IAAF

RACE WALKING

THE JUDGING

THE ORGANIZATION
The judging of Race Walking and the organisation of a Race Walking event

A guide for judges, officials, coaches and athletes

5th Edition 2006

IAAF International Association of Athletics Federations
IAAF COUNCIL (2003 – 2007)

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On cover page

Irina Petrova of Russia in action during the Women's 10,000 metres Race Walking final at the IAAF World Juniors Championships at the Olimpico Stadium on July 16, 2004, in Grosseto, Italy. (Photo by Paul Gilham/Getty Images)
(16) Other Important Arrangements

Other important technical arrangements include announcers, medical services, warm-up area, toilets, spectator/VIP seating, jury (protest forms), refreshments for officials and awards ceremonies.

(17) World Race Walking Records

At least three Judges who are from either the IAAF Panel of International Race Walking Judges or are Area Level Judges shall be officiating during the competition and shall sign the application form. The course must be measured by ‘A’ or ‘B’ Aims Measurer. IAAF Rule 260.29 (a).
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to welcome this latest edition of "Race Walking - The Judging and the Organization" which takes account of recent efforts by the IAAF not only to increase the exposure of this discipline but also to safeguard its future. Men's and Women's Race Walking has been a part of the IAAF’s programme since the 1908 Olympic Games, and continues to be a vibrant and challenging discipline.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who contributed to this latest edition of the book for their dedicated efforts in ensuring a wide circulation and giving advice and guidance to all officials and judges of all grades. This book is also aimed at athletes and coaches who should have a complete understanding of what the judge is looking for - and it is for the committed fan of athletics who seeks to improve even more his knowledge of the sport we all love. Our thanks also go to the IAAF Race Walking Committee which has contributed with its helpful comments and guidance.

Lamine DIACK
IAAF President

representatives (and, if necessary, an interpreter) to attend this meeting. All team delegations shall be given due notice of the place and time of the meeting. This meeting should be chaired by the IAAF Technical Delegate and/or the Technical Director for the competition. Questions regarding the technical aspects of the competition should be submitted by team leaders at least 3 hours prior to the meeting. Final team declarations should be made at this meeting. The typical agenda for this meeting is as follows:

Agenda:
I. Welcome
II. Introduction of the Competition Officials
III. The Starting Area
   a. Warm-up Area
   b. Call Room Area
   c. Clothing (Team colours)
   d. Team Starting Positions (Random Draw)
IV. The Course
   a. Maps
   b. Distances
   c. Drinking/ Refreshments/Sponging (10, 20 & 50 km)
V. The Finish Area
   a. Sequence of events after first 3 finishers in each race
      1. Press/TV Interviews
      2. Victory Ceremony
      3. Doping Control Testing
   b. Warning Posting Board
   c. Lap Counting
   d. Team Scoring
VI. Medical Services
VII. Start Lists
VIII. Numbers (Type, Distribution)
IX. Transportation
X. Any Other Business
XI. Questions

(15) Doping Control

Doping control shall be conducted in accordance with the IAAF Procedural Guidelines for Doping Control. The Organizing Committee / Host Federation must provide and pay for the necessary equipment and personnel to conduct the number of controls decided by the IAAF or appropriate governing body.
• No adjustment to the scoring places of the finishing teams shall be made in respect of any non scoring team walkers or of individual entries
• Any tie will be decided in favour of the team with the best placed competitor.

(13) Timing
The timing of Road Race Walking competitions should be done according to IAAF Rule 165.23. For all races, the times shall be read in 1/100th second and shall be converted to the next longer whole second, i.e. for the men's 20 km walk, 1:22:44.32 shall be recorded as 1:22:45. Times for all finishers shall be recorded. Interval times should also be recorded for the men's and women's 20 km races at 5 km, 10 km & 15 km; and for the men's 50 km race at 10 km, 20 km, 30 km & 40 km.

(14) Technical Meeting
Prior to the first day of competition, a Technical Meeting shall be held for the purpose of reviewing the technical aspects of the competition. Each team or federation entered in the competition are allowed a maximum of two (2)
INTRODUCTION

It is many years since the first IAAF ‘Guide for Walking Judges’ was published and in this time the sport of race walking has developed greatly.

