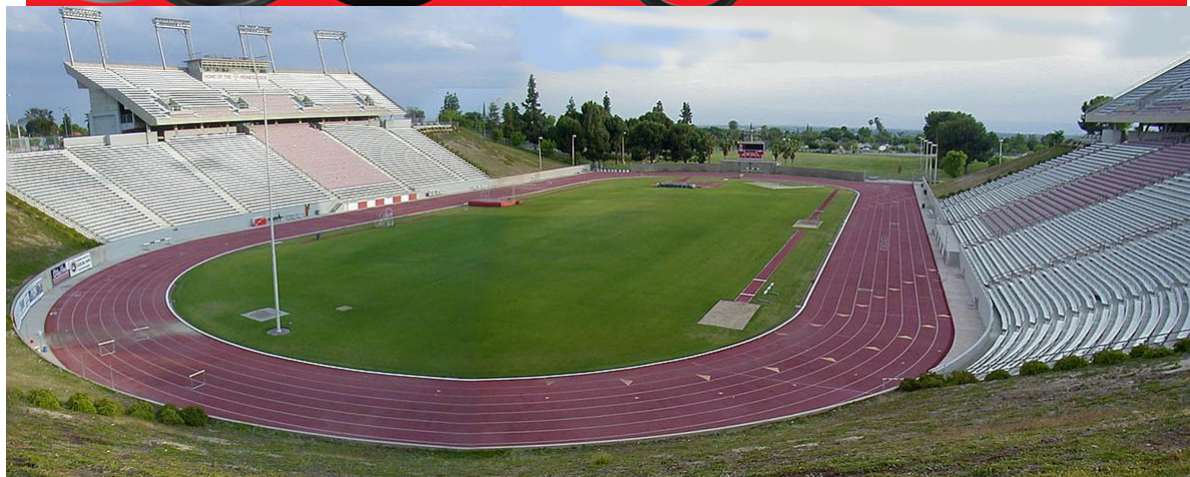


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ONTRACK 5.1:  
NATIONAL OFFICIALS COMMITTEE  
NEWSLETTER FOR OFFICIALS.

[FRANCAIS](#)

# GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR BY JANE EDSTROM

Happy St. Patrick's Day  
Happy Easter

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Unfortunately, most of the country remains in some level of lockdown due to the pandemic. Therefore, it continues to be my hope that this newsletter finds you and your families well and safe. We are all growing weary of restrictions on our lives due to COVID-19.

Athletics Canada released a press release announcing that the Olympic Trials would take place in Montreal the end of June, but with heavy restrictions in place due to health mandates. There will be limited personnel allowed in the stadium; limited entries, limited events and most events are straight finals. Unfortunately the circumstances of the Olympic Trials of 2021 will not support any mentoring opportunities for officials.

The upgrading criteria states that National credits, the NOC Level 4 National Clinics and mentorings/evaluations are only valid for five years. COVID-19 has restricted athletics competitions for the Outdoor 2020, Indoor 2021 and Outdoor 2021 seasons. NOC has therefore extended the five-year validity by one year and is considering a two year extension.

I would like to congratulate the two officials who have been inducted to the Wall of Honor for 2020, namely, Barclay Frost from Ontario and Kathy Terlicher from BC. Both of these officials have contributed to officiating extensively for well over 25 years. We thank and congratulate them for their time, talents and efforts. NOC would like to recognize all the officials who are front-line and essential workers as Officials of the Year for 2020. You are all very courageous and brave and a bounty of thanks hardly seems enough for all your efforts.

Last newsletter I mentioned that the World Athletics (formerly IAAF) Rulebook 2020 had a new look and format. In March the WA Council approved some rule amendments that come into effect November 2021. I have prepared a summary of the major rule amendments. It is included in this newsletter for your review. The rulebook can be found on the World Athletics website for a digital version or for a hard copy, Canada has printed a coil-bound version as well.

The National Officials Committee continues to meet monthly by conference call for business and reports from its members. In April NOC hosted a Zoom meeting with the Branch Officials Chairs from across Canada. NOC shared information and solicited information on the status of provincial plans for the Outdoor Season from the Chairs. Plans varied from coast to coast and are changing daily as health mandates are announced.

NOC has launched a new program, Event Leaders, to promote communication and mentoring among officials within event groups. See a detailed description of the program included later in the newsletter.

