

# Syllabus for Clinic on Introduction to Race Walk Judging

24 January 2022

This course/clinic was designed to be three to four hours long. It can be longer, if more time is spent observing race walkers in violation of the rules and in proper form, either by video or in a practice session. In a shorter version, like the one on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, some items will be only briefly covered. Web links provide additional useful information, including videos on how to judge.

## **A. Race Walk Judging**

with highlights of the USATF Race Walk Officiating Handbook.

1. In-Depth Discussion of the Rules of Race Walking – USATF Rules 230-232.
2. Philosophy and Practices of Good Judging and Tips on How to Make Judging Decisions  
**[Videos, photographs, and practice sessions with race walkers should be used here.]**
3. Recommendations for Judging Positions – where to stand relative to the race walkers
4. Procedures for Making Race Walk Judging Calls
5. Completion of the *Red Card - Proposal for Disqualification*
6. Completion of the *Race Walk Judge's Tally Sheet*
7. Choosing the Chief Judge and Duties of the Chief Judge before the race  
(assignment of positions for track and road races, rotations during the race, synchronizing watches, meeting after the race, etc.)
8. Role of the Card Collectors/Runners
9. Role of the Recorder
10. Completion of the *Race Walk Judging Summary Sheet* (by the Recorder)
  - a. For Races on the Track
  - b. For Road Races
11. Role of the DQ Board Operator
12. Duties of the Chief Judge after the race – review of the *Race Walk Judging Summary Sheet* with all the Judges, including Apprentices
13. Submitting Paperwork from Races (*Red Cards, Tally Sheets, and Summary Sheets*, including those of Apprentices being mentored)
14. Operation of the Penalty Zone
15. Uniform for Race Walk Judges and Officials
16. Keeping a Résumé of Judging and Officiating Experience
17. Criteria for Advancement to and Remaining at Association, National, and Master Levels

## **B. Review of Other USATF Rules that are Most Relevant to Race Walking**

1. Role of Umpires (cutting the course short, leaving and returning to the course, unsportsmanlike conduct, etc.)
2. Role of the Referee – **Rule 230.1(g)** – “The Chief Judge will serve as the Referee and Chief Umpire if none is assigned.”

## **C. Take and discuss the USATF Apprentice Test.**

## **D. Join USATF, if you hadn't already done so. Set up your USATF CONNECT account, including a picture for your ID card.**

## **E. Complete your BACKGROUND CHECK (once every two years).**

## **F. Complete SafeSport training (every year).**

## Syllabus for Clinic on Introduction to Race Walk Officiating

This course/clinic is designed to be three to four hours long. If combined with the Introduction to Race Walk Judging clinic, the additional time may be only an hour, which should include exercises in recording and lap scoring.

### **A. Discussion of the Non-Judging Duties for Race Walk Officials**

1. Recorder
2. DQ Board Operator
3. Card Collector/Runner
4. Lap Scorers
5. Event Director
6. Aid Station Operator

### **B. Discussion of Duties of Other Officials at Race Walking Events**

1. Starter
2. Finish-Line Judges
3. Timers
4. Marshals
5. Race Director

### **C. Exercise in Recording and Operation of the DQ Board**

### **D. Exercise in Lap Scoring for a Race Walk**

### **E. Requirements for Records**

1. Course certification (proper distance and related design)
2. Timing records
3. Lap scoring sheets
4. Levels of certification of officials
5. USATF form for records for race-walking events
6. Checking the current records

### **F. Keeping a Résumé of Officiating Experience**

G. Uniform for Race Walk Officials

H. Criteria for Advancement to and Remaining at Association, National, and Master Levels

### **I. Take and discuss the USATF Apprentice Test.**

**J. Join USATF, if you hadn't already done so. Set up your USATF CONNECT account, including a picture for your ID card.**

