

# NFHS Track & Field

## 2013 Track and Field and Cross Country Rules Interpretations

Tuesday, February 05, 2013

**Publisher's Note:** The National Federation of State High School Associations is the only source of official high school interpretations. They do not set aside nor modify any rule. They are made and published by the NFHS in response to situations presented.

Robert B. Gardner, Publisher, NFHS Publications ©2013

**Corrections to Rules Book:** Page 4, Editorial Changes, ~~3-19-2~~, 4-4-3 to 4-3-3, add 7-2-8, ~~7-4-10~~ to 7-2-8, Example, ~~7-4-16~~ to 7-4-14, ~~7-6-9~~; Page 25, 4-3-1,2 PENALTY, ...of the competitor's violation and warning or disqualification; Page 37, 5-7-5, ...~~contestants~~ competitors by firing...; Page 56, 7-4-14d, (See 7-2-510)

**Corrections to Case Book and Manual:** Page 4, 4.3.1, COMMENT ...~~elects~~ elicits a warning; Page 6, 7.5.19 SITUATION C. delete; Page 69, 7.2.8 SITUATION, RULING: ...followed by Nos. ~~5 and 6~~ to 6 and 7; Page 82, 7.5.21 SITUATION A, COMMENT: Gloves are prohibited in ~~all field events~~ the shot put, (throwing hand) discus, javelin and relays,...

**SITUATION 1:** The head coach of Team B desires to file a protest regarding the 300 intermediate hurdles. The coach discovers there is no meet referee, so he wants the protest to go to the jury of appeals. **RULING:** Incorrect procedure. A meet referee must always be designated prior to the start of the meet. **COMMENT:** In this situation, the starter will serve as the meet referee. No protest should go to the jury of appeals first. (3-4)

**SITUATION 2:** A competitor from Team A is observed wearing an illegal uniform during a running event. This same competitor violated the uniform rule earlier in the meet in the long jump and received a warning by the head event judge just prior to competing in the running event. The head event judge reported the violation and warning to the referee and the coach was to be notified. The head coach protested that the competitor could not be disqualified as the coach had not yet been notified of the warning by the referee. **RULING:** Correct procedure by referee and the protest is denied. **COMMENT:** The rule and resulting penalty require the competitor be warned on the first offense, and for a second offense, he/she shall be disqualified. The head coach should be informed of the violation; but if the coach is not informed prior to a second violation, this would not nullify the penalty and the disqualification. Prior to the start of the meet, the meet referee and host management should confirm the communication process that will be followed between the referee and the other officials from the various field event venues, and how the meet referee will inform the coaches and competitor(s) who are involved in a violation. (4-3-1,2 Penalty)

**SITUATION 3:** A contestant in the shot put wants to use a shot put that exceeds the minimum weight requirement in Rule 6-5-2. The throwing implement meets all other rules requirements. This implement will only be used in warm-ups. **RULING:** Legal, providing all other requirements of the shot

put are met, unless prohibited by the games committee. **COMMENT:** The shot put weight requires a minimum weight to be legal, but has no maximum weight. (6-2-17, 6-5-2)

**SITUATION 4:** If a competitor in any event is observed by the appropriate official to be in an illegal uniform, can he/she just take the warning and go ahead and compete? **RULING:** No. **COMMENT:** The penalty states if the illegal uniform is observed and noted prior to competition, he/she shall make it legal with no delay of the meet. If this cannot be accomplished, the competitor shall not compete. If the event is in progress when the violation is observed and noted, then the warning is issued following that heat, trial, etc. (4-3-1,2, Penalties)

**SITUATION 5:** In a two-day meet, Competitor A receives a warning for an illegal uniform on the first day of competition. On the second day of competition, Competitor A reports for his/her first event in an illegal uniform and cannot make it legal before the competition begins. The referee disqualifies Competitor A from that event. **RULING:** Correct procedure. **COMMENT:** Unless state association policy modifies the penalty, the penalty applies to the meet regardless of the number of days scheduled for that single meet. (4-3-1,2, Penalties)