b) Ensure that adequate facilities for medical examination, treatment and emergency care will be available at the venue(s) of the competition, training and Warm-up Areas and that medical attention can be provided where athletes are accommodated and for provision of and compliance with the requirements of Rule 7.1.
- c) Review medical certificates in accordance with Rule 5.4 and Regulation 6.3.
- d) Have the power to order an athlete to withdraw before, or to immediately retire from an event during, competition.

*Note (i): The powers under (c) and (d) above may be passed by the Medical Delegate to (or where no Medical Delegate is appointed or available be exercised by) one or more medical doctors*

*appointed and so designated by the LOC who should normally be identified by an armband, vest or similar distinctive apparel. Where the Medical Delegate or doctor is not immediately available to the athlete, they may provide instruction or direction to an official or other authorised person to act on their behalf.*

*Note (ii): Prior to withdrawing an athlete before the commencement of an event under Rule 2.2(d), that athlete must be examined by one of the medical doctors appointed by the LOC. Any athlete withdrawn during an event under Rule 2.2(d) must, as soon as practically possible after the withdrawal, be examined by one of the medical doctors appointed by the LOC.*

*Note (iii): Any athlete withdrawn or retired from a running event under Rule 2.2(d) shall be shown in the result as DNS and DNF respectively. Any athlete not complying with such an order shall be disqualified from that event.*

*Note (iv): Any athlete withdrawn or retired from a Field Event under Rule 2.2(d) shall be shown in the result as DNS if they have not taken any trial. However, if they have taken any trials, the results of those trials shall stand and the athlete classified in the result accordingly. Any athlete not complying with such an order shall be disqualified from further participation in that event.*

**COMMENT:** The health and safety of all participants in the competition is a high priority consideration for WPA, other governing bodies and by the LOC of the competition. The availability of the expertise of a well-respected and qualified person in the role of Medical Delegate is essential to carry out these key tasks, especially as they (or those authorised by them or the LOC) amongst other duties has the responsibility to withdraw an athlete from competition if deemed necessary for medical reasons. It is important to note that the power of the Medical Delegate (or a medical doctor acting at their request or in their place) applies to all events. It is essential that there is a reliable communication system and procedures in place between the Medical Delegate (and those authorised to act in their place), the Technical Delegates and the Competition Director particularly in relation to the duties under (c) and (d) above as these have a direct impact on start lists, results and the management of the competition.

### 2.3 Doping Control Delegate

The Doping Control Delegate shall liaise with the LOC to ensure that suitable facilities are provided for the conduct of doping control. They shall be responsible for all matters relating to doping control.

### 2.4 International Technical Officials (ITOs)

Where ITOs are appointed, the Technical Delegate shall appoint the Chief ITO among the appointed ITOs, if one was not appointed previously. Whenever possible, the Chief ITO, in conjunction with the Technical Delegates, shall assign at least one ITO for every event on the programme. The ITO shall be the Referee of each event to which they are assigned.

**COMMENT:** From January 2016, the role of the International Technical Official (ITO) has changed significantly but this is a logical part of the evolution of the position. From this time the ITOs act as the Referee of the events to which they are appointed. Amongst the locally appointed Officials, the Chief Judge will now be the “senior” and lead role and if in the past there was some organisational or training aspect of the team that was undertaken by a locally appointed referee, these tasks will become the duty of the respective Chief Judges.

It has been noticed that the ITOs are very helpful to the Technical Delegate(s) and the LOC. They must have a great knowledge of rules, officiate within their National Governing Bodies as Referee at major competitions in their country, and be responsible for developing or delivering officiating courses in their countries. They must also know the duties of the Meeting Manager and, in principle, they should be familiar with such duties and finally, it is necessary that they speak English.

WPA has developed an education pathway for Technical Officials similar to the WARECS of the World Athletics. The pathway includes an online introductory training program, national technical officiating training and international technical officiating training. Those who pass the International Technical Officials course (which includes a requirement for spoken and written English) are eligible for the International Technical Officials panel which is established every four years. The first official panel selection was conducted in November 2017. It is also extremely important that ITOs understand well the duties of the Referees; as with the changes in 2016 ITOs act as the relevant Referee for events that they are assigned.

## 2.5 International Road Course Measurer

An International Road Course Measurer may be appointed to verify the courses where road events are held entirely or partially outside the stadium.

The appointed course measurer shall be a member of the World Athletics /AIMS Panel of International Road Course Measurers (Grade "A" or "B").

The course should be measured in good time before the competition.

The measurer will check and certify the course if they find it conforms to the Rules for Road Race (See Rule 49.2 and Rule 49.3 and respective notes).

They shall cooperate with the LOC in the course arrangements and witness the conduct of the race to ensure that the course run by athletes follows the same course that was measured and approved.

They shall furnish an appropriate certificate to the Technical Delegate(s).

**COMMENT:** It is important to note that WPA does not certify course measurers but uses those certified by World Athletics /AIMS for any of their events which run independently of World Athletics road races.

## 2.6 International Starter and International Photo Finish Judge

At all Paralympic Games and WPA Championships (see Part B - 3.1.2 (a) and (b)) an International Starter and an International Photo Finish Judge shall be appointed by WPA. The International Starter shall start the races and undertake any other duties assigned to them by the Technical Delegate(s). The International Photo Finish Judge shall supervise all Photo Finish functions and shall be the Chief Photo Finish Judge.