**K. Complete your BACKGROUND CHECK (once every two years).**

**L. Complete SafeSport training (every year).**

**\* Individuals wanting to be Race Walk Judges should take both the Introduction to Race Walk Judging and Introduction to Race Walk Officiating clinics. The Association Race Walk test provides more practice in using the USATF Rule Book and Race Walk Officiating Handbook than the Apprentice Race Walk test.**

**RACE WALK JUDGING FOR TRACK OFFICIALS**, by Gary Westerfield  
Revised 3/2013

**A. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE.**

There are times at track meets, when as an official with limited race walk experience, you may be asked to judge the race walk. To "cause no harm," and at the same time insure fair competition, you will be asked to make decisions and act as a Race Walk Judge. What do you do?

**B. RACE WALKING RULES.** Race Walking is defined as a progression of steps so taken that the walker makes contact with the ground so that no visible (to the human eye) loss of contact occurs. The advancing leg must be straightened (i.e., not bent at the knee) from the moment of first contact with the ground until the vertical upright position.

The definition's two clauses, continuous contact and a straightened leg until the vertical position, differentiate race walking from running. The lead foot must appear to contact the ground before the rear lifts off. Straightening of the leg at the knee occurs at heel contact, and remains straightened until past the vertical, unlike in running where the leg is flexed at the knee and does not straighten.

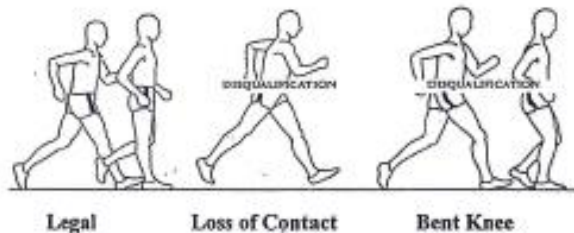


Fig. 1: Examples of legal walking, and visible illegal walking

**C. JUDGING DECISIONS.** As a RW judge you must decide if athletes are within the definition (most), in danger (some), or in violation (few). Base your decisions on observations made within the viewing area of your assigned sector (fig. 2).

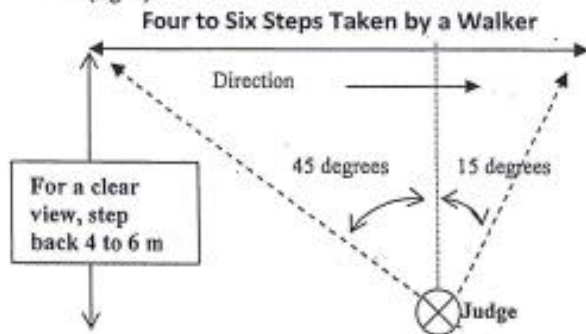


Fig. 2: The Judge's Viewing Area

Race walkers are most likely to be illegal during the acceleration at the start, when passing another walker, in the middle of a group, and during the finishing sprint.

Do not discuss your decisions with other people and do not look at the Disqualification Posting Board until after the conclusion of the competition.

**D. MAKING DECISIONS.** Use this sequence: First, look at an approaching group from a distance for motions that make individuals look out of the "norm," looking for walkers who appear to be jogging, shuffling or bobbing up and down. Second, as walkers enter your viewing area, look more closely at those who got your attention. Disregard the others. Third, look to see if contact is being made and then look for knee straightening. Fourth, decide if the walker should be given a yellow paddle (cautioned), issued a Red Card, or left alone.

**D. ACTING ON DECISIONS.** For most of the walkers you will not act; for others you may show a yellow paddle (caution) or write a red card (propose disqualification).

**1-Yellow Paddles (Cautions):** You must give a Yellow Paddle (caution) when walkers are in danger of failing to comply with the definition. Yellow Paddles do not count towards disqualification. Caution no more than once per each infraction. Cautioning gives the walker the benefit of doubt and a chance to correct.

To act, make eye contact with the walker, and, show one of your two paddles (-) for contact, or (>) for bent knee. Say nothing. Mark your Tally Card with the infraction and the time you showed the yellow paddle to the walker.

