

SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR OFFICIATING HIGH SCHOOL JAVELIN

SAFETY PROCEDURE:

Safely officiating the Javelin event begins with the weigh-in of the implement. The Games Committee may authorize the Javelin inspection to be done at the site by the event judge and not necessarily at the implement inspector's shot and discus weigh-in table. A pre-marked board or table with legal dimensions will expedite the inspection process. A one-page inspection guideline sheet is available in the 2017 MSHSAA Track and Field Manual (Page 19) or you may refer to the 2017 NFHS Track and Field Rules Book 6-8-2 (Page 58).

WARM UP PROCEDURE:

As the athletes check in, they should be informed as to the procedure that you will be using for safe warm up. One of the proven methods is to use the sector lines that are already in place for the event. The general warm ups should always be under the supervision of one of the event judges while another judge is inspecting implements. The athletes should line up on one sector line and all throw toward the opposite sector line with a short throw. Once all athletes have executed their throw, the athletes will be signaled (by flag, verbal or whistle) to walk over to the opposite sector line and retrieve their implement on the way. The athletes should line up to await the signal from the supervisor to throw back to the other sector line. This procedure should be repeated until the initial warm up period is over. Keep in mind that the athletes may join or leave the warm-up at any time. Be alert for the athlete that wants to wander off in a different direction to warm up. **A javelin should never be thrown without proper supervision.**

COMPETITION:

After the initial short throw general warm-up period using the sector lines, the runway will be open for the athletes to throw as far as they want within the sector lines.

- A supervisor should be at the foul line to monitor all throws and to make sure that the landing area is clear before the next throw.
- The supervisor should carry a red and white flag and step in the middle of the runway near the foul line until all is clear.
- The use of alternating retrievers on each side of the foul line extended will expedite the warm-up period.
- Never throw an implement back to the athlete; always carry it.
- The Head Judge should select a neutral spot where all implements are to be kept until needed for competition.
- The Games Committee may authorize that the javelins will not be pooled after inspection, and that during competition the javelins can be used only by the owner or by permission of the owner.
- A reminder to the Games Committee that the javelin shall follow the same flight guidelines as the other throws competition with a minimum of five (5) per flight or all in one flight if the group is not too large.
- When several flights are being utilized, each flight shall have a certain period of alternating warm up throws in the runway.
- The Games Committee has the authority to set the starting time of the event, which could be before or after all other field events.
- Having enough qualified judges sometimes presents a problem, and they may have to double up on a couple field events.
- When the finals begin, the measurements shall follow rule 6-9-12 (Page 60).
- The measurements shall be from the nearest edge of the first point of contact made by the javelin to the point on the inside edge of the circumference of the arc nearest such contact and in line with the center of the circle 26 feet, three (3) inches behind the arc.
- Measurements shall be recorded to the nearest **LESSER** inch.