NOC has prepared a document for the implementation of the World Athletics Shoe Rule 5. The document is included in this newsletter and should be reviewed, especially by Referees and Call Room officials. It is our duty to ensure that performances of athletes are valid. Calipers to measure sole and heel thicknesses are in the process of being designed, but the availability and cost of aluminum are delaying the project. There are some calipers that have been purchased on Amazon that can suffice.

meet around the track or field soon. Until that day arrives, I wish you health and safety.

# CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

This year we are very fortunate to have 5 Officials celebrating their 50+ years of Officiating in Canada.

Starting in the west we have **Peter Fejfar** from Delta BC.

Then we have **Sharon Tkachuk** from Saskatoon SK.

In Ontario we have **Brian Keaveney** from Etobicoke ON.

Finally in Quebec we have two officials. **Helene Tremblay** from St. Marie QC and **Claire Levesque** from La Prairie QC.

It is such an accomplishment to have officiated for all these many years. And all of them are still very active to this day.

These 5 Officials will be receiving their 50+ year gift and congratulatory letter from our Chair, Jane Edstrom, soon. They are being prepared as we speak. We hope to have a photo of each of the officials with their gift and a brief statement in our next issue of "ON TRACK". Hoping more businesses open soon.

## **Official of the Year 2020**

In this year of Covid, we recognize the frontline workers; including medical staff, first responders, grocery and pharmacy staff, teachers, educational staff, day care workers and all essential workers who are amongst our Officiating Colleagues

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Thank You So Much!

# EVENT LEADERS PROGRAM FOR OFFICIALS

## Introduction

Athletics Canada and the National Officials Committee (NOC) have developed a Canada-wide program focused on mentoring officials within specific event groups. Event groups include running disciplines (e.g., starter, track referee, umpire) as well as field events (e.g., jumps, throws) and other areas as they emerge in the future.

The Program is essentially a group-based mentoring program focused on developing and disseminating information and knowledge amongst officials within specific event groups. It compliments the NOC Mentor Program that focuses on supporting individual officials become the best official they can be.

The event groups will initially include all Level 3-5 and beyond officials within one of the event groups (to be invited to join the group by the Event Group Leader). At a later date Level two officials who have expressed an interest in one, or more of the groups, may be invited to join the group.

## Purpose

**The purpose of the Program is to** encourage the development and growth of officials in specific event groupings—essentially building community of practices around each event and professional development of officials within those event groups. The Program will also keep officials engaged during the impact of COVID-19 on the Athletics season.

Groups will meet through vehicles they choose to use (e.g., Skype, WhatsApp, Signal, Zoom, telephone, e-mail).

Topics and activities will be determined by the groups—which may include the following:

- Circulating information and new materials from the International Federations, as well as Athletics Canada.
- Keeping event group officials informed of initiatives and officiating best practices through regular and ongoing communications.
- Training officials through formal webinars or informal educational development utilizing WhatsApp, Signal, Zoom or other appropriate applications.
- Conducting group discussions, as appropriate and requested by the members. This could include rule changes, application of rules, best practices, etc.

All of this will lead to keeping officials across Canada engaged as officials and “in the know” about what officials are doing.

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For more information and contacts for Event Leaders see the Athletics Canada Website (under officials).  
rading process. We have also looked at ways of engaging our officials during this time as well. We are hopeful that  
the 2021 indoor season.

## **NATIONAL OFFICIALS' COMMITTEE GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WORLD ATHLETICS SHOE RULE 5**

### **Preamble**

The shoe must not give athletes any unfair assistance or advantage. Any type of shoe must be reasonably available to all in the spirit of universality of athletics. For International Competitions, at which an athlete proposes to wear a shoe that has not previously been used in International Competition, the athlete (or representative) must submit to World Athletics the specifications (i.e. size, dimensions, sole thickness, structure, etc.) of that new shoe; confirm if the new shoe is to be customized in any way, and provide information about availability of the new shoe on the open retail market.

This World Athletics (WA) Rule TR5 as it applies to shoes covers International Competition and competitions sanctioned by Member Federations where it is decided the Rules and Regulations shall apply. Athletics Canada has taken the position that these Rules and Regulations shall apply to all sanctioned competitions held in Canada, regardless of the age or level of athlete.