**COMMENT:** It is noted that whilst the International Photo Finish Judge acts as the Chief Photo Finish Judge at those competitions to which they are appointed and the ITOs act as Referees, there remains a clear division in responsibilities between the International Starter (IS) and the other members of the start team. Whilst the IS takes on all the powers and duties of the Starter when starting any race to which they are allocated, they do not either then or at any other time replace or have the power to override the Start Referee.

## 2.7 Jury of Appeal

At all Paralympic Games and WPA Championships (see Part B - 3.1.2 (a) and (b)) a Jury of Appeal shall be appointed. The Jury should normally consist of three, five or seven persons. One of its members shall be the Chairman and another Secretary. If and when considered as appropriate, the Secretary may be a person not included in the Jury.

Members of the Jury of Appeal shall not be present during any deliberations of the Jury concerning any Appeal that affects, directly or indirectly, an athlete affiliated to their own national governing body.

The chair of the Jury shall ask any member implicated by this rule to withdraw, in the event the Jury member has not already done so.

WPA or other organisation responsible for the competition shall appoint one or more alternative Jury members to substitute for any Jury member(s) who are not able to participate in an Appeal.

Furthermore, a Jury of Appeal should likewise be appointed at other competitions where the LOC deem it desirable or necessary in the interest of the proper conduct of the competitions.

The primary functions of the Jury of Appeal shall be to deal with all protest appeals, and any matters arising during the course of the competition that are referred to it for decision.

**COMMENT:** It is particularly important to note that in certain circumstances now, where new conclusive evidence is available, that both the Referee (in the case of a protest) and the Jury (in the case of an appeal) can reconsider the decision if it was made in error – it is still applicable and practical to do so. Normally all of this is done prior to the Victory Ceremony for the event in question.

## 2.8 Officials of the Competition

The LOC of a competition and/or the relevant governing body shall appoint all other officials, subject to these Rules.

The following list comprises the officials considered necessary and or desirable for major International Competitions. The LOC may, however, vary this according to local circumstances.

### MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS

- One Competition Director

- One Meeting Manager and an adequate number of assistants
- One Technical Manager
- One Event Presentation Manager

#### COMPETITION OFFICIALS

- One (or more) Referee(s) for the Call Room
- One (or more) Referee(s) for Track Events
- One (or more) Referee(s) for Field Events
- One (or more) Referee(s) for events outside the Stadium
- One (or more) Video Referee (s)
- One Chief Judge and an adequate number of Judges for Track Events
- One Chief Judge and an adequate number of Judges for each Field Event
- One Chief Umpire and an adequate number of Umpires
- One Chief Timekeeper and an adequate number of Timekeepers
- One Chief Photo Finish Judge and an adequate number of assistants
- One Chief Transponder Timing Judge and an adequate number of assistants
- One Start co-ordinator and an adequate number of Starters and Recalls
- One (or more) Starter's Assistant(s)
- One Chief and an adequate number of Lap Scorers
- One Competition Secretary and an adequate number of assistants
- One Technical Information Centre (TIC) Manager and an adequate number of assistants
- One Chief and an adequate number of Marshals
- One (or more) Wind Gauge Operator(s)
- One Chief Measurement Judge (Scientific) and an adequate number of assistants
- One Chief and an adequate number of Call Room Judges



## ADDITIONAL OFFICIALS

- One (or more) Announcer(s)
- One (or more) Statistician(s)
- One Advertising Commissioner
- One Official Surveyor
- One (or more) Doctor(s)
- Stewards for Athletes, Officials and Press

Referees and Chief Judges should wear a distinctive attire or insignia.

Care should however be taken to limit the number of officials present within the field of play to that number necessary for the smooth running of the competition.

Where women's events are held, a female doctor shall be appointed when possible.

**COMMENT:** The number of officials appointed to a competition should be adequate to ensure the required duties are carried out both correctly and efficiently and also to ensure sufficient rest if the competition is over a long period of time on a single day or on several consecutive days. But care must also be taken not to appoint too many so that the competition area becomes cluttered or obstructed by unnecessary personnel. In more and more competitions, some tasks undertaken by on-field officials are being "replaced" by technology and unless a back-up is logically required, this needs to be taken into account when officials are appointed.

### **A Note on Safety**

Competition officials at athletics events have many important functions, but none is more important than their roles in ensuring the safety of all concerned. The athletics arena can be a dangerous place. Heavy and sharp implements are thrown and pose a hazard to anyone in their path. Athletes running on the track or on runways at high speeds can hurt themselves and anyone with whom they collide. Those competing in jumping events, often land in an unexpected or unintended manner. Weather and other conditions can make athletic competition unsafe either temporarily or for longer periods. There have been instances of athletes, officials, photographers and others who have been injured (sometimes fatally) in accidents in or near competition and training areas. Many of those injuries could have been

prevented.

Officials must always be mindful of the dangers that are inherent in the sport. They must be alert at all times and must not allow themselves to be distracted. Regardless of their official position, all officials have the responsibility to do what they can to make the athletics arena a safer place. All officials should think about safety whenever and wherever they are in the competition area, and should intervene when necessary to prevent an accident, when they see conditions or a situation that could lead to one. Ensuring safety is of the utmost importance – even more so than strict compliance with the rules of competition. In the rare event when there is a conflict, the concern for safety must prevail.

## 2.9 Competition Director

The Competition Director shall, where applicable with the Technical, and other relevant, Delegate(s):

1. plan the technical organisation of a competition, including the integration of Event Presentation and Victory Ceremonies;
2. ensure that this plan is executed before and during the competition;
3. ensure that any technical problems are resolved or an alternate solution put in place;
4. direct the interaction between the participants in the competition; and
5. through the communication system, be in contact with all key officials and other relevant stakeholders involved in the delivery and broadcast of the competition;
6. engage fully with the Event Presentation Manager to ensure compliance with Rule 2.12;
7. ensure the accurate preparation and publication of the Call Room schedule in accordance with Rule 2.24;
8. communicate with the Start Coordinator to ensure the efficient operation of Rule 2.17.1(a);
9. be fully aware of the applicable regulations for the competition and the functioning of the planned technological and IT systems; and
10. manage any matters arising under Rule 8.5.