**2-Red Cards.** When you see a competitor clearly in violation of the definition, write a Red Card. Three Red Cards are needed to DQ, so it is important that you act when required. Do not write too many red cards, but do so if you see illegality. Remember your purpose. You may only give one Red Card per athlete. Do not tell the athlete. Fill in the Red Card and send it to the Chief Judge or Recorder.

**E. RECORDING RACE WALK DECISIONS.** Record all your decisions on a RW Judge's Tally Sheet. You will be given a Judge's Number. Before the start, fill in your Tally Sheet and Red Cards with your name, Judges Number and race information. All judging decisions report the following:

- The competitor's bib number
- The walking violation
- The time of day you acted.
- Your signature

On your Tally Sheet, Yellow Paddles (Cautions) are marked to the left and Red Cards to the right. Check to make sure you have not duplicated bib numbers.

**F. SUMMARY** Race walking judges ensure fairness for all walkers by cautioning those in danger of illegality, so they may correct, and by disqualifying those who do not. Your participation on the RW Judges Panel is important, your decisions and actions allows the panel to do its work.

## URLs for Race Walk Judges and Officials

### How to Judge Race Walking

**[Racewalk.com - Judging](https://racewalk.com/judging/) = <https://racewalk.com/judging/>**

This has a particularly good set of videos on judging, including a test video of elite race walkers.

Pacific Association USATF Websites <http://www.pausatf.org/>

**PULL DOWN: Services / PULL DOWN: Officials / RIGHTHAND SIDE: Forms**  
**TO FIND ALL THE RACE WALKING FORMS and UMPIRE FORMS that are commonly used.**

**PULL DOWN: Sports / PULL DOWN: Race Walking / RIGHTHAND SIDE: RW Officials**  
**TO FIND EXERCISES in how to be a RECORDER and LAP SCORER.**

USATF Websites <https://www.usatf.org>

Use the magnifying glass symbol in the upper right to search for what you need, or

Go to [Officials | USA Track & Field \(usatf.org\)](#) to find

Online Rule Books at [Rule Books | USA Track & Field \(usatf.org\)](#)

Best Practices and Resources at [Resources & Best Practices | USA Track & Field \(usatf.org\)](#)

Under “Other Disciplines” find “Race Walking” at [Race Walking by USATF - Flipsnack](#)  
where you can view or download various forms and documents, including  
the **2016 Handbook for Race Walk Officiating**.

USATF National Officials Website [NOC Dashboard \(mach2k.net\)](#) = noc.mach2k.net  
SCROLL DOWN TO FIND

- **RULES REVIEWS** FOR RACE WALK OFFICIALS AND OTHER OFFICIALS
- LINKS TO USATF **MEMBERSHIP, SAFESPORT TRAINING, AND BACKGROUND CHECKS** (THE THREE REQUIREMENTS FOR BEING A USATF OFFICIAL).

*You can order plastic **Race Walk Judging Paddles** (yellow ~ and > plus red) through*

<http://long-island.usatf.org/Sports/Race-Walking.aspx> at

[http://long-island.usatf.org/USATF\\_ASSOC\\_59/files/8f/8fff09e0-d75c-4313-a873-4b8c0f1b3505.pdf](http://long-island.usatf.org/USATF_ASSOC_59/files/8f/8fff09e0-d75c-4313-a873-4b8c0f1b3505.pdf) .

### OTHER WEBSITES

[www.tinyurl.com/walk2020](http://www.tinyurl.com/walk2020)

Ian Whatley's series of race walk videos

**How to Race Walk** video by Ian Whatley

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jOzvn6NpeMU>

## Chief Judge's Duties

### BEFORE THE RACE - To Judges/Officials:

- Assign judging positions
- Give *Tally Sheets* and *Red Cards* to the judges.
- Synchronize watches.
- Determine location for the Post-Race Meeting.
- Remind judges that they are **Umpires** and should document rule violations on a separate sheet.
- Give the **Recorder** the *Judging Summary Sheet*.
- Check that the official operating the **Red Card Posting Board** (DQ Board) knows his/her job.
- Check that the **Red Card Collector** knows the job.
- Check with the Race Director to see if there is an official **Referee**. If not, the Chief Judge is Referee.

