

INSTRUCTIONS TO HEAD JAVELIN EVENT JUDGE

Updated February 2025

LEGAL IMPLEMENTS:

1. Javelins shall be constructed of metal or other suitable material with a rubber tip. A whipcord binding shall be placed around the shaft at the center of gravity. The outer diameter of the binding shall not exceed the shaft diameter immediately forward of the binding by more than eight millimeters. Wrapping the whipcord binding with tape is prohibited. *Metal point/tip javelin implements are not legal for SDHSAA use.*
2. Specifications
 - a. Overall length of rubber tip = 35-77 millimeters
 - b. Diameter at front of tip = 14-35 millimeters
 - c. Thickness at front of rubber tip = 5 millimeters MINIMUM
 - d. Minimum weight = 600 grams (Girls), 800 grams (Boys)
 - e. Overall Length = 220-230 centimeters (Girls), 260-270 (Boys)

THROWING SECTORS MUST BE CORDED OFF: No spectators allowed downfield or along the sides of the vector along any point such that the implement could land.

COMPETITOR CHECK-IN: Check in competitors early enough so warm-ups can be completed prior to the scheduled start of competition. Competitors must check in themselves. Coaches, student managers or other contestants may not check other athletes in for their events.

UNIFORM CHECK:

1. Must be a school-issued top (sleeves or sleeveless) and bottom. One-piece bodysuits are also legal. Shoes must be worn.
2. Sweat outfits, when worn in competition, shall have no markings other than that of the school the contestant is representing. Sweat outfits should only be worn under adverse weather conditions.
3. If the official(s) in charge rules that the uniform is illegal during the pre-event meeting, the athlete must remove the apparel before s/he is permitted to begin competition. Refusal to remove apparel that is ruled illegal shall constitute disqualification.
4. In an individual event, it is too late to disqualify a competitor for a uniform violation after the competition has been completed.
5. Gloves may not be worn.
6. Meet management may approve footwear other than track shoes to be worn for the Javelin event.

TAPING: Tape may be used on the hand and fingers provided that no two fingers are taped together. The tape may be continuous and connect to the wrist, but all fingers must be able to move independently. A wrist wrap used in lieu of tape is acceptable and is not considered an artificial aid, provided there are no hard pieces in the wrap to keep the wrist stiff. Gloves are not permitted; however, a support belt may be worn.

NUMBERS: Each competitor is to wear a paper number (when numbers are used) pinned to the front of the jersey. Any special issued uniforms within a squad must have a number affixed to the front of the jersey also. PENALTY for not wearing a jersey with a competitor's number or wearing a jersey with an incorrect number at the State Track and Field Meet shall be a one-point team deduction.

PRACTICE:

1. Permit practice throw prior to the start of competition provided prior approval from meet management; none after competition starts. Contestants may continue to warm-up outside of competition area without an implement. Warming up without prior meet management approval and a coach or event official at the venue shall lead to a warning, and if repeated, disqualification from the event.
2. Warm-up approaches, in horizontal jumps, pole vault or javelin shall only be run in the direction the event will be conducted.

FLIGHTS OR PROCEDURES: (Preliminaries = three trials, Finals = three additional trials)

1. Conduct Preliminaries in flights of no less than five competitors in the order in which the contestants are listed (worst to best). At the State Meet, flights in the Prelims will be separated into two groups, with the first group taking two attempts before the second group begins (1-2-3-4-1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-5-6-7-8-1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8).
2. A five-minute warm-up will be permitted between flights.
3. The nine best competitors will qualify for the Finals. All competitors tying for the last position shall be finalists. In the Finals, competition shall be in the reverse order of performance, in single rotation or more than one trial at a time, so that the best qualifier will compete last. Each competitor is entitled to three attempts in the Finals.
4. Award eight places.

TIME: Competitors have one minute to initiate a purposeful action of completing the requirements of a trial. The competitor must indicate a desire to pass immediately after their name has been called.

GRIP: The competitor may hold the javelin at the end of the cord grip even though one or more fingers/thumb touch the javelin shaft. In gripping the javelin, the thumb and forefinger/middle finger of the throwing hand may touch the shaft behind the grip.

SECTOR: The throwing sector into which the javelin must fall is the area defined by extending radii through the two intersections of the arc with the runway lines and a midpoint between the runway lines and 26'3" from the foul line.

FOULS: It is a foul if a competitor:

- a. Makes a 360-degree turn before the javelin is released
- b. Uses a delivery other than an over-arm, above-the-shoulder motion of the throwing area
- c. Throws the javelin so it does not fall within the sector lines
- d. Touches on or over either the runway lines or on or over the foul line arc before the throw has landed
- e. Fails to hold the javelin by the whipcord grip

- f. Exits the runway before the implement has landed
- g. Fails to exit the runway behind the foul line arc and the perpendicular side extensions after the javelin has landed
- h. Fails to initiate purposeful action of completing the requirements of the trial within one minute after the competitor's name has been called

MEASUREMENT:

- 1. Mark each good throw in a flight. The mark is to be made from the point where the javelin first breaks ground to the foul line.
- 2. Measurement is to be to the **nearest less inch or centimeter.**
- 3. Marks made in the Preliminaries stand throughout the competition.

RECORDS: Call head field judge to witness measurement of record and to attest to them on the judge's sheet.

BREAKING TIES:

ART. 2...When there is a tie at any distance or height of a field event, places and points scores shall be awarded as follows:

- a. For places determined by distance:
 - 1. If the distance resulting from the best performance of competitors is identical, the higher place is awarded to the tying competitor whose second-best performance (from either Preliminaries or Finals) is better.
 - 2. If after (1) the tie remains, the higher place is awarded to the tied competitor whose third-best performance is better than the third-best performance of any tied competitor, etc.

ART. 4...If there is a tie by any number of competitors for any scoring places, the points for the tied places shall be added together and divided by the number of competitors who are involved in the tie.

GUIDELINES FOR A COMPETITOR EXCUSED TO COMPETE IN ANOTHER EVENT:

- 1. Athlete, not coach or other team personnel, must receive permission from event judge.
- 2. Judge must record time excused and indicate to the competitor what time they are expected back for their next trial.
- 3. Judge may allow competitor to take a trial out of turn before being excused.
- 4. Judge will use some judgement in extending the time excused under special circumstances, i.e. 3200 Meter Run, re-runs, injury, etc.
- 5. In the Finals, competitors are permitted to take more than one trial at a time during their normal rotation.

“EVENT CLOSED” SIGNS MUST BE USED AFTER EVENT COMPLETION: Sign judge's sheet and turn it in to headquarters booth. If no other event to conduct, also return clipboard(s).

HELP RESOURCES: Please refer to your Track & Field Rules Book for further assistance. If you run into a problem that you cannot handle, call the Field Referees.