**COMMENT:** During the competition, to ensure an efficient operation, the Competition Director

should be located with an optimal view of the competition area, close to the Event Presentation team and with satisfactory and reliable availability of technological connections and supporting monitors.

## 2.10 Meeting Manager

The Meeting Manager shall be responsible for the correct conduct of the Competition. They shall check that all officials have reported for duty, appoint substitutes when necessary and have authority to remove from duty any official who is not abiding by the Rules. In cooperation with the appointed Marshal, they shall arrange that only authorised persons are allowed in field of play areas.

*Note: For competitions of longer than four hours or over more than one day, it is recommended that the Meeting Manager has an adequate number of Assistant Meeting Managers.*

**COMMENT:** While WPA Rules are sometimes rather simple in wording they, in reality, hide very heavy responsibilities such as when we consider the duties of the competition director or Meeting Manager at any competition, but particularly those the size of the Paralympic Games, the World or Regional Championships.

The Meeting Manager(s) must be responsible, under the authority of the Competition director, and in accordance with the Technical Delegates' guidance and decisions, for everything happening in the field of play. In the stadium, they must place themselves so as to be able to see everything that is happening and to give necessary orders. They must have in their possession the complete list of all appointed officials and be able to communicate efficiently with the other Managers, Referees and Chief Judges.

In competitions that take place over multiple days in particular it is possible that some judges may not be able to officiate during the whole competition. The Meeting Manager shall have at their disposal a reserve of officials from which they can draw any replacement, if necessary. Even if all the officials for an event are present, the Meeting Manager should ensure that the officials fulfil their duties correctly and if they do not be ready to replace them. They shall ensure that the Judges (and those assisting them) leave the arena as soon as their event is finished or when their subsequent work is done.

The Competition Director, Meeting Manager and Technical Delegate(s) all work together to

ensure the best possible conditions for athletes to perform and for spectators to observe and celebrate the performances.

## 2.11 Technical Manager

The Technical Manager shall be responsible for:

- a) Ensuring that the track, runways, circles, arcs, sectors, landing areas for Field Events and all equipment and implements are in accordance with the Rules.
- b) The placement and removal of equipment and implements according to the technical organisational plan for the competition as approved by the Technical Delegates.
- c) Ensuring the technical presentation of the competition areas is in accordance with such plan.
- d) Checking and marking any personal implements permitted for the competition according to Rule 30.3.
- e) Ensuring that they have received or are aware of the existence of, the necessary certification under Rule 10.1 before the competition.

**COMMENT:** The Technical Manager acts under the authority of the Competition Director or the Meeting Manager but of course an experienced Technical Manager will undertake much of their role without any direction or supervision. They must be contactable at any time. If a Referee or a Field Event Chief Judge notices that the site where an event is taking place (or will take place) needs to be modified or improved, they must refer it to the Meeting Manager who will ask the Technical Manager to take the necessary action. Also, when a Referee feels that there is a need for a change of place of a competition (Rule 24.20) they will act the same way towards the Meeting Manager who will instruct the Technical Manager to carry out, or have carried out, the wishes of the Referee. It must be remembered that neither the wind strength nor its change of direction is sufficient condition to change the place of the competition. Once the Competition director, or for international competitions the Technical Delegates, has approved the implements list to be used during the events, the Technical Manager shall prepare, order and receive the various implements. For the latter, their team must then carefully check their weight and dimensions, and any personal implements that are permitted and submitted, in order to comply with the Rules. They must also ensure that 51.20 (d) is followed in both a correct and efficient manner if a Record is set.

In relation to throwing implements, the Technical Manager(s) should apply the range of implements for competition specified in these tables when accepting new equipment from suppliers but should not reject implements submitted for or used in competition because they do not comply with this range. It is the minimum weight that is critical in this regard.

## **2.12 Event Presentation Manager**

The Event Presentation Manager shall plan and implement, in conjunction with the Competition Director, the event presentation arrangements for the competition. They shall also direct the interaction between the members of the event presentation team, using the communication system to be in contact with each of them.

They shall ensure that, through announcements and the available technology, the public is informed of information concerning the athletes taking part in each event, including the start lists, Classification, intermediate and final results. The official result (placings, times, heights, distances and points) of each event should be conveyed at the earliest practicable moment after receipt of the information.

**COMMENT:** The Event Presentation Manager not only has the responsibility of planning, leading and coordinating a production in presentation terms of all the activities that take place on the infield but also integrating them into the show to be presented to the spectators within the venue. The final aim of their work is to create an informative, entertaining, lively and attractive production of the show that is to be offered to the spectators. To succeed in this, it is important to have a team and the necessary equipment to carry out the work. The Event Presentation Manager is the person in charge of coordinating the activities of the event presentation staff working on and off the field who are related to this role including but not limited to the Announcers, Scoreboard and videoboard Operators, Audio and video Technicians and victory Ceremony officials. For almost every competition, an announcer is essential. They must be placed so as to be able to follow the meeting properly and preferably near to or otherwise in immediate communication with the Competition Director or if appointed, the Event Presentation Manager.