### BEFORE THE RACE - To Race Walkers:

- "Good morning Walkers, I'm your Chief Judge."
- "You are racing today under (*USATF*) Rules. All rules apply, including no unsportsmanlike conduct and staying on the marked course."
- "We have (**3-4-5-6**) Judges on the course today."
- "Judges will be available for questions **AFTER** the race; do not talk to Judges during the race."
- "The Red Card Posting Board is located (**about 80 Meters**) before the Finish Line."
- "You are responsible for **counting your laps**." (even if lap scorers are available)
- "Has anyone NOT been in a Judged race before?" (If so briefly explain 'Yellow Paddles,' 'Red Cards,' and other items on the back of this card.)  
**Never ask:** "Are there any questions?"
- Explain the **Penalty Zone**, if it is used for this race.
- If applicable, explain that "you may be disqualified if you are obviously out of form in the **last 100 meters**."
- Check to make sure **clothing does not impede** the view of the judges. If so, have them change.

### AFTER THE RACE – With Judges/Officials:

- Collect all *Tally Sheets* from Judges. Work with Recorder, who enters all decisions on the *Judging Summary Sheet*. Double check that *Red Cards* and *Tally Sheets* agree with the *Judging Summary Sheet*. Sign the *Judging Summary Sheet*.
- Check for errors on the Red Card Posting Board.
- Show the *Judging Summary Sheet* to all Judges.
- Have the *Judging Summary Sheet* available for any Walkers to review. A copy can be posted.
- Report the final list of disqualifications and give a signed copy of the *Judging Summary Sheet* to the Referee and/or Race Director. In large meets, you may also use the *SUMMARY OF RACE WALK DISQUALIFICATIONS & TIME PENALTIES* form.

- Collect addresses of all Judges and e-mail a copy of the *Judging Summary Sheet* to them so they can see how their decisions matched with the entire Judge panel.

### IF SOMEONE HAS NOT BEEN IN A JUDGED RACE BEFORE, explain:

- "**Disqualification can be for a bent knee or loss of contact.**"
- "If a Judge sees that you are in danger of violating one of the two Rules, she or he may issue you a **caution with a yellow paddle**, which is marked on both sides with a bent-knee symbol (>) or with a loss-of-contact symbol (~). Note this caution and **keep walking**."
- "If a Judge sees you in violation of one of the two Rules, she or he will write a **Red Card**, which is a proposal for disqualification. **Proposals from three Judges (four when the Penalty Zone is used) are needed before you are disqualified.** A mark is made next to your Number on the **Red Card Posting Board** for each *Red Card* that you receive. **Keep walking until I, the Chief Judge, show you a red paddle and instruct you to leave the course.**"
- "Stay in legal race-walk form completely through the **Finish Line**."
- "Be aware that you could be notified that you were disqualified after you have completed the race."
- "(Although we have lap counters), **it is your responsibility to count your own laps.**"
- "**The judges also act as umpires**, or there may be additional official umpires on the course. You may be disqualified if you exhibit **unsportsmanlike conduct**, cut the course short, impede or interfere with other racers, or argue with a judge during the race; wear clothing that makes it impossible for the judges to see whether you have a bent knee; or wear a communication device that could give you an advantage over other racers."
- "If you have to leave the course, you must return to the course at the spot where you left."
- "**We abide by all USATF rules.**"

### DURING THE RACE, FOR CAUTIONS,

- Judge** makes eye contact with the **Race Walker**, and, if possible without running to catch up with a walker, shows the appropriate yellow paddle. If unable to make eye contact, the judge may announce to the Race Walker:
- "Number **X** – Caution – Bent Knee" or
  - "Number **Y** – Caution – Loss of Contact."