This updated edition of the IAAF booklet on the judging and organisation of race walking follows on from the IAAF congress in Helsinki where changes to the regulations and organisation were agreed.

The International Race Walking Judges Panel now allows the leading race walking judges to experience high level international competitions. This new policy has helped the recruitment of new judges in the areas.

In the past few years it is encouraging to see how everyone has joined forces in a well coordinated effort to support race walking. A special thanks to the IAAF Council who have always supported changes to the organisation and judging of race walking events. A significant contribution to this success has been the appointment of assistants to the Chief Judge and Recorder for major championships which ensured improvement and continuity.

These achievements are the result of continuous work that has been carried out at all levels, including the IAAF MSD Educational Programme with the cooperation of the IAAF Race Walking Committee.

Personal experience, especially through direct involvement in race walking competitions at all levels, is essential to a judges panel aiming at ensuring the best control of a race walking competition while the judges’ periodical evaluation and education ensures that the contact with the evolution of the discipline is not lost. Furthermore the possibility for the judges to profit from increased acting opportunities is fundamental in ensuring the necessary continuity and the renovation of the different international panels, just like their participation to educational and evaluation courses and seminars.

This book is not only for judges – it is for athletes who should have some understanding of what the judge is looking for – it is for the coach who must seek every means possible to ensure his athlete walks fairly – and it is for the committed fan of athletics who seeks to improve even more his knowledge of the sport we all love.

(11) Drinking, Refreshment & Sponging Stations (10, 20 & 50 km)

Per IAAF Rule 230.9, drinking and sponging stations shall be provided at suitable intervals. They shall be located on the course so that they are easily accessible for the walkers. The best arrangement for the drinking station(s) is to have the drinking cups half full and placed on 3 foot tables. The walkers can then simply swing by the tables and seize the cups. Attendants keep the cups full and remove discarded cups from the course. A large trash barrel should be used to hold used cups. The best arrangement for the sponging station(s) is to have medium size sponges taken from large buckets of water by attendants and placed on 3 foot tables for easy reach by the walkers. Discarded sponges are picked up by the attendants and placed into a separate rinse bucket containing a light disinfectant.

Per IAAF Rule 230.7, refreshments, which may be provided either by the Organizing Committee or the athletes, shall be placed on tables that are identified with the athletes' country name (or 3 letter country code). They shall be placed so that they are easily accessible to, or may be put by authorized persons into the hands of the competitors. Athletics officials should be assigned the duty of supervising the refreshment station area to ensure that a maximum of two people from each country are stationed behind each country's refreshment table. Under no circumstances may someone run beside the walkers while giving out refreshments. Care should be taken while attendants pick up discarded bottles, etc. from the course in order not to interfere with the walkers.

(12) Computer Operations & Results

A computer software program should be used to generate a printout of race interval times and a final results summary. This should be done as soon as possible after each race. The final results printout should contain final times and placings for each athlete including disqualified athletes (DQ) and athletes who dropped out (DNF) listed last. If a team competition is part of the event, a separate calculated team results printout should be part of the results summary. In Race Walking Cup competitions, team scoring is as follows (Competition regulation 717.5, approved by IAAF Council in June 1998):

- Each race shall be scored separately
- Three competitors shall score in each race
- The team results shall be decided by the aggregate of places recorded by the scoring competitors of each team.
- The team with the lowest aggregate of points will be judged the winner. If a team fails to finish with a complete scoring team, the walkers finishing shall be counted as individuals in the race result.
(10) Finish Line Officials

Separate from the timing crew are start and finish line officials who handle the start of the race functions (assembling the walkers on the start line based on a random draw); and the challenging job of notifying each walker as to the correct laps remaining and when they are finishing. This last function is extremely important and requires close coordination with the Lap Counting Team. A spotter should be used to help with this task. As soon as the race leader(s) enter the last lap, this person will take up a position approximately 100 meters prior to the finish line. As the spotter reads the number of each walker he signals the number to the lap counting team. The use of walkie-talkies may help with this process. The appropriate lap counting supervisor then informs the finish line officials that this walker is either finishing or has laps remaining. A separate finishing lane should be marked off with cones to aid in separating those walkers who are finishing from those who have laps remaining.