It is also critical that the Event Presentation Manager is aware of the events which require more quiet (such as T11/T12 Long Jump or Triple Jump events) so as to ensure the announcers and music/sound system respects the requirement for a quieter presentation of these events.

### 2.13 Referees

1. One (or more) Referee(s) shall be appointed respectively for the Call Room, for Track Events, for Field Events, and for Road Race Events outside the stadium. When appropriate, one (or more) Video Referee(s) shall be appointed.

The Video Referee(s) shall operate from a Video Review Room, should consult and shall be in communication with the other Referees.

**COMMENT:** At meetings where sufficient officials are available so that more than one Referee is appointed for the races, it is strongly recommended that one of them is appointed as the Start Referee. This Start Referee should be a specialist and experienced starter, thus basing their observations on a technically sound background. To be clear the Start Referee in such circumstances should exercise all the powers of the Referee in relation to the start and is not required to report to or act through any other track Referee when doing so.

However, if only one Referee is appointed to oversee the races of a certain competition, and considering the powers they have, it is strongly recommended that the Referee be positioned in the start area, during each start (at least for those events using a crouch start) to witness any eventual problem that may occur and to take any decision needed to solve it. This will be easier when a World Athletics certified Start Information System is in use.

If not, and if the Referee will not have time to place themselves in line with the finish line after the start procedure (as in 100m and 200m) and foreseeing the possible need for the Referee to decide placings, a good solution may be to have the Start Coordinator (who should have an extensive experience as a starter) being appointed to also act as Start Referee.

2. Referees shall ensure that these Rules (and applicable Technical Regulations) are observed and shall decide upon any matters which arise during the competition (including in the Warm-up Area, Call Room and, after the competition, up to and including the Victory Ceremony) and for which provision has not been made in these Rules (or any applicable Technical Regulations), where appropriate or necessary in conjunction with the Technical Delegate(s).

The respective Referees for Track Events and for events outside the stadium shall have jurisdiction to decide placings in a race where the Judges of a disputed place(s) are unable to arrive at a decision.

The Start Referee (or if one is not appointed, the relevant Track Referee) has the power to

decide on any facts related to the starts if they do not agree with the decisions made by the start team, except in cases when it regards an apparent false start indicated by a World Athletics approved Start Information System, unless for any reason the Referee determines that the information provided by the system is obviously inaccurate.

A Track Referee appointed to oversee the starts is designated the Start Referee.

The Referee shall not act as a Judge or Umpire but may take any action or decision according to the Rules based on their own observations and may overrule a decision of a Judge.

*Note: For the purpose of this Rule and applicable Regulations, including the Advertising Regulations, the Victory Ceremony is concluded when all directly related activities (including photographs, victory laps, crowd interaction etc.) are completed.*

**COMMENT:** It should be carefully noted that it is not necessary for a Referee to have received a report from a Judge or Umpire in order to make a disqualification. They may act at all times by their own direct observation. The above Note should be interpreted to include all matters which are incidental to or relate to the Victory Ceremony and that the Referee for that event is responsible for them. When Victory Ceremonies are held at a different location or in a different session, common sense should be applied and if necessary, another Referee may have to be substituted if it is not practical for the original Referee to manage the situation.

3. The appropriate Referee shall check all final results, shall deal with any disputed points and, in conjunction with the Measurement Judge (Scientific) where appointed, shall supervise the measurements of Record performances. At the conclusion of each round of an event, the result card shall be completed immediately, signed (or otherwise approved) by the appropriate Referee or the Chief Photo Finish Judge and handed to the Competition Secretary.

**COMMENT:** For Track Events once the Track Referee and Video Referee “clear” the event, the results are released by the Chief Photo Finish Judge and there is no need to physically sign the results sheet.

4. The appropriate Referee shall rule on any protest or objection regarding the conduct of the competition (including in the Warm-up Area, Call Room and, after the competition, up to and including the Victory Ceremony).

**COMMENT:** In major competitions such as Paralympic Games, World and Regional

Championships an ITO is assigned to observe the Victory Ceremony and report on any infractions as well as to issue yellow or red cards to athletes who act in an unsporting manner.

5. A Referee shall have authority to warn or exclude from competition, any athlete or relay team in accordance with Rule 8.1.
6. The Referee may reconsider a decision (whether made in the first instance or in considering a protest) on the basis of any available evidence, provided the new decision is still applicable. Normally, such re-consideration may be undertaken only prior to the Victory Ceremony for the relevant event or any applicable decision by the Jury of Appeal.

**COMMENT:** This Rule clarifies that as with the Jury of Appeal (see Rule 50.9) a Referee can reconsider a decision and may do so equally whether this was a decision by themselves in the first instance or one made when considering a protest made to them. This option can be considered especially when new evidence of information comes to hand quickly as it could avoid the need for a more complicated or involved appeal to the Jury of Appeal. But note the practical time limitations on such a reconsideration.

7. If, in the opinion of the appropriate Referee, circumstances arise at any competition such that justice demands that any event or any part of an event should be contested again, they shall have authority to declare the event or any part of an event void and that it shall be held again, either on the same day or on some future occasion, as they shall decide.

**COMMENT:** It should be carefully noted by Referees and Juries of Appeal that, except in very special circumstances, an athlete who does not finish a race, should not be advanced to a later round or included in a re-run of an event.

8. The Road Race Referee shall, wherever practicable give a warning prior to disqualification.

## 2.14 Judges

### *General*

1. The Chief Judge for Track Events and the Chief Judge for each Field Event shall co-ordinate the work of the judges in their respective events. If the duties of the Judges have not been allocated in advance, they shall allocate the duties.
2. The judges may reconsider any original decision made by them if it was made in error, provided the new decision is still applicable. Alternatively, or if a decision has subsequently



been made by a Referee or the Jury of Appeal, they shall refer all available information to the Referee or to the Jury of Appeal.

