

Safety and fairness are the primary concerns.

Check each venue for safety – no warmups without supervision by officials.

- Pole Vault – including standards, landing pad, planting box, runway, poles matching athletes
- High Jump – including standards, landing pad
- Long Jump & Triple Jump pits – including thickness & level of sand and size of pits, takeoff boards
- Shot Put – including secure toe/stop board, accurate sector lines, officials’ eyes toward the circle
- Discus – including cage (no holes or rips), accurate sector lines, and warning zone outside the sector and officials’ eyes toward the circle
- Track – check surface, markings, curb, cones for the break line, alley starts, and curves (if no curb), wind gauge (50 m from the finish line, within 2 m of the track)

Obtain and **review all games committee information**. Collaborate with the games committee with respect to emergency situations and hazardous weather (see Appendix G of the NFHS Rules Book).

Meet with (and give your cell number or walkie-talkie channel to) **meet director, clerk(s) of the course, head finish judge or timing company, head starter, head umpire, and heads of individual field venues**. Define areas of responsibilities for appropriate officials (call the referee if disqualifications are proposed). Except for false starts observed by the Starter or Assistant Starter, only the referee disqualifies a competitor.

Rule 3,4.8 **Prior to the meet, the referee shall**, either by a meeting or written communication, **address the following with all head coaches and team captains**:

- a. All team members are expected to **exhibit good sporting conduct**.
- b. The **head coach shall verify verbally, or in writing, that all of his/her competitors are properly equipped (uniform and equipment)** in compliance with these rules.
- c. Any **special circumstances, procedures and information pertaining to the meet**.
 - unanimous agreement if boys and girls are competing together, but scored separately
 - unanimous agreement of non-contested events
 - allowable track markings (e.g, for relay exchange zones)
 - restricted areas (e.g., whether coaches are allowed in the infield)
 - entry limitations
 - starting heights in the pole vault and high jump
 - number of attempts in throws and horizontal jumps (and minimum distances to be measured)
 - special circumstances (e.g., prostheses and medical alerts) to be communicated to field judges & clerks
 - appeal procedures, if applicable

During the meet:

- **Keep the current NFHS Rules Book, Case Book, and Officials Manual** and games committee information **handy**.
- Make decisions that are final (except for any appeal procedure established prior to the meet). **Communicate disqualifications to the competitor, the competitor’s coach, and to the timing company and official meet scorer**.
- **Check and certify record performances**.
- Sign the umpire infraction reports when a disqualification is appropriate and communicate the disqualification to the official meet scorer (and timing company) and to the competitor and the competitor’s coach.
- Keep a record of individual warnings for disqualifications (in case of a uniform violation).
- If possible, before approving the official meet scorer’s final results, check the scoring sheets for individual venues.
 - Girls Pole Vault
 - Boys Pole Vault
 - Girls High Jump
 - Boys High Jump
 - Girls Long Jump
 - Boys Long Jump
 - Girls Triple Jump
 - Boys Triple Jump
 - Girls Shot Put
 - Boys Shot Put
 - Girls Discus
 - Boys Discus

Rule 3.4.1 The referee is directly in charge of activities during the meet. **The referee shall answer questions which are not specifically placed under the jurisdiction of other officials.**

Rule 3.4.2 **The referee's authority begins upon arrival at the meet site and concludes 30 minutes after the last event results have been announced or made official.** The referee retains clerical authority over the contest through the completion of any reports, including those imposing disqualifications, that are responsive to actions occurring while the referee has jurisdiction. State associations may intercede in the event of unusual incidents after the referee's jurisdiction has ended or in the event that a contest is terminated prior to the conclusion of regulation play.

Rule 3.4.3 **The referee has the sole authority to determine if a race shall be rerun, and if so, who is eligible to participate in the rerun and when it should be scheduled.** (Note: refer to the NFHS Case Book for guidelines for rerunning races.)

Rule 3.4.4 **The referee has the sole authority for ruling on infractions except as provided in Rule 3.6.1 (Starter decides fairness of starts). The referee has the sole authority for ruling on irregularities not covered within the rules. The referee may seek the advice of the head umpire or field referee/head field judge before making a ruling. The referee is also authorized to disqualify a competitor who commits an infraction personally observed by the referee.**

Rule 3.4.5 **Upon determining that the event does not meet the criteria set forth in the rules, the referee shall declare that the event will not be contested,** and points for the event will be divided among the visiting teams. The host team will receive no points.

Rule 3.4.6 **When a competitor is disqualified, the referee shall notify, or cause to be notified, the competitor and the competitor's coach, of the disqualification.**

Rule 3.4.7 **The referee shall note and call aloud, for the benefit of each competitor, the laps remaining in individual races or relay legs of two laps or more.** This responsibility may be delegated to a lap caller. Lap cards may be used in lieu of verbal reports.

Rule 3.4.9 **The referee shall approve the official scorer's final results and record the time the meet was officially concluded.**

NOTES