## **Suggestions for Race Directors**

The following suggestions are made to assist with improving the quality of the races in our association. By making these improvements, it will promote a better race environment for everyone.

- 1) Provide trained lap scorers/counters (no more than 4 athletes per counter), chairs for the lap scorers, and lap scoring sheets.
- 2) Lap counter sheets for each distance will be posted on the PA/USATF race walking website to be available for use.
- 3) Have copies of course layout available for road courses. Course must be clearly marked prior to arrival of race participants.
- 4) Post "Laps to Go" with a lap counter responsible for tracking the lead walker (USATF Rule).
- 5) Provide aid station with volunteers during the entire length of the race. In addition, water and bagels are helpful before the race, and hopefully provide juice, fruit, and other food after the race.
- 6) Provide card collector(s)/runner(s) to pick up red cards from judges and deliver them to the recorder at the red card posting (DQ) board. This should be a bicycle rider for a road course.
- 7) Provide identical bib numbers for the front and back for each walker.
- 8) Provide timer(s) and a clock for walkers to see. If there is likely to be a national record set, see USATF Rules 261 through 267. The course must be certified. There must be three hand timers, if automatic timing is not used, and the lap scorers must record each lap. There also must be sufficient judges at appropriate levels (Rule 266.3 states "For records, track races require five Judges and road races require a minimum of six judges, as prescribed in Rule 230.1(e). At least half of these judges shall have National or higher certification, and at least one of these judges must have Master or IAAF certification.")
- 9) Get the race walkers to the Start Line and start the event on time, so athletes don't cool down too much.
- 10) On a road course, if possible, have a Port-a-Potty near the course.
- 11) Arrange to have a medical person at the race well before the race date, and check with that person the night before with a reminder on what time to be there.
- 12) Provide race results, including name, sex, age, and time, to the association's Race Walk Committee for age grading and reporting.
- 13) Have a small gift for the judges and other volunteers.
- 14) Be sure to have bathrooms available; rent a port-a-potty if necessary.
- 15) Budget registration to cover necessary costs (\$75 fee for the USATF sanction, ~\$150 or more for medical/nurse/EMS coverage during the race, ~\$150 or more for facility rental, including bathrooms, \$100 or less for water, post-race food for race walkers, and gifts for volunteers/judges).
- 16) See that the registration form is prepared, distributed to athletes by e-mail, and posted on appropriate websites.
- 17) Handle registrations, including mail-in early registrations and on-site registration. Have a table and chair for the volunteer.

The judges will generally bring with them:

- (a) the red card posting (DQ) board
- (b) an official for the red card posting board
- (c) an official as the recorder
- (d) tally sheets, red cards, paddles, judging summary sheets, pencils, pens, watches, a sheet describing the chief judge's duties, and the USATF rule book.

Nonetheless, the Race Director should confirm which judge will be bringing the necessary items.

# Check-Off Sheet for Apprentice Race Walk Judge & Race Walk Official



Apprentice's Name: (Print):

**1<sup>st</sup> Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number & Distance of Race(s):** \_\_\_\_\_  
.....  
**Duties:** Shadow Judge Practice Judge DQ Board Operator Practice Recorder Lap Scorer Card Collector  
.....

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*      *USATF Official's Number*      *Signature*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number & Distance of Race(s):** \_\_\_\_\_  
.....  
**Duties:** Shadow Judge Practice Judge DQ Board Operator Practice Recorder Lap Scorer Card Collector  
.....

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*      *USATF Official's Number*      *Signature*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number & Distance of Race(s):** \_\_\_\_\_  
.....  
**Duties:** Shadow Judge Practice Judge DQ Board Operator Practice Recorder Lap Scorer Card Collector  
.....

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*      *USATF Official's Number*      *Signature*

**4<sup>th</sup> Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number & Distance of Race(s):** \_\_\_\_\_  
.....  
**Duties:** Shadow Judge Practice Judge DQ Board Operator Practice Recorder Lap Scorer Card Collector  
.....