Our thanks go to the members of the IAAF Walking Committee who have contributed with their helpful comments and guidance. This informed booklet will surely help to improve standards of judging, thereby improving walking competitions and the sport of race walking around the world.
RULE 230 - RACE WALKING

Definition of Race Walking

1. Race Walking is a progression of steps so taken that the walker makes contact with the ground, so that no visible (to the human eye) loss of contact occurs. The advancing leg shall be straightened (i.e. not bent at the knee) from the moment of first contact with the ground until the vertical upright position.

Judging

2. (a) The appointed judges of Race Walking shall elect a Chief Judge, if one has not been appointed previously.
   (b) All the Judges shall act in an individual capacity and their judgements shall be based on observations made by the human eye.
   (c) In competitions held under IAAF Rule 1(a), all Judges shall be International Race Walking Judges. In competitions held under IAAF Rule 1 (b) and (c), all Judges shall be either Area or International Race Walking Judges.
   (d) For road races, there should normally be a minimum of six to a maximum of nine Judges including the Chief Judge.
   (e) For track races, there should normally be six Judges including the Chief Judge.
   (f) In competitions held under IAAF Rule 1(a) not more than one Judge from any country can officiate.

Chief Judge

3. (a) In competitions held under Rule 1(a), (b), (c), (d), the Chief Judge has the power to disqualify an athlete inside the stadium when the race finishes in the stadium or in the last 100m when the race takes place solely on the track or on the road course, when his/her mode of progression obviously fails to comply with the paragraph 1 above regardless of the number of previous Red Cards the Chief Judge has received on that athlete. An athlete who is disqualified by the Chief Judge under these circumstances shall be allowed to finish the race.
   (b) The Chief Judge shall act as the supervising official for the competition, and act as a Judge only in the special situation noted in paragraph (a) above in competitions under IAAF Rule 185 RULE 230 1(a), (b), (c) and (d). In competitions held under IAAF Rule 1(a), (b) and (c), a maximum of two Chief Judge's Assistants shall be appointed. The Chief Judge's Assistant(s) are to assist with the notification of disqualifications only and shall not act as Race Walking Judges.
(9) Lap Counting Supervisor & Lap Counters

This is one of the most important technical assignments that directly affect the success of the competition. The lap counters should be located just prior (i.e. 50 meters) to the finish line. Each lap counter should be assigned a maximum of six (6) walkers (IAAF rule 131.1), preferably from the same country so the walkers are easier to identify. Each lap counter will record the cumulative time by lap on a recording sheet which lists each athlete by bib number. The Lap Counting Supervisor(s), one per five lap counters, will help identify the athletes for the counters if necessary. The Supervisors(s) will also be responsible for signalling to the finish line officials which walkers are finishing from those who have laps remaining.

(c) For all competitions held under IAAF Rule 1(a), (b) and (c), an official in charge of the Posting Board(s) and a Chief Judge's Recorder shall be appointed.

Caution

4. Athletes shall be cautioned when, by their mode of progression, they are in danger of failing to comply with paragraph 1 above by showing the athletes a yellow paddle with the symbol of the offence on each side. They cannot be given a second caution by one and the same Judge for the same offence. Having cautioned an athlete, the Judge shall inform the Chief Judge of his action after the competition.

Red Cards

5. When a Judge observes an athlete failing to comply with paragraph 1 above by exhibiting visible loss of contact or a bent knee during any part of the competition, the Judge shall send a Red Card to the Chief Judge.

Disqualification

6. (a) When three Red Cards from three different Judges have been sent to the Chief Judge, the athlete is disqualified and he shall be notified of this disqualification by the Chief Judge or a Chief Judge’s Assistant by showing the athlete a red paddle. The failure to give notification shall not result in the reinstatement of a disqualified athlete.

(b) In all competitions, either directly controlled by the IAAF or taking place under IAAF permit, in no circumstances shall the Red Cards of two Judges of the same nationality have the power to disqualify.

(c) In track races, an athlete who is disqualified shall immediately leave the track and, in road races, shall, immediately after being disqualified, remove the distinguishing numbers and leave the course. Any disqualified athlete who fails to leave the course or track may be liable to further disciplinary action in accordance with IAAF Rules 22.1(f) and 145.2. RULE 230 186.

(d) One or more Posting Boards shall be placed on the course and near the finish to keep athletes informed about the number of Red Cards that have been sent to the Chief Judge for each athlete. The symbol of each offence should also be indicated on the Posting Board.

