

Umpiring

Function:

- To ensure that each athlete is given an equal opportunity to compete fairly and perform to the best of their ability
- To act as another pair of eyes for the Referee
- To report any infringements without fear or favour and without authority to make a final decision



What do I need?

- Umpiring recording sheets
- White flag or similar – used to signal “All Clear”
- Yellow flag or similar – used to signal an infringement
- Pen
- Clipboard
- Folding chair – for major meets

Where do I stand?

- The Chief Umpire will allocate you to a position for one or several events
- Once allocated to a position, you may be able to sit on a stool until the Starter takes the stand and remain standing until the race is complete

What do I look for?

Laned events:

- Running on the line or inside the line to the athlete's left on the bend
- thus shortening the distance
- Interfering with another athlete e.g. Jostling, pushing, tripping

Hurdles:

- Arms/legs into adjoining lanes causing interference to other athletes
- Lead/trail leg passing below the top of the hurdle at the point of clearance
- Falling into adjoining lane and causing an obstruction to another athlete
- Knock down the hurdle with the hand/ body or upper side of the lead leg

Non-laned events:

- Interfering with another athlete e.g. Jostling, pushing, tripping, cutting off
- Voluntarily running off the track and then re-joining the race

Relays:

- Dropping the baton and who picks it up
- Out of lane or off the track to recover the baton. Athletes can leave their lane or course to retrieve the dropped baton, but they must exit and re-enter at the same point so as not to decrease the distance covered. Athletes must not interfere with any other athlete whilst retrieving the baton
- Out of lanes prior to cross over point
- Interference during take-over or after baton change
- Receiving the baton before or after the take-over zone
- Interfering with another athlete e.g. jostling, pushing, tripping, cutting off

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What do I do?

- When all athletes have passed your location and **no infringements** have occurred:
 - give the agreed "All Clear" signal to the Chief Umpire
- Wait for the acknowledgement by the Chief Umpire before lowering your signal
- When all athletes have passed your location and an **infringement** has occurred:
 - raise the agreed Infringement signal and keep it raised until the Chief Umpire acknowledges
 - proceed to fill in the infringement form. Do not consult with other Umpires regarding your decision.
- The Chief Umpire will pass the form to the Track Referee



What happens if a mistake is made?

Sometimes you may make a mistake, but you have made a report.

- Remain calm and inform your Assistant Chief or Chief Umpire of your change of report
- It is the Track Referee who makes the final decision based on the report(s) received.