



**USATF National Officials Committee**  
**Master Track Referee Examination**  
**2009-2012 Olympiad Edition**

**I**nstructions: This is an open book test but it is required that you take it as an individual. The questions are not in any particular order. You should not discuss your answers with anyone else. You should use the 2008 or later USATF Competition Rules and NCAA Rules to complete this test. You will need to give the appropriate rule references when completing the questions in Section 3.

Section 1 contains true-false or multiple choice questions. Generally each question is worth one point unless otherwise indicated.

Section 2 contains various rule applications. The value of each question is shown in the parenthesis.

Section 3 contains situations that you might rule on as a referee. To get full credit for these discussion questions, please list as many alternatives as you can think of, indicate your chosen decision, reference the appropriate rule by number and explain why you have made the decision you have chosen. Some questions have no clear right answer. The goal of this examination is to assess your approach to refereeing and your application of the rules when there is no direct answer in the book. The rationale for your answer is the most important element of your answer. This section contains the majority of the points.

Please **write or type** your answers clearly on the **ANSWER SHEET** provided and return it to your Certification Chair for review and grading. If you need more room for a particular answer, clearly label any additional sheets with the question number and indicate on the main answer sheet that there is additional discussion on an attached sheet. Generally, this test should not take more than two hours to complete.

**PURPOSE:** This is an examination. The goal is to make sure that every Master Referee is familiar with the current content and location of the rules and their application to the USATF and NCAA competitions in which he or she will officiate. This test is a part of the Committee's three-step training program (clinic, formal rules review and supervised practice), and emphasizes those rules basic to USATF and NCAA competitions. Effective competition officials and referees do not rely on memory alone in making decisions- when in doubt they look it up and quote the appropriate rule in rendering their decision.

**Section 1 (10 points)**

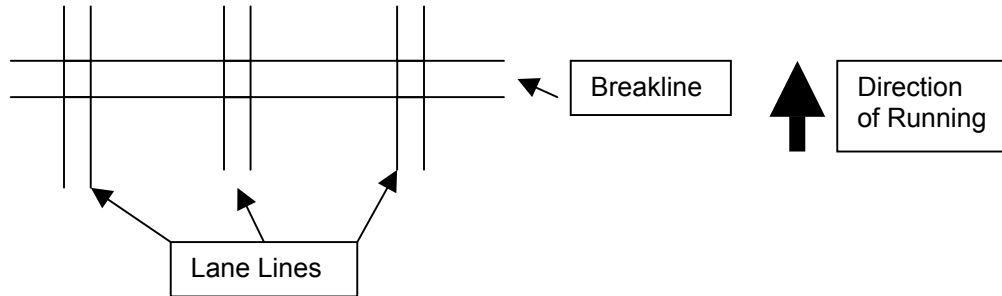
1. True False An umpire has the authority to disqualify an athlete or a team for a track violation. (1 point)
2. True False Lap scorers may be responsible for more than four competitors for a track event. (1 point)
3. True False Currently transponders cannot be used for lap scoring in Track events. (1 point)
4. True False You are the track referee at the regional Special Olympics Championships when one of the disabled athletes with Cerebral Palsy falls in the 50 m walk. It is permissible for someone to assist the athlete to get back on his/her feet. (1 point)
5. True False In a Class B1 (totally Blind or they wear darkened glasses) 100 m event, the assistant finishes before the blind athlete. This is not violation since the timers can easily distinguish between the athlete and the assistant? (1 point)
6. True False The decision of the referee in all matters is always final and without appeal. (1 point)
7. Who can compete in an Association's Track Championship? (1 point)
  - a) All members of USATF
  - b) All members of an association
  - c) Anyone who enters
8. Who is responsible for approving the officials in a Track and Field championship meet? (1 point)
  - a) Meet Director
  - b) Coordinator of Officials

- c) Appropriate Sports committee
- d) Officials committee

9. True False All track events conducted by or sanctioned by USATF or one of its associations must be conducted under the Championship rules. (1 point)
10. True False The referee has the power to cancel or postpone to a future date any event, even if it is underway, if in the Referee's judgment the competition cannot be conducted or completed in a satisfactory manner and in fairness to the competitors and the officials. (1 point)

**Section 2 (18 points)**

11. In the 800 m and the 4x400 m with a three turn stagger, cones are place at the break line. Please mark on the following drawing the proper placement of those cones. Please show them as black squares. (1 Point)