### ***Track Events and Road Events***

3. The track and road Judges should all operate from the same side of the track or course, and they shall decide the order in which the athletes have finished and, in any case where they cannot arrive at a decision, shall refer the matter to the Referee, who shall decide.

*Note: The Judges should be placed at least 5m from, and in line with, the finish and should be provided with an elevated platform.*

### ***Field Events***

4. The field event Judges shall judge and record each trial and measure each valid trial of athletes in all Field Events. In the High Jump precise measurements should be made when the bar is raised particularly if Records are being attempted. At least two Judges should keep a record of all trials, checking their recordings at the end of each round of trials.

The appropriate Judge shall normally indicate the validity or non-validity of a trial by raising a white or red flag, as appropriate. Alternative visual indication may also be approved by WPA.

**COMMENT:** Unless a Judge is sure that an infringement of the Rules has occurred they will normally give the benefit of any doubt to the athlete, determine that the trial is valid and raise a white flag. However, when a video Referee is appointed and with access to footage for the Field Events, there is an option in the case of some doubt for the Judge in conjunction with the on-field Referee to delay the raising of either flag until they have sought the advice of the video Referee - always ensuring either that the landing mark is preserved or the trial is measured in case it is valid. Alternatively, the Judge if in real doubt could raise the red flag, ensure the mark is preserved or that the trial is measured and then seek advice from the video Referee.

It is recommended that for each Field Event only one set of white and red flags are used in order to reduce the possibility of any confusion about the validity of trials. It is considered that it is never necessary to use more than one set of flags in a Jumping Event. Where a specific scoreboard is not available to indicate the wind reading in Horizontal Jumps, some form of indication other than a red flag should be used to indicate an excessive reading.

In the case of Throwing Events, with respect to:

Indications by other circle judges to the judge with the flags that a failure has been made, it is recommended that an alternate form of indication to flags is used such as a small red card held in that judge's hand, or some form of hand signals;

The landing of an implement on or outside the sector line, it is recommended that an alternate form of indication to a flag is used - such as a judge's outstretched arm parallel to the ground;

A judgment in the javelin throw that the metal head has not touched the ground before any other part of the javelin; it is recommended that an alternate form of indication to a flag is used - such as the pushing of the open hand of the judge towards the ground.

## 2.15 Umpires (Running and Wheelchair Racing Events)

1. Umpires are assistants to the Referee, without authority to make final decisions.
2. The Umpires shall be placed by the Referee in such a position that they may observe the competition closely and, in the case of a failure or violation of the Rules by an athlete or other person, make an immediate written report of the incident to the Referee.
3. Any such breach of the Rules should be communicated to the relevant Referee by the raising of a yellow flag or any other reliable means approved by the Technical Delegate(s).
4. A sufficient number of Umpires shall also be appointed to supervise the take-over zones in relay races.

*Note (i): When an Umpire observes that an athlete has run in a different lane from their own, or that a relay take-over has taken place outside the take-over zone, they should immediately mark on the track with suitable material the place where the infringement took place or make a similar notation on paper or by electronic means.*

*Note (ii): The Umpire(s) shall report to the Referee any breach of the Rules, even if the athlete (or team, for relay races) does not finish the race.*

**COMMENT:** The Chief Umpire (see Rule 2.8) is the assistant of the Track Referee and indicates the placement of and co-ordinates the work and reports of each Umpire. It is up to the Meeting Manager in consultation with the Track Referee to select the appropriate number of Umpires according to the level of the meeting, the number of entries and the number of available officials.

### Indication of an infringement

When the events take place on a synthetic track, it has been the practice to provide the Umpires with adhesive tape so that they can mark the track where an infringement has taken place – although the Rules (see note (i) above) now acknowledge that this may be and is often done in other ways.

Note that the failure to report an infringement in a particular way (or at all) does not prevent a valid disqualification being made. It is important that Umpires “report” all instances where they believe the Rules have been infringed, even when the athlete or team does not finish the race.

### 2.16 Timekeepers and Photo Finish and Transponder Timing Judges

1. In the case of hand timing, a sufficient number of timekeepers for the number of athletes entered shall be appointed. One of them shall be designated the Chief Timekeeper. They shall allocate duties to the Timekeepers. These Timekeepers shall act as back-up Timekeepers when Fully Automatic Photo Finish System or Transponder Timing System are in use.
2. Timekeeper, Photo Finish and Transponder Timing Judges shall act in accordance with Rule 20.
3. When Fully Automatic Timing and Photo Finish System is used, a Chief Photo Finish Judge and an adequate number of assistants shall be appointed.
4. When a Transponder Timing System is used, a Chief transponder Timing Judge and an adequate number of assistants shall be appointed.

### 2.17 Start Co-ordinator, Starter and Recalls

1. The Start Co-ordinator shall:
  - a) Allocate the duties of the start team However, in the case of the Paralympic Games and WPA Championships (see Part B - 3.1.2 (a) and (b)), the determination of which events will be assigned to the International Starter will be the responsibility of the Technical Delegates;
  - b) Supervise the duties to be fulfilled by each member of the team;
  - c) Inform the Starter, after receiving the relevant order from the Competition Director, that

everything is in order to initiate the start procedure (e.g., that the Timekeepers, the Judges and, when applicable, the Chief Photo Finish Judge, Chief Transponder Timing Judge and the Wind Gauge Operator are ready);

- d) Act as an interlocutor between the technical staff of the timing equipment company and the Judges;
- e) Keep all papers produced during the start procedure including all documents showing the reaction times and/or false start waveform images if available;

**COMMENT:** All members of the start team must be well informed about the Rules and how they should be interpreted. The team must also be clear on what procedures it will follow when implementing the Rules, so that the events can continue without delay. They must understand well the respective duties and roles of each member of the team, especially the Starter and the Start Referee.