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*      *USATF Official's Number*      *Signature*

**5<sup>th</sup> Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number & Distance of Race(s):** \_\_\_\_\_  
.....  
**Duties:** Shadow Judge Practice Judge DQ Board Operator Practice Recorder Lap Scorer Card Collector  
.....

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*      *USATF Official's Number*      *Signature*

**6<sup>th</sup> Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Number & Distance of Race(s):** \_\_\_\_\_  
.....  
**Duties:** Shadow Judge Practice Judge DQ Board Operator Practice Recorder Lap Scorer Card Collector  
.....

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*      *USATF Official's Number*      *Signature*

At the "Intro" clinic, each Apprentice Judge will receive this form to carry and get signed at each race walk event. **Shadow Judging** is working side-by-side with an experienced Judge. **Practice Judging** is working alone, with a practice *Race Walk Judge's Tally Sheet* compared with those of experienced Judges after the race. **Practice Recording** is working independent of the official Recorder.

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**Apprentice's Name: (Print):**

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**7<sup>th</sup> Date:**                      **Location:**                      **Number & Distance of Race(s):**

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**Duties:** Shadow Judge    Practice Judge    DQ Board Operator    Practice Recorder    Lap Scorer    Card Collector

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*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*

*USATF Official's Number*

*Signature*

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**8<sup>th</sup> Date:**                      **Location:**                      **Number & Distance of Race(s):**

---

**Duties:** Shadow Judge    Practice Judge    DQ Board Operator    Practice Recorder    Lap Scorer    Card Collector

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*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*

*USATF Official's Number*

*Signature*

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**9<sup>th</sup> Date:**                      **Location:**                      **Number & Distance of Race(s):**

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**Duties:** Shadow Judge    Practice Judge    DQ Board Operator    Practice Recorder    Lap Scorer    Card Collector

---

*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*

*USATF Official's Number*

*Signature*

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**10<sup>th</sup> Date:**                      **Location:**                      **Number & Distance of Race(s):**

---

**Duties:** Shadow Judge    Practice Judge    DQ Board Operator    Practice Recorder    Lap Scorer    Card Collector

---

*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*

*USATF Official's Number*

*Signature*

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**11<sup>th</sup> Date:**                      **Location:**                      **Number & Distance of Race(s):**

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**Duties:** Shadow Judge    Practice Judge    DQ Board Operator    Practice Recorder    Lap Scorer    Card Collector

---

*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*

*USATF Official's Number*

*Signature*

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**12<sup>th</sup> Date:**                      **Location:**                      **Number & Distance of Race(s):**

---

**Duties:** Shadow Judge    Practice Judge    DQ Board Operator    Practice Recorder    Lap Scorer    Card Collector

---

*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*

*USATF Official's Number*

*Signature*

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**13<sup>th</sup> Date:**                      **Location:**                      **Number & Distance of Race(s):**

---

**Duties:** Shadow Judge    Practice Judge    DQ Board Operator    Practice Recorder    Lap Scorer    Card Collector

---

*Supervisor's/Mentor's Name (Print)*

*USATF Official's Number*

*Signature*

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## NOTES

The *Check-Off Sheet for Apprentice Race Walk Judge & Race Walk Official* is designed for printing as two pages, back-to-back, so that the Apprentice needs to carry only one sheet of paper.

The *Race Walk Umpire's Incident Report* shown on the next page includes the USATF rule numbers for common infractions in race walks.