12. Describe the purpose and duties of the National Technical Official or NTO. (2 points)
13. What are the recognized methods of timing? (4 points)
14. Which side of the 5 cm line drawn on the track is the finish line? (1 point)
15. Here are the results from the Women 100 m Dash in the Olympic Trials. Please indicate the place qualifiers by Q and time qualifiers by q and then determine who is in each heat of the semifinals and what lanes they should be assigned. (10 points)

Advance 16 to semifinals, top 3 each heat and next 4 fastest

Name	Team	Prelims
Heat 1 Wind: -1.6		
Teneeshia Jones	Unattached	11.72 (.719)
LaTasha Colander	Nike	11.35
Angela Williams	Nike	11.47 (.465)
Lakadron Ivry	Baylor	11.72 (.716)
Marion Jones	Nike	11.38
Carmelita Jeter	Unattached	11.76 (.759)
Heat 2 Wind: -1.4		
Wyllesheia Myrick	Unattached	11.42 (.419)
Chryste Gaines	Nike	11.39
Connie Moore	Nike	11.47 (.469)
Inger Miller	Nike	11.28
Amandi Rhett	Georgia Tech	11.72 (.715)
Lakeisha Backus	U.S. Army	11.53
Heat 3 Wind: -1.0		
Gail Devers	Nike	11.36 (.360)

Torri Edwards	adidas	11.36 (.358)
Melinda Smedley	Unattached	11.91
Angela Daigle	Nike	11.42 (.416)
LaShaunte'a Moore	Unattached	11.76 (.759)
Felicia Fant	N. Carolina St.	12.07

Heat 4 Wind: -0.8

Lauryn Williams	Miami	11.13
Tremedia Brice	Texas Southern	11.50
Nolle Graham	Lemans Track Club	11.70 (.691 )
Muna Lee	Nike	11.37
Marshevet Hooker	Texas	11.41
Shaunta Pelham	Unattached	11.70 (.693)

### Section 3 (35 Points)

16. As the track referee you have only 6 umpires for the 400 m hurdles, where would you place them and why? (4 points)
17. Following the 400 m hurdles for Intermediate Boys in a youth meet while setting the heights for the girls, an umpire observes that one flight was improperly set at 33 inches instead of 36 inches. He reports that to the referee. You did not get a protest. What action would you take?  
If it was a meet which qualified athletes to the National Youth Championship would your answer be different? What if you did get a protest? (2 points)
18. In the qualifying round for the 800 m in a regional meet, one runner falls down about the 200 m mark but there is not a call by the nearby umpire. That runner does not complete the event but does protest that someone ran up his back and tripped him. He doesn't know who. There is no video of the incident. What steps would you take to resolve the protest? (2 points)
19. In a local invitational meet, two runners in the 200 m arrive late, just as the heat is ready to be taken to the track by the clerk. Both are elite runners which are the stars for this race. What action would you take as track referee, if the question of whether or not they should be allowed to run is brought to you? (2 points)
20. You are the Referee at the Junior Championships. In the 200 m a runner appears to have tied the World Junior record at 20.10 seconds. You have two FinishLynx cameras. The photo finish judge reads the primary camera at 20.099. Because it is not clear when the torso crossed because arm on that side tends to block the view of the chest, he reads the back up camera. That picture is not as clear as the primary because of the location of the lighting and he reads the time as 20.101. You are called up to read the picture and verify the possible record. Because it is night, the cameras on each side of the track have slightly different lighting which causes a shadow on the picture that was read as 20.101. When you read it you get 20.100. The difference is where you determine the torso versus the arm has reached the finish line. The slower time is the result of distinguishing the torso from the arm which was not evident in the primary camera picture. What steps would you take? Would you submit it as a possible World Record? (2 points)
21. It is over 90 deg F when the 5000 m qualifying round race starts. After the start the medical advisor recommends that you place an aid station on the track. What should you do? (2 points)
22. During the hammer throw competition, a hammer lands on the track such that there is a small hole in the track just where the runner in lane 1 would normally take off for the third hurdle in the 400 m hurdles. The finals for that event will occur at the end of this session, which is about 3 hours away. What options do you have and which would you chose and why? (4 points)
23. In the preliminary rounds of the 100 m with automatic blocks at the USATF Outdoor Championship, the men are taking over 45 seconds to get settled and become steady after the command, "on your marks" until they are still enough that the starter can give the command "set". In fact, at times it has taken twice

that long. What action would you suggest to the starter, since you have observed as much as 30 seconds between the times the first runner and the last runner are ready for the "set" command. (2 points)