(e) For all IAAF Rule 1(a) competitions, hand held computer devices with transmission capability must be used by the judges to communicate all Red Cards to the Recorder and the Posting Board(s).
The Start
7. The races shall be started by the firing of a gun. The commands and procedure for races longer than 400m shall be used (Rule 162.3). In races which include a large number of athletes, a five-minute warning before the start of the race should be given, with additional warnings if required.

Safety and Medical
8. (a) The Organising Committee of Race Walking events shall ensure the safety of athletes and officials. In competitions held under IAAF Rule 1(a), (b) and (c), the Organising Committee shall ensure that the roads used for the competition are closed to motorised traffic in all directions.
(b) In competitions held under IAAF Rule 1(a), (b) and (c), the events shall be scheduled to start and finish in daylight.
(c) A hands-on medical examination during the progress of an event by the medical staff appointed by the Organising Committee and identified by armbands, vests or similar distinctive apparel shall not be considered assistance.
(d) An athlete shall retire at once from the race if ordered to do so by the Medical Delegate or a member of the official medical staff.

Drinking/Sponging and Refreshment Stations
9. (a) Water and other suitable refreshments shall be available at the start and finish of all races.
(b) For all events up to and including 10km, drinking/sponging stations shall be provided at suitable intervals if weather conditions warrant such provision.
(c) For all events longer than 10km, refreshment stations shall be provided every lap. In addition, drinking/sponging stations for water only shall be placed approximately midway between the 187 RULE 230 refreshment stations or more frequently if weather conditions warrant such provision.
(d) Refreshments, which may be provided by either the Organising Committee or the athlete, shall be placed at the stations so that they are easily accessible to, or may be put by authorised persons into the hands of, the athletes.
(e) An athlete who collects refreshment from a place other than the refreshment stations renders himself liable to disqualification by the Referee.
(f) In competitions held under IAAF Rule 1(a), (b) and (c), a maximum of two officials per country may be stationed behind the refreshment table at any one time. No official shall, under any circumstances, run beside an athlete while he is taking refreshment.

(5) Judges’ Co-ordinator

This person is responsible for organizing the judging team including all judges, the Recorder, card collectors, etc. This includes providing the caution and disqualification paddles, red warning cards, judging summary sheets, individual judges’ record cards, and maps of the course.
This person should also arrange for the pre-race and post-race judges’ meetings.

(6) Card Collectors

Card collectors on bicycles are used on road courses to pick up the judges’ cards during each race. They are to take the cards immediately to the Recorder, who is usually stationed near the Warning Posting Board. Enough card collectors should be assigned to the competition to adequately cover the course in a timely manner. The maximum number would be one per judge with a minimum being half that number depending on the physical layout and length of the course. Special arrangements should be made to cover the return to the stadium part of the course.
Note: An electronic recording system has been developed to replace the bicycle system for IAAF Rule 1 (a) competitions, however the bicycle system will still be used for most other competitions.

(7) Judges & Recorder

The Judges for major international events are selected from the IAAF Panel of International Judges by the IAAF. Their duties, as well as those of the Recorder, are described in the section on Judging in this booklet.

(8) Warning Posting Board Operator & Assistant

He/she will be responsible for the operation of the Warning Posting Board during each race. This includes assuring that the board(s) are at the proper location on the course along with the necessary supplies (copies of athletes' numbers or black ink markers depending on the type of board used, red warning markers, table & chairs, etc.). The best location for the board is usually a short distance (i.e. 100 meters) before the finish line. During the races, the board operator works closely with the Recorder to assure the correct and timely posting of warnings on the board after the Recorder has recorded the proper information on the recording sheet.
(4) Course Security

Per IAAF Rule 230.8 (a), the course should be closed to spectators and vehicles just prior to the first race of the day. Barricades, ropes, cones, etc. should be used for this purpose. Marshals and police are used to further enforce the security of the course, adjacent warm-up areas, doping control area, etc. It is especially important to keep spectators and television vehicles from blocking the view of the judges and interfering with the walkers. Moving television cameras are only permitted on the course if on a vehicle that does not emit petrol fumes and kept in front or at the rear of the walkers. The finish area should also be kept clear of everyone except finish line officials. No one should be allowed to stand in front of the Warning Posting Board. The refreshment and drinking/sponging stations should be kept clear of everyone except the officials in charge of these areas.

