POLE VAULT OFFICIALS

• The minimum number of officials required to run the Pole Vault is four (4) ideally.

DUTIES OF OFFICIALS

CHIEF JUDGE 1
• Allocate Officials to the various positions
• Supervise the preparation of the area regarding safety, equipment and define the competition area
• Ensure that the facility complies with the rules of competition
• Prior to the commencement of competition, provide an outline of the rules of the event to the competitors and define the competition area
• Determine the starting height of the bar and advise the athletes
• Rule on the validity of the trial and indicate a fair vault with a white flag and a foul vault with a red flag (flags optional)
• Advise the athlete the reason for the foul
• Measure the bar on commencement and as it is raised and announce the new height to the competitors

OFFICIAL 2 Recorder
• Call up the competitors and record the results. In marking the sheet a vault is recorded as follows;
  A clear vault shall be indicated as a “O”
  A failure shall be indicated as a “X”
  A vault not taken (pass) shall be indicated as a “-“

• Repeat the measurement called by the Chief Judge to ensure the measurement recorded is correct
• All attempts must be recorded
  - Recorder records all decisions taken, or instructions given, by the Chief Judge. These notes must be accessible during and after the competition for reference.
• Time the trial and indicate with a yellow flag when the last fifteen (15) seconds of the allowed one (1) minute or longer, in accordance with the rules of competition, remain for that trial

OFFICIALS 3 and 4
• Stand well away from the uprights during trials to avoid distracting the competitors but in line with the plane of the uprights
• Replace the bar as required
  – Check the take off

SAFETY
• Ensure that the run way is inspected for foreign objects prior to the event commencing
• All athletes are to be advised to vault so that they land in the centre of the landing area
Pole Vault Officials’ Duties

Check in at Meet Site
- Get Score sheet(s) for HJ competition and ribbons (in the event package)
- Get measuring tape
- Find out who is the Field Referee
- Coaches and Officials Meeting ---- Get meet information
- Confer with Field Referee or Meet Convenor---Opening heights for boys/girls

Equipment List
- Event Package containing competitor list, officials'notes, award ribbons
- Clipboard
  · Rule Book (These notes)
  · Pens/Pencils
  · White Athletic Tape / Duct Tape
  · Tape Measure
  · Stop watch and Regular watch
  · Plastic bag (for clip board in case of inclement weather)
  · Small Step ladder (if you CANNOT comfortably reach 7’)
- Broom to sweep area
- Folding chair , umbrella
- Appropriate Apparel for the weather--- raingear, hat, sunblock ...

Inspect Area
- Runway and planting box
- Check that all equipment is in good order
- Landing pads , pad cover, standards, crossbar, Are the mats and cover secure?
- Are the surrounding hard surfaces covered with at least 2” of dense foam or suitable materials? - Does it meet specified dimensions? (Rule 7, Sect 5, Art 8)
- Check surrounding area for obstacles and remove, Look for dangerous conditions
- Sweep debris from the area
- Check crossbar (make sure it is straight) Check with Field Referee for alternate
- Coaches / Spectators sufficiently clear of area
- Measure initial starting height on standards and crossbar (middle of crossbar / lowest point).
- One face of the crossbar should be marked for identification to ensure it is placed on the standards in exactly the same position for every attempt.

- Report any problems to the field referee / meet director

Check in the competitors
- Check for any athlete who may be at a track event at check in and any who may have to interrupt their attempts to go to a track event
- DNS beside name of any competitors who do not check in.
- There should be no write-in athletes or substitutions unless they appear with a signed sheet.
**Check in competitors' poles**

- Athletes name – athletes weight – pole(s) being used
- Check for coaches signature
- Check pole markings

* newer poles – use the factory labels

**Before Competition begins**, call athletes together and review the rules

- Proper Uniform
- Opening heights - verify the height the athlete will enter the competition
- Clarify the event rules---Number of vaults (Preliminary / Zone Meet)
- Must begin their attempt 60 seconds after being called
  - Track events take precedence - allow up to ten minutes after the completion of the track event. Shift the order but athlete must join into the round that is in progress (the athlete may miss the round(s) however:
  - Athletes must report before the final trial in the third round to be eligible to compete in the event. (OFSAA rule) To place in the Pole Vault a competitor must have had at least one successful vault.

