**Referee Review**

**Purpose:** This is NOT A TEST. It's a REVIEW. It's meant to make you familiar with the Rule Book, what's in it and how it's set up. It evaluates your ability to read a rule and correctly interpret the rule. Hopefully, after taking the Review, you will feel that you are a much more knowledgeable official. Only those that are National or Master Officials may apply for certification as a referee.

**Instructions Use:** The Answers and Rule Numbers cited in this Review are based on the 2024 USATF Rule Book, <https://www.usatf.org/governance/rule-books>. You may either take the review on line at https://noc.mach2k.net/#acceptedlists or print the review enter your answers and send them to your certification chair for scoring. This review is divided into two sections. The first section is a combination of 25 multiple choice questions, fill in the blank and true/false questions. The second is situational questions for the throws, verticals, horizontals, track, video review from track and video review from throws. Answer all 25 questions in the first section. Choose one question from the throws, verticals, horizontals, track situations, and one track video and one from the field videos

**Suggestions:** 1) Taking the Review in a group setting that allows open discussion or with other officials is encouraged. 2) New and less experienced officials should try to work with a "mentoring" official. 3) "Specialty" officials who mainly work in the same areas at most meets should take the review with other officials, benefitting from shared experiences and the knowledge of all.

**Important Notes:** 1.) Be sure to read carefully the rule that references the situation. Just one word may make the difference in a question or answer choice. 2.) Don't "over read." Take the questions at face value. Don't think "but what if …". The questions are not meant to trick anyone.

**Scoring:** Section 1 is worth two points apiece for a total of 50 points. Section 2 the four situational questions are nine points apiece and the video questions are worth seven points apiece. Successful completion of the review requires at least of 90 points.

**Begin Section 1**

**Choose the best answer.**

1. The Video Referee in the Video Control Room is in contact with all Referees who may view any available evidence. Only video designated as official before the competition may be used. (Rule 125)
2. True

B. False

2. Each competitor must keep in lanes outside the line or curb marking the inside of the track, including the curved part of the diversion from the track for the steeplechase. (Rule 163.5) In races with multiple rounds, the infringement defined in Rule 163.5(d) or Rule 163.5(e) may be made only during all rounds of an event by a particular competitor without the possibility of disqualification of the competitor.

A. once

B. twice

C. none

3. Rule 180 The time given to make an attempt in Masters High Jump is 1 minute with more than 3 athletes at the start of the round.

A. True

B. False

4. Rule 185 In the horizontals, it shall be counted as a failure or foul if any competitor, while taking off, any time prior to the instant at which the competitor ceases contact with the take-off boars or ground, breaks the vertical plane of the take-off line with front part of his/her \_\_\_\_\_\_ \

A. torso

B. foot/shoe

C. both torso and foot

D. none of the above

5. Rules 125,129. The start referee must confer with the track referee prior to making a decision on the validity of a start.

A. True

B. False

6. Rule125. The appropriate Referee, in order to arrive at a fair decision, may view all available video evidence.

A. True

B. False

               .

7. Rule 146 An athlete has the right to protest a false start call, regardless if there is a start information system (SIS) except when:

A. the false start was “extremely obvious” by the naked eye

B. they have already protested a previous false start

C. a and b

D. none of these

8. Rule 125 When a field event that has been started has to be postponed to a future date the referee may

      A. allow only those competitors who reported on the first day to continue

B. allow those who have not been eliminated

      C. determine if any eliminated competitors may compete

      D. all of the above

      E. a and b

      F. a and c

9. If a vaulter’s pole breaks during a jump, the trial does not count and the vaulter gets another attempt. Rule 183

A. True

B. False

10. Rule 180 Indicate the appropriate time to change time limits in the vertical jumps in USATF meets.

A. During a height, when you reach the appropriate number of athletes jumping at a particular height.

B. During a height, when you reach the appropriate number of athletes left in the competition.

C. At a height change, when you have the appropriate number of athletes jumping at that height.

D. At a height change, when you have the appropriate number of athletes left in the competition.

11. Rule 125 When no Jury of Appeals has been established, the decision of the Referee shall be final and there is no right to appeal.

A. True

B. False

12. Rule 125 Even if there is a Combined Events Referee, the Track Referee and Field Events’ Referee shall retain jurisdiction over the respective individual events within the Combined Events competition.