Road Courses

10. (a) For competitions held under IAAF Rule 1(a), (b) and (c), the circuit shall be no longer than 2.5km and no shorter than 2km. For events that start and finish in the stadium, the circuit should be located as close as possible to the stadium.

(b) Road courses shall be measured in accordance with IAAF Rule 240.3.

Race Conduct

11. In events of 20km or more, an athlete may leave the road or track with the permission and under the supervision of an official, provided that by going off course he does not lessen the distance to be covered.

12. If the Referee is satisfied on the report of a Judge or Umpire or otherwise that an athlete has left the marked course thereby shortening the distance to be covered, he shall be disqualified.
All events should be scheduled at a time of day that avoids maximum temperature and extreme weather conditions. It is especially important for the health of the 50 km walkers to schedule this event early in the morning (i.e. 7 am).

(3) Course Diagram (Map)

The course map is an important tool used to educate everyone involved in the competition as to the location of all the key functional areas such as the drinking/sponging stations, start/finish line, toilets, medical services, etc. The map does not need to be drawn to scale but it should show the correct location of these technical functions. The map should be distributed to all competition officials, teams (coaches & athletes), press/media, etc. The map is also used during the Technical Meeting orientation discussions held prior to the competition.
INTERNATIONAL RACE WALK COMPETITIONS
MAJOR TECHNICAL ASSIGNMENTS/AREAS

(1) Course Selection & Measurement

The success of any international Race Walking competition is greatly dependent on
the proper selection and measurement of the course. IAAF Rule 230.10 (a) (b) is
the general requirement for the selection of the maximum course length for the
standard international distances of 10 km, 20 km and 50 km.

The following guidelines offer greater detail in the selection of suitable courses:

(a) All Race Walking courses should start and finish in the stadium if appropriate
(Olympic Games, World Athletics Championship, etc.) and physically
possible.

(b) An up and back course is only acceptable if held on a divided road wide
enough to prevent tight turns.

(c) A loop course is usually a better choice because it avoids the need for tight
turns but can present less viewing opportunities for the judges unless the loop
is reduced in size.

(d) The recommended distances for 10 km, 20 km & 50 km event courses is as
follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Loop Course</th>
<th>Up &amp; Back Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 km</td>
<td>1 km</td>
<td>1-1.5 km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 km</td>
<td>2 km</td>
<td>2-2.5 km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 km</td>
<td>2 km</td>
<td>2-2.5 km</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(e) The courses shall not be too steep in grade, especially downhill sections. The
road surface should be smooth and free from pot holes and loose gravel.

(f) Courses should not be located farther than 1 km from the stadium for the
Olympic Games and World Championships in Athletics.

(g) There should be adequate space along the course for medical, refreshment, and
sponging/drinking stations. Also space for lap counters, timekeepers, judges,
umpires and marshals should be made available.

All selected courses shall be measured in accordance with IAAF Rule 240.3 (b) by
an IAAF certified surveyor.

(2) Schedule of Events

According to IAAF Rule 230.8 (b), all Road Race Walking events shall be
scheduled to start at a time that ensures that the walkers start and finish in daylight.
necessary as there may be a need for an individual Judge to give evidence in cases of dispute.

(f) It should also be made clear that a Judge does not have to give a competitor a caution before he gives a warning.

The number of Judges required for races is as follows:

Indoors 200 metre track-up to five (including the Chief Judge).

Outdoors 400 metre track-up to six (including the Chief Judge).

Road Courses 2Km – 2.5Km course - depending on the size of the course, a minimum of six and a maximum of nine (including the Chief Judge).

As a guide, in track races, the Judges should be placed one on each bend and one/two in each straight. On a road circuit a similar system would be used. Should it be necessary for two Judges to travel from one point to another on the course, in the same car, it is imperative that they separate for the judging. In all races it is sound policy to have the Chief Judge and an adequate number of other Judges making their way to the finishing straight, or at least the last 100 metres. All judging is done on an individual basis and Judges must never be placed in pairs.