2. The Starter, whose primary responsibility is to ensure a fair and equitable start for all competitors, shall have entire control of the athletes on their marks. When a Start Information System is used, the Starter and/or an assigned Recaller shall wear headphones in order to hear clearly any acoustic signal emitted when the System indicates a possible false start.
3. The Starter shall position themselves so that they have full visual control over all athletes during the start procedure.

It is recommended, especially for staggered starts, that loudspeakers in the individual lanes be used for relaying the commands of the start and any recall signals to all athletes at the same time.

*Note: The Starter shall place themselves so that the whole field of athletes falls into a narrow visual angle. For races using crouch starts it is necessary that they are placed so that they can ascertain that all athletes are currently steady in their set positions before the gun is fired or approved starting apparatus is activated. (All such starting apparatus is termed “gun” for the purpose of these Rules.) Where loudspeakers are not used in races with a staggered start, the Starter shall place themselves so that the distance between them and each of the athletes is approximately the same. Where, however, the Starter cannot place themselves in such a position, the gun shall be placed there and discharged by electric contact.*

**COMMENT:** The Starter’s commands have to be clear and heard by all athletes but, unless they

are a long way from the athletes and without a speaker system, they should avoid shouting whilst giving the commands.

4. One or more Recallers shall be assigned to assist the Starter.

*Note: For events of 200m, 400m, 4x100m, 4x200m, 4x400m Relays, there shall be at least two Recallers.*

5. Each Recaller shall place themselves so that they can see each athlete assigned to them.
6. Each Recaller is obliged to recall the race if any infringement of the Rules is observed. After a recalled or aborted start the Recaller shall report their observations to the Starter who decides whether and to whom a warning or disqualification shall be issued (See also Rule 17.7 and Rule 17.10).
7. Disqualification under Rule 17.8 may be decided only by the Starter.

**COMMENT:** It is important that the contents of this rule be read in conjunction with Rule 2.13 (Referee) as in effect both the starter and Referee (Start Referee when appointed) are responsible for starts and who can determine whether a start is fair. On the other hand, a Recaller has no such power and whilst they may recall a start, they cannot act unilaterally thereafter and must simply report their observations to the starter about why they recalled the race.

8. To assist in races using crouch starts, a World Athletics approved Start Information System shall be used (See also Rule 16.3).

## **2.18 Starter's Assistants**

1. The Starter's Assistants shall check that the athletes are competing in the correct heat or race and that their number bibs are worn correctly and, where applicable, other equipment is worn and used correctly.
2. They must place each athlete in their correct lane or station, assembling the athletes approximately 3m behind the start line (in the case of races started in echelon, similarly behind each start line). When this has been completed, they shall signal to the Starter that all is ready. When a new start is ordered, the Starter's Assistants shall assemble the athletes again.
3. The Starter's Assistants shall be responsible for the readiness of batons for the first athletes

in a relay race.

4. When the Starter has ordered the athletes to their marks, the Starter's Assistants must ensure that Rule 17.4 and Rule 17.5 are observed.
5. In case of a false start, the Starter's Assistants shall proceed in accordance with Rule 17.9.
6. The Starter's Assistants shall assist athletes to set their starting block in accordance with Rule 7.13.

**COMMENT:** The importance of the Starter's assistants cannot be underestimated. They set the mood for the competitors by ensuring that they are in the correct heat and lanes as assigned. They help to control the start of races by ensuring the athletes are ready for introductions and the instructions of the Starter. In addition, they are responsible for ensuring that batons are available for those relay races where batons are used and to collect them at the conclusion of the race.

## **2.19 Lap Scorers**

1. Lap Scorers shall keep a record of the laps completed by all athletes in races longer than 1500m. For races of 5000m and longer, a number of Lap Scorers under the direction of the Referee shall be appointed and provided with lap scoring cards on which they shall record the times over each lap (as given to them by an official Timekeeper) of the athletes for whom they are responsible. When such a system is used, no Lap Scorer should record more than four athletes. Instead of manual lap scoring, a computerised system, which may involve a transponder carried or worn by each athlete, may be used.
2. One Lap Scorer shall be responsible for maintaining, at the finish line, a display of the laps remaining. The display shall be changed each lap when the leader enters the finish straight. In addition, manual indication shall be given, when appropriate, to athletes who have been, or are about to be, lapped. The final lap shall be signalled to each athlete, usually by ringing a bell.

## **2.20 Competition Secretary, Technical Information Centre (TIC)**

1. The Competition Secretary shall collect the full results of each event, details of which shall be provided by the Referee, the Chief Timekeeper, Chief Photo Finish Judge, or Chief Transponder Judge and the Wind-Gauge Operator. They shall immediately relay these

details to the Announcer, record the results and convey the result card to the Competition Director.

Where a computerised results system is used the computer recorder at each Field Event site shall ensure that the full results of each event are entered into the computer system. The track results shall be input under the direction of the Chief Photo Finish Judge. The Announcer and the Competition Director shall have access to the results via a computer.