### **Intent of Rule**

- Shoes to be used in competition must be on the World Athletics Shoe Compliance List or be a 'legacy' / vintage model that is compliant with WA Rule TR5.
- Shoes must be available on the open market four months prior to use.
- Shoes must be within WA Rule TR5 specified sole and heel thicknesses.
- Shoe Rule is applicable to elite athletes in elite competitions.
  - (Rule Clarification from World Athletics states that the Rule is to be enforced at U20 and Senior National Championships, as well as any World Athletics / NACAC Permit or Label Events. All Associates of Athletics Canada are subject to compliance with the Rule.)

### **How to Enforce**

- Athletics Canada to ensure Rule TR5 and its enforcement is widely communicated with its Member Branches, who will be encouraged to communicate the Rule to their membership.
- Athletes are responsible for checking the World Athletics website for the Shoe Compliance List to ensure their shoes are included on the list or, are otherwise compliant with Rule TR5.

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declaration clause.

- At the competition the athlete or representative must present shoes to be worn at the competition to TIC (Technical Information Center) prior to competition.
- If shoes are on the WA Shoe Compliance List, or are otherwise compliant with Rule TR5, they can be used. (Athletes must still report the call room and present shoes for thorough inspection prior to event)
- If shoes are not on the WA Shoe Compliance List, or are otherwise non-compliant with Rule TR5, they CANNOT be used in competition.
- Prior to the event, in the meet call room the shoes will be inspected for number of spikes, length/width/type of spikes, sole and heel thickness and cross referenced with the WA Shoe Compliance List.
- Athletes must comply with any request from Referees (whether NTO, AITO or ITO) to inspect shoes.
- It is NOT permitted to run under protest with non-compliant shoes.

#### Call Room Requirements for Measurement

- Sole/Heel Calipers to measure the sole and heel thicknesses are in the process of being developed for use in Canada.
- Spike Gauges to measure spike length. Spikes must fit through a square-sided 4mm gauge.
- World Athletics Shoe Compliance List (most current).

#### Sanctioning & Penalties

- If an athlete or representative fails to present their shoes to TIC as outlined and the shoes are found to be non-compliant, there is no opportunity to compete.
- If an athlete competes with noncompliant shoes or is deemed to have done so after the fact, the Referee may disqualify the athlete after the event (Rule CR5:12.)
- Any athlete who is found to have contravened the Rules is liable to retroactive disqualification and the removal of performances claimed for records / rankings / standards.

#### Other Information

World Athletics Shoe Compliance List is available at: ([www.worldathletics.org](http://www.worldathletics.org))

**NOTE #1:** For all competitions held in Canada, (including Off-Track Events), it is an expectation that the shoe regulations be followed for all athletes. In the absence of a formal "Call Room" officials may perform "Spot Checks" to ensure compliance with the Rule.

**NOTE #2:** For Combined Events, Call Room Judges will check event shoes in the CE rest room prior to each event.

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**NOTE #4:** World Athletics, Athletics Canada and NOC are mandating that the WA Shoe Rule TR5 be observed at all domestic competitions and enforced, through shoe declarations & inspections at National Championships for U20 and Senior Athletes, as well as any World Athletics / NACAC Permit or Label Events.

**NOTE #5:** In regard to Provincial/Territorial Championships, NOC recommends that athletes be made aware of the WA Shoe Rule TR5 and WA Shoe Compliance List, especially if they are attempting a standard for National Championships. (Recommended that Provincial/Territorial Championships entry form require a shoe declaration for U20 and Seniors.)

#### **Summary of Main Amendments to the 2020 World Athletics Competition and Technical Rules**

(approved by Council March 2021 for effective date of November 2021)

##### CR18.3

The Start Referee (or if one is not appointed, the relevant Track Referee)  
has the jurisdiction to decide on any facts related to the starts.....

##### CR25.4

An athlete shall be regarded as DNS if:

- (a) after their name having been included on the start list for any event they do not report to the Call Room for that event;
- (b) having passed through the Call Room they do not make any attempt in a Field Event or do not attempt to make a start in a running or race walking event; or
- (c) if TR39.10 (Combined Events) applies.

##### CR32

World Records – addition of Race Walk distances of 35K and 35,000m

##### CR32

World Records – addition of Race Walk distances of 35K and 35,000m

##### TTR6.2

Addition to Assistance Note: In cases under Rules TR6.3.1 or TR6.3.6 disqualification may be made without warning.

