**LDR Referee Grades 1 and 2**

**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 it. To save you a significant amount of time, the specific rule numbers are given. Hopefully, after taking the Review, you will feel that you are a much more knowledgeable official.

**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. Reviews may be taken online or on paper. Both versions can be found at: <https://noc.mach2k.net/> If taking the review by paper you will need to send your completed review to your certification chair. If you take the review online results of non-open ended questions will be sent to you and your certification chair. Your certification chair will review the open ended questions and return final results to you.

**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, benefit from shared experiences and the knowledge of all.

**Important Notes:** 1.) Be sure to read the rule that is referenced carefully, 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:** Successful completion of the Review requires a success rate of at least 60 points for Grade 1 and 68 points for Grade 2. Individuals who do not reach these minimums are encouraged to retake the review.

**PART I – Multiple Choice Questions (Total: 16 points)**

8 questions – 2 points for each correct answer.

1.      Who can compete in an Association's LDR Championship? (Rule3)

a.      All members of USATF

b.      All members of an Association and invited guests

c.       Anyone who enters.

d.      Only those who meet the minimum standards.

2.      What method is used to score in LDR team championships? (Rule 7)

a.      Minimum of total of finishing positions

b.      Most aggregate time

c. Lowest aggregate time

d.      Sum of distances covered.

3.      When can the start of a cross country meet be recalled? (Rule 242, 251)

a.      In case of a fall from jostling athletes at the first turn

b.      For a late arriving elite athlete

c. In case of a fall within the first 100m

d.      In case of team members not lined up in the right order in their box

4.         A road racing course may be designated as “USA Track & Field Certified” if (Rule 240)

a. the course measurement for distance is at least the stated distance and includes an additional 1/1000th of the stated race distance

b.       the longest possible route has been measured with reasonable accuracy

c.       the running path consists only of dirt or gravel

d.       the race director states the distances in the advertisement to athletes

5.         In Trail or Mountain races of 100km or greater, who makes the decision regarding monitors for part or all of the race? (Rule 243)

a.       USATF NOC

b. Games Committee

c.       Umpires

d.       Local Organizing Committee

6.         When placing signage regarding turns on a 10K road race course, what must be marked at strategic points to keep the competitors on course? (Rule 243)

a. the location of water stops

b. distance markers every 200 meters

c. each turn and intersection so that there is no doubt as to the direction the runner should go to stay on course

d. no signage is needed as the competitors should have run the course well in advance of the race and know the route

7. For Mountain, Ultra-Marathon, and Trail Races, the athlete may receive what type of aid at an official station? (Rule 241)

a. physiotherapy (massage, etc.), drinks, energy supplements and/or foodstuff

b.   a replacement runner for no more than 20k before reentering the race

            c.   access to an electric bicycle to navigate terrain that has a grade of more than 20%

            d.   may not receive any aid that is handed off to the athlete

8. Who can disqualify an athlete for cutting the course? (Rule 243)

a.       Umpire who found the athlete to be cutting the course

b.       Another athlete by filing a protest.

c.       The finish line judge

d. The Referee and/or Jury of Appeal

**PART II – Situational questions (Total: 60 points) /** 10 questions – 6 points each

9. A runner protests to you, the Referee, that her name and time are missing from the official results of the USATF 12 km Road Championships. She says that she ran 39:54. The official results were posted and announced at 10:00 a.m. and it is now 11:15 a.m. This race was timed using a bib transponder and you can see that this runner is still wearing her bib number with the transponder antenna attached. There were official splits recorded at 5k and 10k using timing mats. There was a side-scan imaging system camera at the finish line. What actions would you take to address the runner’s protest? Would you add her name and time to the official results? Would your decision change if you received her protest at 11:30 a.m. the next day?

10. You are the Referee at the USATF Cross Country Championships. During the last 100 meters one of the runners (#202) becomes exhausted and starts running from side to side but is alone at that time. He falls to the ground and is trying to get up as three other runners come up behind him. One of the oncoming runners (#111) forcibly bumps the exhausted runner, sending him back to the ground but out of the way of other runners. You personally watched this scene unfold. There were no umpires nearby. The head finish judge recommends that #111 be disqualified. Would you disqualify runner #111? Would you disqualify runner #202? What steps would you take to make your decision? Would your ruling change if this were a youth meet?