2. In events in which athletes are competing with different specifications (such as implement weight), the relevant differences should be clearly indicated in the results or a separate result shown for each category.
3. The following standard abbreviations should be used in the preparation of start lists and results where applicable:

Did not start – DNS

Did not finish – DNF

No valid trial recorded – NM

Disqualified – DQ

Valid trial in High Jump – “O”

Failed trial in Field Events – “X”

Passed trial in Field Events – “–”

Retired from competition in Field Event – r

Qualified by place in Track Events – Q

Qualified by time in Track Events – q

Qualified by standard in Field Events – Q

Qualified without standard in Field Events – q

Advanced to next round by Referee – qR

Advanced to next round by Jury of Appeal – qJ

Advanced to next round by draw qD

Yellow Card – YC

Second Yellow Card – YRC

Red Card – RC

Lane infringement (Rules 18.5(c) and 18.5(d)) – L

Competing under protest – P

**COMMENT: An athlete shall be regarded as DNS if:**

- (a) after their name having been included on the start list for any event they do not report to the Call Room for that event;
- (b) having passed through the Call Room they do not make any attempt in a Field Event or do not attempt to make a start in a running event.

If an athlete is disqualified in an event for an infringement of any Rule, reference shall be made in the official results to the Rule which has been infringed.

If an athlete is disqualified from an event for acting in an unsporting or improper manner, reference shall be made in the official results giving reasons for such disqualification.

**COMMENT:** Rules 2.20.2 and Rule 2.20.3 acknowledge the not uncommon situation in many competitions below the top level (and even in some high level competitions) where athletes of different age and categories who are competing in the same competitions. This Rule confirms that this is acceptable - including as a means of meeting minimum competitor number requirements, even for the purposes of Rule 51.1 and Rule 51.2 as well as setting out how the results should be presented. Given that disqualifications can be made for both technical and disciplinary reasons, it is very important that the reason for a disqualification is always indicated in the results. This is achieved by always stating the Rule under which the athlete was disqualified next to the symbol DQ.

4. A Technical Information Centre (TIC) will be established for WPA Recognised Competitions (see Part B - 3.1.2) and is recommended for other competitions held over more than one day. It may be a virtual or physical operation, or a combination of both. The main function of the TIC is to ensure smooth communication between each team delegation, the LOC, the Technical Delegates and the competition administration regarding technical and other matters relating to the competition.

**COMMENT:** An effectively managed Technical Information Centre will significantly assist in the delivery of a high quality competition organisation. The TIC Manager should have excellent knowledge of the Rules and equally importantly of the specific Regulations for the particular competition. The hours of operation of the TIC should reflect the hours of the competition plus some periods of time before and after when there will need to be interaction between the various parties, particularly between the team delegations and the LOC. It is common, although not essential, for larger events to have “branches” of the TIC (sometimes called Sport Information desks) in the main athlete accommodation locations. If this is the case, there must be excellent communication between the SID(s) and the TIC. Because the hours of operation of



the TIC and SID(s) may be long, it will be necessary for the TIC Manager to have several assistants and for them to work in shifts. Where a virtual TIC is fully or partially in operation, the hours of operation may more easily be extended, but it is important to make clear the hours during which the virtual operation will be monitored. Whilst some duties of the TIC are covered in the Rules (see for example Rules 2.20, 50.3 and Rule 50.7), others will be set out in the Regulations for each competition and in competition documents such as team handbooks etc.

## 2.21 Marshal

The Marshal shall have control of the field of play and shall not allow any persons other than the officials and athletes assembled to compete or other authorised persons with valid accreditation to enter and remain therein.

**COMMENT:** The Marshal's role is to regulate entry to the field of play during preparations immediately beforehand and while the event is in progress. They operates generally in accordance with the plan established by the Competition Director and in relation to more immediate matters receives their orders directly from the Meeting Manager. Accordingly, they will:

manage the control for the entrances into the arena of the athletes, the officials and on-field volunteers, service staff, accredited press photographers and the TV crews. At each competition, the number of such in-field accreditations is agreed beforehand and all these persons must wear a special bib;

manage the control at the point where the athletes leave the arena (usually for larger events into the Mixed Zone and/or the Post Event Control Area) when they have finished their event;

ensure that, at all times, the sight lines to the competition sites are as clear as possible for the spectators' benefit as well as for television. They are directly answerable to the Meeting Manager who must be able to contact them at any time if the need arises.

To assist the Marshal and their team in their work it is usual that those persons permitted to enter the arena, other than the athletes, are clearly distinguishable by means of the special bib or accreditation card or distinctive uniform.

## 2.22 Wind Gauge Operator

The Wind Gauge Operator shall ascertain the velocity of the wind in the running direction in events to which they are appointed and shall then record and sign the results obtained and communicate them to the Competition Secretary.

**COMMENT:** Whilst in practice it may be that the Wind Gauge Operator, the Technical Manager or a Photo Finish Judge actually puts the gauge in the correct place ultimately it is the responsibility of the relevant Referee to check that this is done and in accordance with the Rules (see Rules 18.13 and Rule 27.12)

It is noted that particularly for the Track Events the wind gauge can be operated remotely. In such cases it is almost always connected to the photo finish and results “system”, so that a Wind Gauge Operator will not be required and their duties are filled, for example, by someone in the Photo Finish team.

## 2.23 Measurement Judge (Scientific)

One Chief Measurement Judge and one or more assistants shall be appointed when Electronic or Video Distance Measurement or other scientific measurement device is to be used.

Before the start of the competition, they will meet the technical staff involved and familiarise themselves with the equipment. Before each event they will supervise the positioning of the measuring instruments, taking account of the technical requirements given by the manufacturer and the instrument calibrating laboratory.