**RACE WALK** **Umpire's Incident Report** Meet/Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Athlete/# \_\_\_\_\_ Athlete's Team/Uniform \_\_\_\_\_ Division: Women / Men  
 DISTANCE \_\_\_\_\_ HEAT \_\_\_\_\_ [USATF Rule Number - see brackets] \_\_\_\_\_

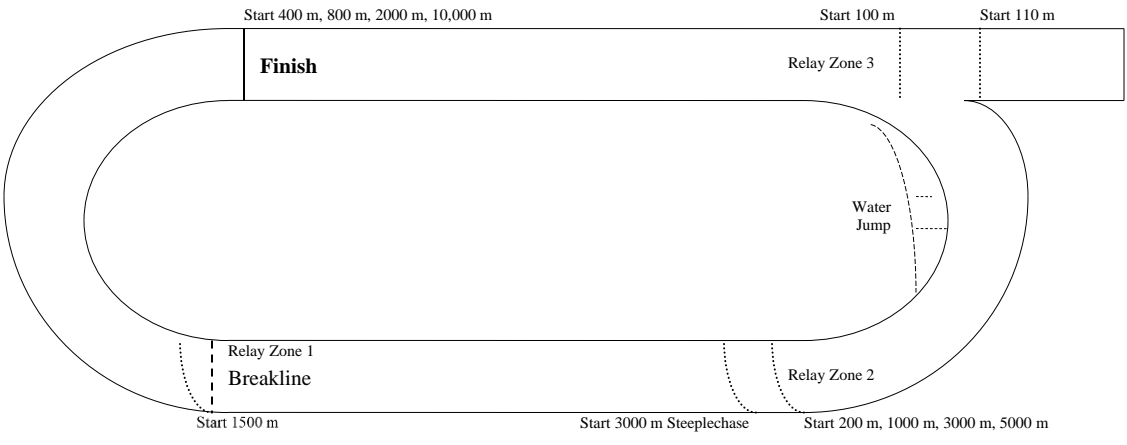
**Interference** [163.4]: jostled, ran across, or obstructed so as to impede another competitor  
 What did the athlete do? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Who was impacted? \_\_\_\_\_

**Assistance** [144.2]: Who provided it to whom? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pacing by persons not participating or lapped or about to be lapped [144.3(a)] Aided by technology or appliance [144.3(c)]  
 Possession or use by athlete of video, audio, or communication device [144.3(b)] Personal assistance marker on or alongside the running surface [163.2]

**Left track voluntarily and returned** [163.6(a)] **Intentionally shortened the route** of the race [243.4]  
 (except in road races >20,000 m, under control of an official [163.6(e)])  
**Unsporting conduct** [125.10] **Clothing that impedes the view of the judges** [143.1]

Umpire's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Umpire's Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Head Umpire's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Head Umpire's Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
*Details of the incident/infraction and the Referee's decision are written on the other side.*

**Details of the Incident and Referee's Decision – Mark location and describe.**



USATF-Pacific 11/18/16

Referee's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Referee's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Details of the Incident and Referee's Decision – Mark location and describe.**

USATF-Pacific 11/18/2016

Referee's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Referee's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

The following table provides a summary of the 2022 recommended criteria for remaining at a current level and advancement to the next level as a USATF Race Walk Judge. When you are ready to advance, contact the Pacific Association Certification Chair, [certification@pacific.usatf.org](mailto:certification@pacific.usatf.org).

<b>Certification Upgrade Requirements</b>			
Officials are upgraded in, and must meet the criteria for, <u>specific disciplines</u>			
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Upgrade to Association Level</b>	<b>Upgrade to National Level</b>	<b>Upgrade to Master level</b>
Serve in current certification level for at least	2 years	2 years	2 years
Work a minimum number of meets at the current certification level – specifically in the <u>discipline concerned</u>	At least 8 Meets	At least 10 meets; of which 2 must be outside the home Association, or be Regional, National, or International meets	At least 12 meets; of which 2 must be Regional, Nat'l, or Internat'l meets; plus 2 more of those, or 2 outside the home Association
Positive written upgrade recommendations from officials worked with or under	From 1 Master or 1 National level official	From 2 Master, or 1 Master & 1 National level official	From 3 Master level officials
Complete required Rules Reviews with the minimum required score	Yes, for overall upgrade; or for a graded discipline with a test	Yes, for overall upgrade; or for a graded discipline with a test	Yes, for overall upgrade; or for a graded discipline with a test
Meet the certification level definition of being ready to serve as indicated, in the <u>discipline concerned</u> :	Take on more responsibility in home association meets	Take on more responsibility outside the home Association, and serve as a head official within the home association	Serve as a head official at major regional and national meets
Meet any additional training or testing criteria established by the Association	Yes	Yes	Yes