### STARTING HEIGHTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOYS</th>
<th>GIRLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midget</td>
<td>1.70 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>1.75 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>1.80 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Midget</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.50 M</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Junior</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.55 M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.60 M</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The chief Pole Vault judge may modify the starting heights with the approval of the field referee or meet convenor. Raising the bar increments can be predetermined and announced to the athletes. The bar should never be raised by less than 5 cm after each round. The increment of the raising of the bar should never increase. **Suggestion:** Survey the competitors to determine the starting height and how much the bar should be raised. When only one competitor remains in the competition, the competitor may determine successive heights of the crossbar.

- Competitors may have the uprights, or supports, moved not more than 40 cm in the direction of the runway or not more than 80 cm to the landing area

- Each competitor is allowed a maximum of three trials at any one height.
- All of the competitor’s body must go over the bar.
- A competitor is eliminated when they have had three consecutive unsuccessful trials at the one height at which the trials were attempted.
- Competitors may use all three trials or may elect to pass a height and take the remaining trial or trials at a subsequent height.
- The decision to pass a trial must be communicated to the chief judge before the clock is started.

- A competitor may place two markers alongside the runway.
**Fouls (Failed attempts if)**

i) The competitor touches the ground, including the landing area, without first clearing the bar beyond the plane through the upper part of the stop board, either between or outside the uprights, with any part of his/her body or pole, whether running up without jumping or in the act of jumping.

ii) After the jump, the bar does not remain on the supports because of the action of the competitor whilst jumping.

iii) After leaving the ground the athlete places his/her lower hand above the upper one or moves the upper hand higher on the pole.

iv) During the jump the athlete replaces deliberately with his/her hands or fingers the bar, which is about to fall off the supports.

v) The athlete touches the pole unless it is falling away from the bar or uprights. If the pole is touched and the Judges’ opinion is that the bar should have been knocked off, the vault shall be recorded as a failure.

**Ties (Tie Breaking Criteria)**

1. Fewest number of attempts at which tie occurs
2. Next, fewest number of total misses up to the height of the tie
   - **passes do not count as misses**
   - If first place is tied – vault –off
   - Other than first – same places---split the points

**ONL Y 5 TO ADVANCE TO SOSSA FROM ZONE** (tie breaking criteria applies for 5th)

**Vault Off for 1st place**

- 1 more attempt at last height
- Lower the bar 2 cm – 1 attempt until winner is determined
- If 2 or more clear ‘lowered bar’
- raise bar 2cm – 1 attempt until winner is determined
  - A competitor's best vault can come during a vault-off

The winner of the tie breaker does not continue jumping.

**Measurement**

- One face of the crossbar should be marked for identification to ensure it is placed on the standards in exactly the same position for every attempt.
- Measurements are recorded to the nearest lesser centimetre.
- Measure from the takeoff level to the lowest point on the upper side of the crossbar
- For a record attempt, measure before and after each attempt

**At Meet Conclusion**

- Verify results with other event officials
- Gather competitors and announce places and award ribbons(Zone)
- Finalize by signing score sheet
- Clean up area of tape marks , and litter
- Give results to Results Processing Desk for computer entry, scoring
Zone and Preliminary Meet Specifics on the last page
Pole Vault OFFICIALS
PRELIMINARY MEET and ZONE CHAMPIONSHIP

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Record something for every athlete listed on the sheet and every round.

There should be no write-in athletes or substitutions unless they appear with a signed sheet. Contact the Convenor if there appears to be a problem with the entries.

If the athlete did not show put DNS beside their name.

Athletes involved in track events must check in at the field event and then go to the track event. They may be given a round or vault before they leave but they must not miss the track event or they will be considered a no show and be ineligible for competition for the rest of the day. They may return to the field event when they have completed the track event but they join in at the height or round that the event is at.

If the athlete shows and says they are scratching caution them that they are ineligible to compete for the rest of the day in all events if they do scratch. If they decide to scratch anyway make a note on the sheet beside their name and indicate with a SCR.

Indicate a Fault with an (X), a Clear with an (O), a Pass with a (-).

Sixteen(16) athletes advance from Preliminary to Zone. In the case of ties make sure that you have not qualified more than sixteen(16) athletes. Check with the field referee if necessary about tie breaking procedures. To place in the Pole Vault a competitor must have had at least one successful vault. Survey the competitors to determine and set lowest vault height so that each competitor has at least one successful attempt.

Five (5) athletes advance from Zone to SOSSA. In the case of ties make sure that you have not qualified more than five athletes. If the athletes are tied you must use the criteria above break the ties.

Return your official sheets for computer entry as soon as possible after the completion of your event.

Thank you for your commitment and participation as an official. AA