11.As he approaches the finish line of the USATF 15 km Championships, a runner collapses to the ground 30m from the finish due to leg cramping. Before the event medical staff or any event official can reach him, his wife enters the course and helps him stand up. Leaning on her shoulder for the final 30m he finally limps across the finish line. He is treated by the medical staff for 15 minutes for leg cramping before he can stand and walk. You are the Referee. The following occur: 1. the runner is observed by an Umpire who reports a violation of Rule 144 to Chief Umpire, who reports it to you, 2. the runner is observed by a Finish Line Judge, who reports a violation of Rule 144 to you, 3. the incident is not reported but someone from the crowd indicates that they videotaped the entire incident, 4. you directly observe the runner receiving assistance, 5. the runner is observed by one of the Timing crew who reports a possible violation of Rule 144 to you. What is your ruling in each case? Explain each ruling.

12. A competitor only has a transponder time for a 5K USATF road race. It reads **14:30.23**and appears to be an American Junior record. The race was timed in accordance with Rule 165. The record form requires that the transponder time be verified (independently of the primary timing systems). You do not have such a time. There is a select time for an athlete who finished four places ahead of him in **14:25.23**and a select time for the finisher just after him at **14:31.89**. The American Junior record is **14:38.19**

What is the athlete’s “verified” official time and therefore the time to be used on the record application?

What rule is related to the time you submit?

13.An open athlete who is registered in the competition’s USATF Association competes in and wins the Association’s 10K Road Race Championship. The athlete often trains with members of a neighboring Association and wants to run in their Association’s 10K Road Race Championship. 1. What rule applies? 2. Can the athlete officially run in that championship, win, and be declared that Association’s champion? 3. Can the athlete run in that championship under any circumstances?

14.During a Regional Cross-Country race, the Starter starts a race one minute prior to the announced Start Time of the race and all entered athletes except one were present at the start of the race. That athlete arrived at the Starting Line several seconds after the firing of the gun to start the race. The athlete had checked in, as required, 30 minutes before the start of the race. She asked the Clerk at that time if it would be okay for her to have her athletic trainer check her tight hamstring. Permission was granted and she was instructed to report back to the starting line 5 minutes before the posted starting time. Unfortunately, the athlete’s coach held her back from the starting line as he contended that the race was not supposed to be started until the posted time. The coach files a protest. 1. What would you do to resolved this protest? 2. What document or meet information would you use? 3. What is your ruling (cite rules)?

15. At the 75 km mark, there is a hands-on medical examination required for all athletes competing in the USATF 100 km Trail Championships. An athlete is ordered to retire from the race by a member of the official medical staff who is clearly identified as such. The athlete ignores the race medical staff and continues to the finish line. 1. What action would you take and what rule applies to this situation? 2. Barring some unexpected information, if the interaction took place as described, what would your decision be? 3. As the athlete did, in fact, finish the race, how would the athlete’s performance be handled in the official results of the race? What rule applies to this decision?

16. In a Senior Games local championship, the meet website clearly states that the USATF master’s rules will be used for this event. However, one of the clerks, who is used to determining age group by the year, made a mistake and listed an athlete in the wrong age group. No one else noticed this mistake. The results were posted within an hour of the race completion, declaring this athlete as the winner in the wrong age group. What would you do if: 1. the runner up protests pointing out the mistake later that day. 2. the runner up protests pointing out when he notices the mistake on the website the next day 3. there are no protests but one of the officials points out the mistake

17. You are the Referee for a USATF-sanctioned 24-Hour Championship race.  The course is around a lake that is wooded on the backside and not observable from a distance. There are no refreshment stations located in this area.  The top three runners are observed by lapped competitors receiving continuous support from a bibbed runner on the back side of a course.  These 3 runners finished 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the event.  The 4th place finisher verbalized the concern multiple times during the race at the start/finish line then files a formal protest 10 minutes after completing the event. The protest states that the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers had an unfair advantage and should be disqualified. 1. What rule(s) apply to this situation? 2. What action would you take? 3. Would your decision be different if this was a 24-hour US Team Selection race?

18. You are the referee at a USATF sanctioned cross country meet. Competitors must wear transponders supplied by the timing company. You notice that the transponder reading devices are the same color as the running surface (the race director and the timing company collaborated to make the finish line the same color for a “clean” professional look for its online streaming audience). There are also 3 reading devices at the finish line, one of which is located prior to the finish line, to assure all runners times are captured. 1. What rule(s) apply to the situation? 2. What could you do as the referee (minimum 2 proactive steps)?