24. During your track inspection you find that the steeplechase barrier is very loose where the pipes supporting the barrier are inserted in the track. Although it will not fall, it will rock as the runners step on it giving them less than desirable footing. What options would you propose? (4 points)
25. In a local association meet where automatic blocks are not being used, you are called to the starting line because an athlete has complained that the starter won't allow him to use his own blocks which are hand made and don't look like normal blocks. You are asked to make a decision on the use of these blocks. The starter thinks that he has that role since it is part of the start. How do you resolve this issue and who should decide if the blocks can be used? (6 points)
- 26) You are the referee at a youth meet where you will be having a 2000 m steeplechase. The track has an outside the track water jump which is not centered in the middle of the curve at the opposite end of the track from the common finish line but is placed just before the apex. Where would you look for the 2000 m start and where would you expect the first hurdle to be? The 2000 m steeplechase has 23 barriers of which 5 are water jumps. How far apart would you expect the third and fourth barriers to be? (3 points)
27. To get some practice for the up coming World Junior Championship, the Sport Committees used their discretion granted by Rule 13.1 to have a 4X400 m at the USATF Junior Championship. During the preliminary rounds, several teams were disqualified because they changed position after the exchange zone judge lined them up in the positions that their teams held at the 200 m mark. What action would you recommend in order to avoid more disqualifications in the finals? (2 points)

**Total Points: 63**



**USATF National Officials Committee**  
**Track Referee Examination Answer Form**  
**Answer Sheet...2009-2012 Olympiad Edition**

\_\_\_\_\_ # Correct  
 % Correct \_\_\_\_\_

**Name**

**Home Phone** ☎

*Please Print*

*Please be neat!*

**E-mail address**

**Your certification #**

*Street*

*City*

*State*

*Zip*

Please **write or type** your answers clearly on this **ANSWER SHEET** and return it to your Certification Chair for review and grading. If you need more room for your answers, please indicate "Continue" in the answer section for that question and indicate the page where the rest of your answer is located. Clearly label any additional sheets with the question number.

**Section 1**                      **10**

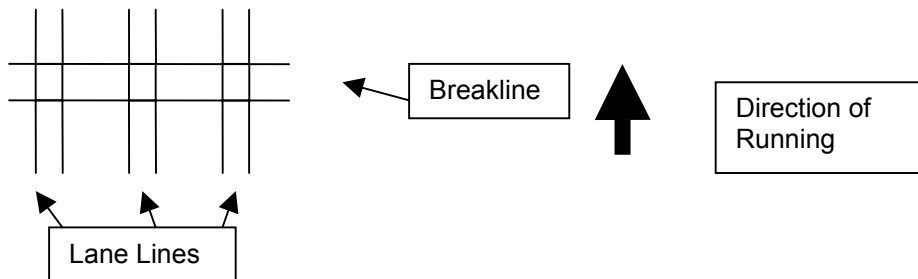
*The correct answer*

*If the answer is FALSE...explain why the answer is FALSE.*

	<i>The correct answer</i>	<i>If the answer is FALSE...explain why the answer is FALSE.</i>	
1.			<b>1</b>
2.			<b>1</b>
3.			<b>1</b>
4.			<b>1</b>
5.			<b>1</b>
6.			<b>1</b>
7.			<b>1</b>
8.			<b>1</b>
9.			<b>1</b>
10.			<b>1</b>

**Section 2**                      **18**

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12. Describe the purpose and duties of the National Technical Official or NTO. (2 points)

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13. What are the recognized methods of timing? (4 points)

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14. Which side of the 5 cm line drawn on the track is the finish line? (1 point)

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15. Here are the results from the Women 100 m Dash in the Olympic Trials. Please indicate the place qualifiers by Q and time qualifiers by q and then determine who is in each heat of the semifinals and what lanes they should be assigned. (10 points)

Overall Place	Name	Qualifying Time	Q or q	Heat 1 or 2	Lane
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					

**Section 3****35 Points**

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