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Addition of: However, if the behavior of one or more such individual athletes is considered serious enough, CR18.5 may be applied to them with the applicable consequences.

#### TR8.4.1

If an athlete makes an immediate oral protest against having been charged with a false start, the Start Referee (or if one is not appointed, the relevant Track Referee) may, if in doubt, allow the athlete to compete "under protest" in order to preserve the rights of all concerned.

#### TR16.10

The Starter or any Recaller, who is of the opinion that the start was not a fair one, shall recall the athletes by firing a gun or activating a suitable audible signal.

#### TR22.6.2

Hurdle Races – In addition, an athlete shall be disqualified, if:

22.6.2 they knock down or displace any hurdle by hand, body or the FRONT SIDE of the LEAD LOWER LIMB; or ....

The front side of the lead lower limb includes all front facing parts of the leg from the top of the thigh to the end of the foot.

#### TR25.6

In situations in the horizontal Field Events where there are more than eight athletes, only the eight athletes with the best valid performances are allowed any additional trial(s). This requires all athletes to have a measured mark recorded from a fair jump or throw in at least one of their first three trials. Where less than eight athletes achieve such a valid performance it is only those athletes who are allowed any additional trial(s) even though it will mean less than eight athletes proceeding.

#### TR28.12

Pole Vault – The sides of the landing area nearest to the box shall be placed 0.10m to 0.15m from the box and shall slope away from the box at an angle of at least 45 and no more than 48.

#### TR32.6

Shot Put – The rim of the circle shall be made of band iron, steel or other suitable material, the top of which shall be flush with the ground outside. It shall be at least 6mm thick. The inside and top of the rim shall be white.

#### TR32.13

There is no restriction on how, or from which direction an athlete may enter the circle nor in the case of the shot put is there any restriction on making contact with the stop board during this process. The relevant requirement is that once inside, they must adopt a stationary position before commencing their trial.

A stationary position means that an athlete having entered the circle to make their trial and before doing so adopts



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judges. There is no requirement for the arms or hands or other parts of the athlete's body to be stationary.

#### TR32.14

Note: (i) It shall be considered a failure if the discus or the head of the hammer strikes the far side of the cage (left side for a right-handed thrower when facing the landing sector or the right side for a left-handed thrower when facing the landing sector) after the release of the implement.

Note (ii) It will not be considered a failure if the discus or any part of the hammer strikes the near side of the cage (right for the right-handed thrower when facing the landing sector or the left side for a left-handed thrower when facing the landing sector) after the release of the implement, then lands within the landing sector outside the limits of the cage, provided that no other Rule is infringed, including TR32.10.

The limits of the cage shall be defined as the boundary formed by the cage and the gates, when in position, completed by an imaginary straight line drawn between the ends of the cage/gates closest to the landing sector.

#### TR34.1

Discus – The sides shall taper in a straight line from any point on a circle of a radius of 25mm to 28.5mm from the center of the discus to the beginning of the curve of the rim...

#### TR41.3

Indoor Stadium – All the tracks, runways or take-off areas shall be covered with a synthetic material that should preferably be able to accept 6mm spikes in running shoes.

If the track manufacturer or the stadium operator mandates an alternate maximum or prohibits the use of certain shaped spikes, this shall be applied and the athletes notified of accordingly.

#### TR54.1

Race Walk – addition of 35km and 35,000m distances

#### TR54.7.3

Race Walk Penalty Zone – addition of time of 3.5 min. for 35,000m/35km distances

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#### Things to Remember.....

1. Please check the **directory** on the NOC site to make sure everything pertaining to you is correct. If not, contact Gilles Rochette at NOC. [sportvision@outlook.com](mailto:sportvision@outlook.com)
2. If you have changed your e-mail address, and many have because they have been hacked, please inform NOC and Gilles Rochette of the change. Some may not be receiving the **ON TRACK** Newsletter so we

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discussions and up coming news. Please do so. It will prove to be very interesting and will re-connect all officials.

4. If any Provincial Chair is in need of service pins, please contact Serge Thibaudeau at NOC.

[Serge.thibaudeau@athletics.ca](mailto:Serge.thibaudeau@athletics.ca)

5. Please make sure you go to the NOC web site through Athletics Canada and read the revised Upgrading Criteria dated March 2021. Also, if you would like to watch past webinars, they are there also.

6. The Level 3 National Clinics are almost complete. We hope to have them on the website soon.

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