A. True

B. False

13. Rule 180 The correct symbol to indicate a successful trial in the Pole Vault is \_\_\_.

A. O

B. –

C. X

D. Y

14. Rule 180 The only field event in which an athlete is permitted to place their markers on the apron is the \_\_\_\_\_.

A. Long Jump

B. High Jump

C. Javelin

D. None of the Above

15 Rule 166 In any 800m race, including the final, where for any reason there are more athletes than lanes available, who determines which individual lane has more than 1 athlete to start in ?

a) Athlete

b) Games Committee

c) Referee

d) The lead chooses

16. Rule 166 After two semi-finals of a 200m championship race on an eight-lane track, the final two competitors who qualified for the final will draw to run in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A. Lanes 1 and 8

B. Lanes 7 and 8

C. Lanes 1 and 2

D. All lanes are random in the final

17. Rule 181 When determining places in a vertical jumping event, all of the following except \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are considered.

A. total unsuccessful attempts in the competition (up to the last height cleared)

B. greatest height cleared during the competition

C. total attempts at the last height cleared

D. total attempts taken in the competition

18. Rule 200 In the Open Combined Event, the high jump crossbar shall be raised by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ increments throughout the competition.

A. 3cm

B. 5cm

C. 10cm

D. 15cm

19. Rule 302 For which youth age group does the 100m hurdle intervals change to match the older age group?

A. 13-14 boys

B. 13-14 girls

C. 15-16 boys

D. 15-16 girls

20. Rule 332 Masters Men 50-59 implements weights are :

A. Shot 6 kg , Discus 1.5 kg, Hammer 6 kg, Javelin 700g

B. Shot 3 kg, Discus 1 kg, Hammer 3 kg, Javelin 500g

C. Shot 7.26 kg, Discus 2kg, Hammer 7.26 kg, Javelin 800 kg

D. Shot 4 kg, Discus 1 kg, Hammer 4 kg, Javelin 600 kg

21. Rule 332 Masters athletes have to release the Pole in the Pole Vault in order to be a valid jump

A. True

B. False

22. Rule 125 A Referee shall not act in a dual capacity and may not take any action or make any decision based on personal observation.

A. True

B. False

23. Rule 180 Throws & Horizontals: 8 athletes or fewer all go to the finals. Athletes in the finals compete in reverse order of performance. Anyone without a valid mark will compete first in the finals in the order they were in the preliminaries.

A. True  
B. False

24. Rule 302 In the youth championships, the raising increments shall be in HJ \_\_\_\_\_ cm and the PV \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ cm

25. Rule 302 Where may a pole vaulter position the standards behind the stop board in the direction of the landing surface in a YOUTH competition?

Between \_\_\_\_\_\_ cm and \_\_\_\_\_ cm

**Begin Section 2**

**Explain how you would rule the given situations. Choose one from each of the following categories.**

**Throws Referee Situations**

1. As the Referee you are called to the discus venue to observe/certify a national record. A) What should you verify first? B) How would you do this verification? C) If you find the verification is incorrect, what do you do? D) Could this affect the results in any other way? E) Would you do anything different using EDM or steel tape?
2. Situation A: You are the Field Referee and you walk past the Shot Put. During the second throw in the second flight. You notice that an athlete has two fingers taped together.

Situation B: It is the same scenario as above and the official said the athlete had provided a medical document from his doctor saying that it was necessary for him have support because one of his fingers was broken.

Situation C: It is the same scenario as Situation A and the official said he had allowed an athlete to compete in the first flight with his fingers taped together. At the national championships, the last day of competition of the Hammer finals are taking place. You notice that one of the gates has been damaged from the previous rounds and is not operable. The Hammer is scheduled to be the 1st event of the day with no other events going on inside the stadium at the same time. What do you do and please explain your options.

1. At the national championships, the last day of competition of the Hammer finals are taking place. You notice that one of the gates has been damaged from the previous rounds and is not operable. The Hammer is scheduled to be the 1st event of the day with no other events going on inside the stadium at the same time. What do you do and please explain your options.
2. In the Javelin, the athlete shows up with a glove on their non- throwing hand because of a cut, 2 fingers individually taped on their throwing hand and only wearing 1 bib. What do you do as Referee?