Number is added to the board underneath the last bib number displayed. Note that the bib numbers are NOT displayed in a numerical sequence BUT ordered according to the athletes that were first warned. That is to say that the bib numbers will remain in the same position on the board throughout the whole of that particular race (experience has shown that the athletes prefer to see their bib number displayed in the same position on the board, thus eliminating the need to “scan” the board in a short time).

iii. The Judge receives an acknowledgement.

iv. The results company is sent the validated information.

Leading group in the Men's 50km at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens

CONCLUSION

The Judge is as necessary in Race Walking as the Referee in Boxing or Football, i.e. it is his/her duty to control the event with impartiality and fairness. It is hoped that this booklet will help bring a greater understanding of the athletic event of Race Walking and, in particular, the correct procedures involved in Judging.
SUMMARY OF JUDGE'S DUTIES

(a) To be available at least 45 minutes prior to the scheduled start.
(b) To meet and elect a Chief Judge, if not otherwise decided, at least 30 minutes prior to the start.
(c) To follow the instructions received from the Chief Judge.
(d) To caution a competitor who is in danger of breaking the rules and to record that caution.
(e) To warn the competitor for breaking the rules.
(f) To complete the Judging Card accurately and to pass it on to the Chief Judge or Recorder.
(g) To report to the Chief Judge after the event and confirm that all red cards have been received.
(h) To be available after the race to answer any questions from the Chief Judge.

Control point

At the control point, the “data collector” will automatically log and time stamp ALL data that is received from the Judges and will then:
(a) Check to verify that the bib number is valid. If not, then an error message is sent to the Judge’s terminal that originally sent the data. If the proposal for disqualification is a duplicate from that Judge, then no error message is given. However, the information is logged but not acted upon.
(b) If the information received is valid, then:
   i. A “RED CARD” is printed at the control point.
   ii. The Warning Posting Board is updated by adding a * to the respective bib number on the board. If it is the first * for an athlete, then the athlete’s Yellow caution paddles and Red disqualification paddle

Judges' hand-held terminal (Photo Luis Saladie)
JUDGING POSITION

A Judge should take up positions which present a clear viewing of the legs of the competitors. In a track event, the ideal position is in the outside lanes where the raised inner kerb will not block the view of the competitor’s feet. For a road event, the Judge should, if possible, move to a position where he/she can clearly see the contact with the surface of the road. Another good judging position is at an angle of 45 degrees from the competitor as he or she is moving towards the Judge.

The key danger areas, where a competitor is especially likely to be illegal, are:

(a) during the acceleration at the start,
(b) while passing another walker,
(c) during the finishing sprint, and
(d) in the middle of a group.

ROAD JUDGING POSITIONS

The judging positions indicated below are recommended for a 2km or 2.5km circuit course requiring eight Judges to cover the race adequately. The specific number of Judges to properly judge the course depends upon the course layout. The Judges are indicated by numbers 1-8 and Chief Judge.

The road areas that are very important to observe are:
1. Turn arounds
2. Hill areas
3. Sharp turns
4. Aid and refreshment areas.

ELECTRONIC DATA COLLECTION AND WARNING POSTING BOARD

For all IAAF Rule 1 (a) competitions, hand held computer devices with transmission capability must be used by the judges in communicating all warnings to the Recorder and electronic Warning Posting Board(s).

The system comprises:
(a) Qty: 8 hand held terminals for use by the Judges. These are linked by a 3 pair cable to each other and then back to the data collector computer.
(b) A Warning Posting Board (DQ Board).
(c) A “RED CARD” printer.
(d) A computer that acts as a “Data Collector”.

Description of operation

Each Race Walking Judge, at his/her position on the course, has access to a hand held terminal. This terminal, normally operated by the Judge’s secretary, enables the Judge's proposal for disqualification (red card) to be electronically transmitted to the control point.

Judge's terminal

The judge’s secretary enters;
(a) The Judge’s number (1 —8)
(b) The competitor’s bib number, up to a maximum of 4 digits.
(c) The warning type:
   i. bent knee
   ii. loss of contact
(d) Confirmation of the details already entered.

