

Purpose

To observe track events and report any violation of the rules to the Track Referee.

Equipment

- ✓ Umpire's Report Forms, pens and clipboards
- ✓ Flags (1 yellow and 1 white) for communication between Officials
- ✓ Radios (optional)

Safety

The track and nearby areas must be clear of obstructions and hazards.

Where to stand

The Chief Track Umpire or Track Referee will allocate positions evenly around the outside or inside of the track as required.

Track Umpires are required to:

- observe from directly down the track for any lane infringements or interference with other athletes.
- stand adjacent to the hurdle flights to observe athletes when attempting to clear the hurdles.

What to do

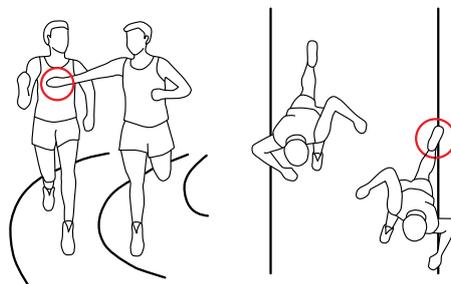
- Report any incident or infringement of the rules to the Chief Track Umpire immediately.
- When all athletes have passed and no infringements have occurred, raise a white flag to give the 'All Clear' signal to the Chief Track Umpire.
- When all athletes have passed and an infringement has occurred, raise a yellow flag to give the infringement signal and keep the flag raised until the Chief Track Umpire acknowledges.
- Complete an Umpire's Report Form for the Chief Track Umpire if an infringement has occurred.

- The Chief Track Umpire will pass the Umpire's Report Form to the Track Referee.
- Act independently, do not consult with other Track Umpires regarding the decision.

What to report

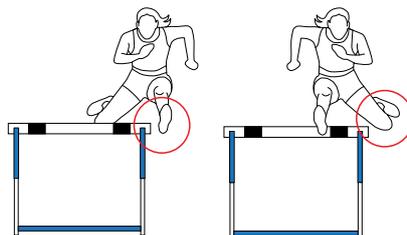
Track Umpires report if an athlete:

- receives assistance in the form of pacing, pushing off or any other method.
- interferes with or impedes another athlete.
- runs on or over the inside line of the allocated lane.
- runs out of the allocated lane before reaching the break line.
- voluntarily leaves the track.
- acts in an unsportsmanlike manner.



For Hurdle events, Track Umpires report if an athlete:

- goes under or around the hurdles.
- straddles or knocks down any hurdles in another lane.
- trails a foot or leg around the side of the hurdle.
- deliberately knocks down any hurdles with hand, body or upper side of the lead leg.



For Relay events, Track Umpires report if:

- the wrong athlete picks up a dropped baton.
- an athlete interferes with any other athlete whilst retrieving the baton.
- the baton is received by the outgoing athlete before or after the takeover zone. The position of the baton is decisive, **not** the position of the body of the athlete.
- the baton is thrown between athletes.
- an athlete starts running from outside the takeover zone.
- an athlete fails to maintain the change position order in unlaned relay events.

If a mistake happens e.g. made a wrong report, remain calm and inform the Chief Track Umpire immediately. The Track Referee will make the final decision based on the reports received.

How to record

An Umpire's Report Form is completed for each infringement, with the relevant details including lane number, athlete's number and Centre and a brief description of the infringement and rule number, if known.

Handy hints for Track Umpires

- Need to be decisive and consistent when forming judgments on incidents.
- Do not be afraid to report any infringement.