## Criteria for Advancement from Apprentice to Association-Level Race Walk Judge and Official

15 November 2012 – USATF Pacific Association Race Walk Committee

### Definitions

**Shadow judging** is working side-by-side with an experienced Judge (generally a National or Master Level Judge) to learn how to spot infractions of the rules of race walking. **Practice judging** is working alone, as if one were an actual Judge. However, a yellow paddle is not used or shown, nor are red cards submitted, but the Practice Judge should fill out a *Race Walk Judge's Tally Sheet*. After the race, the Chief Judge will advise the Apprentice whether she/he has made **appropriate calls**, which are defined as calls that are consistent with those of experienced Judges in that race. The Apprentice should review the *Tally Sheets* of all the Judges and discuss the event at the post-race Judges' meeting. **Shadow recording** is working with the Recorder to complete the *Race Walk Judging Summary Sheet*. **Practice recording** is working independently to create a *Race Walk Judging Summary Sheet* for comparison with that of the official Recorder.

### Criteria for Advancement from Apprentice to Association-Level Race Walk Judge

An Apprentice should\* accomplish the following before applying to advance to be a Race Walk Judge:

- (1) Take the USATF Introduction to Race Walk Judging clinic.
- (2) Take the USATF Introduction to Race Walk Officiating clinic.
- (3) Serve as a Shadow Judge for at least two (2) individual<sup>#</sup> races.
- (4) Serve as a Practice Judge for at least four (4) individual<sup>#</sup> races in which the Chief Judge determines that the Practice Judge has made appropriate calls.

The Apprentice must submit her/his *Check-Off Sheet for Apprentice Race Walk Judge & Race Walk Official* to the Race Walk Certification Committee, which will evaluate progress, including a review of the *Race Walk Judge's Tally Sheets* that were submitted by the Apprentice and other Race Walk Judges for the races in which the Apprentice served as a Practice Judge. The Committee will recommend advancement or additional mentoring.

### Criteria for Advancement from Apprentice to Association-Level Race Walk Official

An Apprentice should\* accomplish the following before applying to advance to be a Race Walk Official:

- (1) Take the USATF Introduction to Race Walk Officiating clinic.
- (2) Serve as a DQ Board Operator and Shadow Recorder, mentored by the official Recorder, for at least two (2) individual<sup>#</sup> races.
- (3) Serve as a Lap Scorer or as a Card Collector for at least one (1) race.
- (4) Serve as a Practice Recorder for at least three (3) individual<sup>#</sup> races in which the Chief Judge determines that the Apprentice has correctly completed the *Race Walk Judging Summary Sheet* independently from the official Recorder for the race.

The Apprentice must submit her/his *Check-Off Sheet for Apprentice Race Walk Judge & Race Walk Official* to the Race Walk Certification Committee, which will evaluate progress, including a comparison of the *Race Walk Judging Summary Sheets* that were submitted by the Apprentice while serving as a Practice Recorder with the sheets completed by the official Recorder for those races. The Committee will recommend advancement or additional mentoring.

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#### FOOTNOTES:

\* Exceptions can be made if, in the judgment of the Association's Race Walk Certification Committee, the Apprentice has sufficiently mastered the necessary skills to advance to Association Level and serve as an independent Race Walk Judge and/or Race Walk Official.

# An Apprentice may be credited with individual races on the same day. An Apprentice will normally work with mentors, who are Race Walk Judges and Officials, for two years before advancing, but may apply earlier if she/he has sufficient documentation that she/he has mastered the skills.