This information is then transmitted to the data collector situated at the control point, where the details are checked for accuracy.
Warning Posting Boards: manual and electronic

Race Walking Circuit 2004 Olympic Games Athens
DO’S AND DON’TS OF JUDGING

(a) If in doubt, give the benefit to the competitor.
(b) Do not believe that the proof of a good Judge lies in how many competitors he warns. A good Judge can assist more competitors to finish by judicial use of a caution before an infringement of the rules takes place.
(c) If you form an opinion, act on it immediately.
(d) When cautioning a competitor, make sure he or she sees your sign.
(e) Do not judge from a moving vehicle.
(f) Remember, what a competitor may do today may not be what he/she does next time. If a competitor is disqualified today, do not pre-judge him/her for the next race.
(g) Do not discuss the competition with outside opinions – make your own decision.
(h) Avoid getting into conversations during the race with other Judges. You are required to act independently.
(i) Do not take active interest in the positions or placing of members of any particular team.
(j) Do not convey to any competitor information as to the progress of the race.
(k) Act impartially.
(l) Mark your red card clearly when making a warning, so there is no confusion when received by the Chief Judge or Recorder.
(m) In track races, judge from the outside position where possible.
(n) Do not let your judging become unprofessional by running alongside the competitor.
(o) Do not judge by lying down on the track or road.
(p) Do not use your mobile phone during the competition.

THE WARNING POSTING BOARD

The purpose of the board is, primarily, to keep competitors informed about the number of red warning cards that have been handed in to the Recorder for each competitor.

In practice, the board can only be used on a lap course or track where the board can be placed in such a position that all competitors can easily see the board and read what is on the board each time he or she passes.

The structure of the board is simple: a column or series of columns of competitors’ numbers, each with three blank spaces beside the number. The board must be placed in a position readily accessible to the Chief Judge’s Recorder and where the whole board and the contents can be seen easily by all competitors. As red cards are received by the Recorder, and after they have been cleared by the Chief Judge and entered on the Judging Summary Sheet, a red mark is placed in the first blank space beside the offending competitor’s number. When the second card comes in on that particular competitor, a second red mark is placed in the second space, and so on. When three red marks appear against a competitor's number it means that the competitor has been disqualified. Instead of a red mark the symbol of the offence may be shown.

The size of the board is determined by the number of competitors. It is ideal to have all competitors’ numbers displayed on the board prior to the start and in numerical order, so that competitors know where to look. With very large fields, however, it is better to work the board by putting up numbers only when red cards come in (i.e. if a competitor's number is not on the board, no red cards have been received for that competitor).

The boards must be completed by the Recorder, or by an assistant appointed to carry out that duty.
SUMMARY OF THE DUTIES OF THE RECORDER

(a) Collect the Judges' red cards and record the information on the Judging Summary Sheet.
(b) Notify the Warning Posting Board operator of warnings.
(c) Immediately notify the Chief Judge when three red cards from three different Judges have been handed in.

THE CHIEF JUDGE

The first task of the Chief Judge is to ensure that he/she has everything required to carry out his/her pre-race and race duties. Before the race, the course must be examined with suitable positions found for each Judge. Judges' Record Cards, Judges' red cards and Judging Summary Sheets must be prepared.

The Judging Panel must be informed of the important technical aspects of the event, especially those that affect judging. This is done at a suitable time before the race, allowing sufficient time for Judges to take up their positions prior to the start of the race. Each judge should be given a number, which will correspond to his/her position on the race course. This number will also help identify each Judge on his/her red cards and on the Judging Summary Sheet.

Each Judge should be supplied with a map of the course and the officials involved in the Race Walking event. All Judges should be prepared with their necessary equipment, i.e. uniform, badge or arm band, record cards, red cards, caution symbols, and a suitable pen or pencil. In inclement weather, they should also have the means of keeping themselves and their documentation dry.

The Judges should be introduced to the Recorder and card collectors if used and know the location of the Recorder during the race. The Chief Judge should then report to the Referee to confirm that all is in order with his or her panel.

Normally, the Chief Judge will position himself/herself, during the race, at or near the finish line, particularly on a lapped course. Much will depend on the type of communication system the Chief Judge will have between himself/herself and the other Judges.

