

**USA TRACK & FIELD NATIONAL OFFICIALS COMMITTEE**  
**2017-2020 Race Walk Referee Grades 1&2**  
**Certification Rules Review (v 1.0)**



**Purpose**

The purpose of this open-book rules review is for officials to become familiar with the USATF rule book and to gain and demonstrate knowledge about selected rules as a Referee governing Race Walking events.

**Instructions**

Use the [2016 USATF Competition Rules](#).

**\*Using the 2017 USATF Competition Rule Book is also acceptable.**

**Scoring – Total of 100 points available**

**The minimum passing score is: Grade 1 - 90%; Grade 2 – 95%**

**Part 1:** There are 20 true/false questions, each worth 2 points; total possible score = 40 points.

**Part 2:** Answer all factual questions. Point values are specified in the question: Total possible score = 37 points.

**Part 3:** Answer all situational questions. Point values are specified in the question: total possible score = 23 points

**Part 1: True or False: Each answer is worth two points. (Total of 40 points)**

Enter True or False along with the applicable rule number on the answer sheet provided at the end of this section. Also, for any question you marked FALSE, provide the correct answer. **(If FALSE is the correct answer, you will be scored 1/2 point for choosing False and 1/2 point for putting down the correct answer.)**

1. For Championships and International Selection Competitions, one or more “posting boards” are suggested but an acceptable alternative is for the Chief Judge to give athletes verbal warnings.
2. When an athlete questions a Race Walk Judges’ disqualification and there are official race video records available, it is acceptable to use them to review a Race Walk Judges’ decision.
3. Race Walkers entered into major road races like the Boston Marathon may set records provided road race record requirements are met and there were the required number of Race Walk Judges.
4. If no umpires are assigned to a Race Walk event, the Race Walk Judges should act in dual capacities as Judges of the Race Walk and as event umpires.
5. Although multiple red cards are normally required before an athlete is disqualified, in an International Selection Event, the Chief Judge may disqualify an athlete in the last 100 meters for improper form even if no other red cards have been given to that competitor.
6. In a 10K Race Walk Road Race, in addition to water, refreshment stations may dispense energy drinks, fruit, athlete’s own personal fluids (provided they were turned in as required) and other such items.
7. In Race Walk Road Races, the minimum number of Race Walk Judges should be three.
8. If a Race Walker is notified during the race that he or she has been disqualified, he or she may continue in the race as a means to develop his or her abilities. They will simply be disqualified in the official results.

9. If a Chief Judge has not been appointed by the Selection Committee or Meet Management, the appointed Judges of the event should elect a Chief Judge.
10. In Race Walk Road Races, the more Judges available, the better it is to assure adequate coverage of the entire course.
11. If a posting board is used, it is not acceptable to simply note the number of red cards. The symbol for each offense must be indicated.
12. A Race Walker is entered in a 20K road race. The weather is particularly hot. The Race Walker's coach has made plans to meet his athlete with water out on the course at a point between aid stations. This was not approved by race management. When the athlete is seen taking the water, it is reported to the referee who must disqualify the athlete.
13. In order to assure that Judges get a good view of the Race Walkers' form, Race Walk Road Races should be held during daylight hours but can be held during the night if there is suitable artificial light
14. Normally, Lap Scorers (Lap Counters) should count and record data for no more than three athletes. In Road Walking events, that number increases to six athletes.
15. In an effort to be fair in judging a Race Walk athlete's form, two judges may stand together and confer before issuing a warning.
16. Team Championships in Race Walk Road Race events shall be scored by place.
17. All individual Race Walk Judges' Tally Sheets should be collected after a race. Along with the Summary Sheet that was certified by the Chief Judge or Referee (A copy of which should have been posted.) these sheets should be retained as part of the official event records.
18. When a Race Walk Judge believes an athlete is not walking properly, he or she should show the athlete a yellow paddle indicating the offense. If that Judge does not believe the athlete has corrected the problem, he or she should show the athlete a second yellow paddle to emphasize that the problem has not been corrected. After two paddles showing the same offense have been given to the same athlete by the same Judge that Judge should not give any additional warnings to that athlete for that offense.
19. Communication between the individual Race Walk Judges and the Recorder (Chief Judge, if no Recorder) should be made as soon as possible. In cases where the number of red cards warranted disqualification but the cards were not received before the end of the race, they should be ignored. Athlete's who are not notified during the race should not be disqualified.
20. Two types of yellow paddles are legal and may be used to warn athletes during a race. One type involves one yellow paddle which has the symbol for loss of contact on one side and the symbol for bent knee on the other. The second type involves two separate paddles with one paddle having the loss of contact symbol on both sides and the other paddle having the symbol for bent knee on both sides.

**You have completed Part 1. Record your answers on the answer sheet provided below.**

**In Part 2 and Part 3 write your answers on separate sheets of paper and attach them. Make sure to put the number of the question before your answers.**

**\*If you are unsure about your answer because you felt the situation or question was confusing, just write an explanation regarding your answer(s).**

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**Answer Sheet** (v 1.0)

Name:	Phone:	Association:
Address, City, State, Zip Code:		
Email Address:	Certification # (if recertifying)	

Question	Correct Answer	Correct Answer for FALSE statements	Rule Number(s)
1.			
2.			
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20.			
		<b>Score For Part 1:</b>	

**Part 2: Factual Questions: (The total point value of this section is 37 points.)**  
**The point value for each individual question is noted before the question.)**

Write your answers on a separate sheet and attach it to these pages or the answer sheet.

