

Umpires



The Rule “Officials of the Competition”, mentions “one Chief Umpire” and an adequate number of Umpires. His role must be explained, as this is not done in the Rules:

- He is the assistant of the Track Referee.
- He indicates the place for and co-ordinates the work and reports of each Umpire.

The charts on the following pages indicate where the Umpires (subject always to the number available) should be placed for the following events: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, distance events, Steeplechase, Hurdles and Relays.

For the races above 800m, a few Umpires should be placed around the track in order to make sure that no athlete jostles another athlete or impedes his progress.

When the events take place on a synthetic track, it is necessary to provide the Umpires with sticky tape so that they can mark the track correctly where a fault has taken place – although the Rules now acknowledge that this may be done in others ways.

It must be understood that the diagrams on the next pages describe one possibility. It is up to the Meeting Manager to select as many judges as possible for the duty of Umpire, according to the importance of the meeting, the number of entries and the number of officials present at the time.

If necessary, it is advised, when the relays take place at the end of the meeting, to gather all the officials who have, at that time, finished their other duties to take on the tasks of Umpires.

Indication of an infringement

We must remember that the Umpires are assistants to the Referee who, after studying the facts, will take the decision. When the Umpires observe an infringement, they indicate the fact by raising a yellow flag or by any other reliable means approved by the Technical Delegate which alerts the Chief Umpire and the Track Referee. Note that the failure to report an infringement in a particular way (or at all) does not prevent a valid disqualification being made.