To ensure that the equipment is operating correctly, they shall, before the event, supervise a set of measurements in conjunction with the Judges and under the supervision of the Referee, to confirm agreement with results achieved using a calibrated certified steel tape. A form of conformity shall be issued and signed by all those involved in the test and attached to the results card. During the competition they shall remain in overall charge of the operation.

They will report to the Referee to certify that the equipment is accurate.

*Note: Whilst it is not mandatory, it is recommended that the Measurement Judge should carry out a set of measurements during the event to verify the measurements taken before the event.*

**COMMENT:** When electronic or video distance measuring equipment is used a Chief Judge is

placed as the official in charge in a similar way as is the case with photo finish or transponder timing. In the case of video measurement, the Chief Measurement Judge will be expected to take a more active and hands-on role during the events, than would be the case with fully on-field electronic distance measurement.

In particular this should involve ensuring that an appropriate communication system is in place between the on-Field Judges and the Judges undertaking the video reading to ensure that each measurement is correctly made and that in the case of the Horizontal Jumps, the landing mark is not raked out until an image has been confirmed. Whether it is the Chief Measurement or another Judge who is responsible for ensuring the video reading is correct, they must be especially careful to ensure that the current, and not a previous, trial is the one that is measured.

## **2.24 Call Room Judges**

The Call Room Chief Judge shall supervise the transit between the Warm-up Area and the competition area to ensure that the athletes after being checked in the Call Room, be present and ready at the competition site for the scheduled start of their event.

The Call Room Judges shall ensure that athletes are wearing the national or Club uniform clothing officially approved by their national governing body, that the bibs are worn correctly and correspond with start lists; that shoes, number and dimension of spikes, eye masks, tethers, racing chairs, Running frames, throwing frames, Maximum Allowable Standing Height (see Rule 6.12.2) and advertising on clothing and athletes' bags comply with the Rules and Regulations; and that unauthorised material is not taken into the field of play.

The Judges shall refer any unresolved issues or matters arising to the Call Room Referee.

**COMMENT:** A well planned, and efficiently managed Call Room is fundamental to the success of a competition. Planning to ensure sufficient space at the point when the Call Room will be at its fullest capacity, how many Call Rooms (and sections within each) are required and a reliable communication system with the other Officials and to notify the athletes when to report from the Warm-up Area are constants. It is important that in the planning process it is determined which checks will be made and preferably these should be communicated to the athletes and teams in advance to avoid stress or confusion immediately before competition. Most important of all is that the Call Room Judges ensure the athletes are in the correct heat, race or group and that

they leave for the competition area in a timely manner in accordance with the Call Room schedule. Ideally the Call Room schedule, indicating such key times as entry to and departure from the Call Room and arrival at the event site, as well as the start time of the event will be published in advance of the competition and an accurate clock showing the correct time will be situated outside the Call Room.

Call Room Judges play another extremely important role which relates to the inspection of the equipment being used by some athletes such as tethers, eye patches, eye masks, wheelchairs and throwing frames. They are also responsible for ensuring athletes in Sport Classes T/F61-62 do not exceed their Maximum Allowable Standing Height (see Rule 6.12.2).

For events which require guide-runners or assistants, the Call Room Judges are responsible for ensuring that both the athlete and their guide-runner or assistant are both checked; just like they would for an individual athlete.

It is important to note that in Throwing Events for Sport Classes F11-12, F31-33 and F51-54 one (1) assistant, per athlete, per event, is permitted in accordance with Rule 7.14 and Rule 7.16. The same applies for T12 athletes in Jumping Events, see Rule 7.20. However, for T11 athletes in Jumping Events, up to two (2) assistants are permitted, per athlete, per event in accordance with Rule 7.18.

It should be noted that T11 athletes must have one (1) guide-runner and may have two guide-runners for 5000m or longer races, whereas a T12 athlete may have one (1) guide-runner or two (2) guide-runners for races of 5000m or longer. If a T11 or T12 athlete intends to run with two guide-runners, in races of 5000m or longer, the intention to interchange guide-runners, as well as the specifics of which lap in track events and at which distance in road events the guide-runner exchange will occur, must be notified in advance to the Referee and Technical Delegate in accordance with the regulations of the respective competition.

It is also important that the Call Room Judges do not allow someone onto the field of play who is not a competing athlete or who has not been correctly accredited and is entitled to be there for the specific event. This is more important for relay races than many other events which are easier to determine with the start lists.

## 2.25 Advertising Commissioner

The Advertising Commissioner (when appointed) will supervise and apply the current Advertising Rules and Regulations and shall determine any unresolved advertising issues or matters arising in the Call Room in conjunction with the Call Room Referee.

## 2.26 Chief Classifier

Where international classification is staged, a Chief Classifier shall be appointed by WPA. The Chief Classifier shall liaise with the LOC and the appointed Technical Delegate to ensure that suitable facilities and logistics are provided for the conduct of classification. They shall supervise and ensure the appointed International Classifiers deliver classification in full compliance with the WPA Classification Rules and Regulations. The Chief Classifier shall be responsible for all matters relating to classification.

**COMMENT:** The Chief Classifier, the Technical Delegate(s) and the Competition Director must liaise together should an athlete's Sport Class change during the Classification Evaluation Period and/or the Classification Competition Period. Re-entry may be considered and is subject to the Technical Delegate's approval (see Rule 5.3).

## 2.27 International Classifiers

International Classifiers shall be appointed by WPA to work in their duties as members of classification panels. They shall evaluate and observe athletes' in terms of their respective impairment pre and/or during competition and allocate sport class and class status in accordance with WPA Classification Rules and Regulations.