*\*For these questions, it is not necessary to list the rule or rules unless needed as a reference point.*

**Question #21, (4 points):** For other than National Championships, how many athletes may a Team enter? In National Championships, what is the maximum number of athletes allowed to represent one team? What is the number of athletes who score for a team? What if a Race Walk Club wants to enter more than one team in any division?

For other than National Championships, how many athletes may a Team enter? **(1 point)**  
In National Championships, what is the maximum number of athletes allowed to represent one team? **(1 point)**  
What is the number of athletes who score for a team? **(1 point)**  
What is the ruling if a Race Walk Club wants to enter more than one team in any division? **(1 point)**

**Question #22 (3 points):** What are the minimum and maximum distances for loop races 10K and longer and races less than 10K?

What is the minimum size loop for the races described? **(1 point)**  
What is the maximum loop for races 10K and longer? **(1 point)**  
What is the maximum loop for races less than 10K? **(1 point)**

**Question #23 (4 points):** For transponder timing to be used in Race Walk Road Races there are requirements. List at least four of them.

**Question #24 (5 points):** What are the requirements regarding Race Walk Judges that must be met in order to set a record in a track race, in a Race Walk road race? **List five. (1 point each)**

**Question #25 (7 points):** An athlete in the 60-64 Age Group appears to have set a 20K American record on a multiple loop course. What would you need to verify in the areas listed below in order to submit his performance for consideration?

- A) Two requirements concerning the judges. **(2 points)**
- B) One requirement concerning the loop. **(1 point)**
- C) One way that his completing the entire race could be verified. **(1 point)**
- D) One requirement for those athletes who participated in the event. **(1 point)**
- E) One requirement verifying the time to be submitted. **(1 point)**
- F) One requirement concerning the age of the athlete. **(1 point)**

**Question #26 (5 points):** What is a "Pit Lane?" When can it be used? How is it used? If an event does have a "Pit Lane," are there any circumstances under which a Race Walk athlete can be disqualified?

What is a "Pit Lane?" **(1 point)**  
When can it be used? **(1 point)**  
How is it used? **(1 point)**

If an event does have a "Pit Lane," are there any circumstances under which a Race Walk athlete can be disqualified? List two. **(2 points)**

**Question #27 (9 points):** The Race Walk Referee is not just a Referee for Race Walk issues. He or she is expected to know much of what a Track or LDR Referee knows. USATF Rule 125 lists many of the duties and responsibilities a referee has. Answer the following questions. **(1 point each)**

- A) In 125.2: What shall the Referee ensure? **(1 point)**
- B) In 125.5: When is the decision of the Referee not final? **(1 point)**
- C) In 125.6: What evidence may a Referee consider? **(1 point)**
- D) In 125.6: What about viewing video evidence that is not from an official event video recorder? **(1 point)**
- E) In 125.8: What is a Referee supposed to check? **(1 point)**
- F) In 125.10: What behavior should a referee pay particular attention to? **(1 point)**
- G) In 125.10 Note 1: Is a Referee required to give a warning before disqualifying an athlete? **(1 point)**
- H) In 125.12: What decision may a Referee make regarding an event? **(1 point)**
- I) In 125.14: What may the Referee do or not do regarding the order of events? **(1 point)**

### **Part 3: Situation Questions: (The total point value of this section is 23 points.)**

**The point value for each individual question is noted before the question.**

Write your answers on a separate sheet and attach it to these pages or the answer sheet.

***\*For these questions, it is not necessary to list the rule or rules unless needed as a reference point.***

**Note:** These essay questions involve complex situations with multiple issues to consider. Be certain to address such things as: What information you need, who you would talk with, and what questions you would ask. What are the possible options to remedy the situation? What option would you select and why?

**Question #28 (3 points):** You are at a 20K Championship. Thirty minutes after the last walker has finished, you hold a meeting with the Race Walk Judges to review the race. At that meeting, a clerical error is discovered. A third Red Card had been given an athlete but was never recorded and posted. Because of the oversight, the Race Walker was never notified that he had received three red cards and was disqualified. What would you do?

**Question #29, (4 points):** In a 20K Race Walk Road Race, an athlete leaves the course to go to the bathroom. Only you, the referee, see this. What action would you take and what might you consider in making your decision?

**Question #30 (2 points):** In a team competition scored by time, the primary and secondary systems fail because of power issues. There is no way to get accurate times for all the walkers. How would you handle the situation?

**Question #31 (3 points):** At a Championship Race Walk Road Race, an open athlete poorly times his warm and arrives at the starting line two minutes after the gun starting the race was fired. The event has transponder timing. It turns out, if one subtracts the time he was late, as recorded when he crossed the starting line, from his finish time, he would win the race by 15 seconds. When he sees that his “net” finish time is not used but the time based on the actual start of the race, he files a protest. How would you handle this and what is the reason for making the decision you did?

**Question #32 (3 points):** A Race Walker enters a 20K event that is being run concurrently with a certified 5K race and a certified 10K race. The course is set up to get a time for each distance for someone who walks the 20K. If an athlete is entered in the 20K, can he or she be given an official time for the 5K and 10K? Can a record be set at either or both of the shorter distances? What happens, if anything, should the Race Walker realize at 5K that he or she is walking well and could possibly set a 10K qualifying time for a major event or set a record but, in “going for it” would not likely be able to finish the 20K?

**Question #33 (8 points):** During the first 2k loop of the 10K Open Men’s race at the USATF National Race Walk Road Race Championship the lead runners did not notice the line on the course backstretch that marked the shortest distance and walked about 50m off course before they realized their mistake. There were no additional direction markings in this section. As the referee what action would you consider when you learned that runners “left the course?” What action would you take if you received a protest from one of those who took the wrong turn and eventually lost the race by just one second?