There are several ways in which communication between the Chief Judge and Judges can be carried out. Without any doubt, the important factor is the delivery of warning cards between the Judges and the Recorder. This must be done with the utmost speed. Nothing is worse than having to disqualify a competitor after he has crossed the finish line. The most effective means of communication is with the Chief Judge and Recorder in a fixed position, with each individual Judge having a runner/cyclist to deliver the cards to the Recorder as they are filled out. After delivering the cards to the Recorder, the "runners" should return immediately to the individual Judge. On receipt of the red card, the Recorder must first examine the card to see that it is correctly completed. If the card is not correct, as to the athlete number, time, violation indication, and identification of the Judge, it should be returned to the Judge from whom it came. No action should be taken by the Chief Judge until a correct card is received.
Having checked that a red card has been filled in correctly, the Recorder will enter the information on the Judging Summary Sheet. The Recorder will immediately inform the Chief Judge when three red cards are recorded against any particular competitor. The Chief Judge must then, at the earliest possible moment, disqualify that competitor.

Before making the decision to disqualify, the Chief Judge should receive the cards (at least three) back from the Recorder to check the following points:

1. All cards are correctly completed.
2. All cards are for the same competitor.
3. No two cards are from the same Judge.

As the competitor to be disqualified approaches the Chief Judge, the Chief Judge should make his actions clear by holding the red DQ sign at shoulder height in front of the offending competitor. Care should be taken not to obstruct other competitors.

Immediately after the race, as soon as the Chief Judge is satisfied that no further cards will be coming to the Recorder, he or she should check the Judging Summary Sheet with the Recorder, and report all disqualifications to the Referee. The result of the race should not be declared final until this has happened.

Shortly after the race, the Chief Judge and the other Judges should meet to discuss the race. The Judges' record cards and unused red cards should be collected, and a check carried out to ensure that no red cards have been mislaid. It is advisable to have all red cards numbered consecutively before a race; then, after the race, an easy check can be conducted to confirm that no cards are missing.

In competitions held under Rule 1 (a), (b), (c), (d), the Chief Judge has the power to disqualify a competitor from the circuit to the stadium and inside the stadium when the race finishes in the stadium, or in the last 100m when the race takes place solely on the track or on the road course, when his/her mode of progression obviously fails to comply with paragraph 1 of Rule 230, regardless of his/her having received previous warnings.

In competitions held under IAAF Rule 1 (a), (b) and (c), a maximum of two Chief Judge's Assistants may be appointed by the Local Organising Committee after consultation with the Chief Judge and the Technical Delegates. The Chief Judge's Assistant(s) are to assist with the notification of disqualifications only and shall not act as Race Walking Judges.
RECORDER

The Recorder is vital to the Chief Judge, especially during a major race. The main functions of the Recorder are to receive all cards from the Judges and to record them on the race Judging Summary Sheet. The Recorder informs the Chief Judge when a competitor has received three red cards from three different Judges. The Recorder should show the three (or more) red cards when informing the Chief Judge of the disqualification. The Chief Judge should not discuss the competition with the Recorder.

The race Judging Summary Sheet is the official score sheet of the judging of the race. Accuracy is essential. The Recorder need not be a qualified Judge, but it is helpful. At the end of the race, the individual Judges' record cards are collected and all cautions are recorded separately on the Judging Summary Sheet. It is important to indicate the time of each red card. All Judges should receive a copy of the Judging Summary Sheet.
(a) Conduct a pre-race meeting to assign the Judges to their respective judging areas and explain the judging procedure to be used during the race.
(b) Make sure all the Judges have correct judging materials.
(c) If using Chief Judge's Assistants to assist with the notification of disqualifications, assign them to strategic positions on the course and make sure they are in constant communication with the Chief Judge and Recorder during the race. When a Chief Judge's Assistant notifies a disqualified competitor, this information must be communicated as soon as possible to the Recorder and Chief Judge.
(d) Work closely with the Recorder to ensure that all red cards are completed and recorded correctly.
(e) Notify competitors of their disqualification as soon as possible, after verifying that three separate red cards from three separate Judges have been recorded.
(f) Ensure that the Warning Posting Board is used correctly during the race. The third red card should be posted on the board even if the Chief Judge has not notified the athlete of his/her disqualification.
(g) Sign the summary sheet and check with the Referee of the race to ensure that the official results are correct.
(h) Conduct a post-race meeting of the Judging Panel to review the race, present the Judging Summary Sheets for analysis and discuss any problems.
(i) A report of the competition which includes as a minimum, the Judging Summary Sheets and Judges' evaluation form, should be sent to the headquarters of the appropriate governing body (i.e. IAAF for IAAF Rule 1 (a) Competitions).