**Verticals Referee Situations**

1. In the Pole Vault, the athlete is on the runway with 30 seconds left in their trial. At this point they ask for the standards to be moved, the flight coordinator tells them there isn’t enough time to do it. The athlete insist they move the standards. In the process of resetting the standards the cross bar falls off with 10 seconds to go, and the time runs out. The athlete is given a time foul and wants to protest and have the clock reset to 10 seconds. What do you do as Referee?
2. In the High Jump, the athlete brushes the crossbar going over and the judge raises the White Flag even though the bar is still bouncing. A gust of wind now blows the crossbar off the standards and the judge switches to a Red Flag. The athlete now protests saying they want credit for a good jump. What do you do as Referee?
3. In the Combined HJ, the listed progression is 1.51m, 1.54m, 1.57m, 1.60m, 1.63m, 1.66m, 1.69m, 1.72m, 1.75m. When you try to measure the opening height, you discover the standards can’t actually be set to 1.51m. When lowered completely, the upper pad results in a height of 1.53m and when raised completely the lower pad results in a height of 1.50m. What do you use as your starting height? Explain your rationale in your decision.
4. Only 3 athletes D, E, & F remain in the HJ competition. D & E have already cleared 1.75m and both decide to pass the next height. F is now taking their 1st jump of the competition at 1.75m. A) How much time should F be given to jump 1.75m B) What if F fails their attempt, how much time should be for the 2nd attempt at 1.75m C) F clears 1.75m and D & E both pass 1.80m, how much time should F be given at 1.80m

**Horizontals Referee Situations**

1. In the LJ an athlete makes a legal take off and lands in the pit fine. The judge raises a white flag. As they leave the pit, their first contact outside the pit is a step closer than their mark in the sand. Then they walk back through the pit and back up the runway. The official now switches and puts up a red flag. The athlete protest saying that their jump should be measured and counted. What do you do?
2. In the Triple Jump, in the next to last attempt in the final round of the final flight in the trials, an official calls a foul. Verbally, the athlete immediately protests the call. The athlete’s other two attempts would not qualify him for the final. It does appear that the distance of the attempt under protest would likely advance him to the final. What course of action would you take?
3. In a Masters competition, how many boards are allowed to be available in a horizontal competition? What is the size of a take-off board?
4. The National Junior Olympic Championships is held in July, 2020. A coach is at the long jump for athletes in the 11-12 age division. He notices an athlete warming up who he believes is too old and notifies the official. It turns out that the athlete was born on October 12th and was 12 years old at the time of the Junior Olympic meet. However, since the athlete’s year of birth was 2007 and that determines a youth athlete’s age for the entire year. She should be competing in the 13-14 age division. Also, on the previous day, the same long jumper in the 13-14 age division had taken place and on that same day, the athlete had been allowed to compete in the high jump in the 11-12 age division and had taken third place. What do you do with this athlete?
5. It has been raining the entire competition during the triple jump and only one athlete has been slipping during their phases. All the jumps taken have been legal jumps. The coach now starts to complain about the weather at the end of the third round, and wants a replacement jump because of the slipping. Their athlete is in ninth place and is trying to make the final What do you do as Referee?

**Track Referee Situations**

1. An athlete in a 20km race walk held mostly on the road pushes another athlete off the course during the last 100 meters of a race finishing in the track stadium. This action was observed by the Track Referee. What actions do you take? What is the process of coming to your decision?

**Video Situations**

Directions: You must rule on one video from Running and one video from Field Events. The specific call is not known from these videos. It is not known if a protest had been filed. Base your ruling/comments on the pertinent rule. Assume there is no other video evidence. You may need to copy and paste the link into your browser.

[Running # 1](https://youtu.be/FRh2ZCI9GY0)

<https://youtu.be/FRh2ZCI9GY0>

[Running # 2](https://youtu.be/zX_9XECde5E)

<https://youtu.be/zX_9XECde5E>

[Field events # 1](https://youtu.be/-t1cpBsQ7ss)

<https://youtu.be/-t1cpBsQ7ss>

[Field events # 2](https://youtu.be/I0CfAzwLTGg)

[https://youtu.be/I0CfAzwLTGg](https://youtu.be/I0CfAzwLTGg" \t "_blank)