



POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

2025-26



OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD COMMITTEE

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Questions or suggestions regarding this manual should be directed to the Outdoor Track Committee through the Executive Director.

All schools must be aware of the NHIAA By-Laws and Policies relative to Outdoor Track which are published annually in the “NHIAA Handbook” as well as the rules of competition published by the National Federation of State High School Associations.

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Track and Field and Cross Country NFHS Rules Changes



2026 Track and Field Rules Changes

- 3-2-3k (NEW)** Permits the Games Committee to determine takeoff board placement in horizontal jumps.
- Rationale:** The change gives the games committee authority to determine takeoff board placement in the long jump and triple jump aligning with existing role in setting starting heights for high jump and pole vault. The rules previously did not assign this responsibility, and clarification ensures consistency, fairness and appropriate oversight. Athletes may still change which approved takeoff board to use during competition.
- 3-8-6** Expands the acceptable calibers and provides flexibility for starting devices.
- Rationale:** Due to increased cost and limited availability .32 caliber blanks. Expanding the acceptable calibers provides flexibility for meet management while maintaining the safety and functionality required for starting devices.
- 4-6-5** Permits an appropriate health care professional, designated by the games committee, to evaluate a downed competitor without resulting in disqualification.
- Rationale:** The change permits the games committee to designate an appropriate health care professional to evaluate a downed competitor on the course without resulting in disqualification provided no assistance is given in progressing along the course. It prioritizes athlete safety by permitting on-course evaluation while preserving the integrity of the competition.
- 4-6-6c (NEW)** Clarifies athletes are not permitted to wear any type of audio or video recording devices during a race, trial, or while in restricted areas.
- Rationale:** No athlete participating in a meet is permitted to wear any type of audio or video device to record or transmit in a race, trial or in restricted areas. This language aligns with other NFHS rules books.
- 6-2-2 NOTES (3) (NEW)** Clarifies that the time limit for a consecutive attempt applies within a height and at a height change.
- Rationale:** The chart does not differentiate whether consecutive trials are within a height or at a height change. Adding this note will clarify the rule and establish a standard procedure.
- 6-3-2b4(a)** Incorporates metric measurements alongside imperial to promote clarity and consistency in meet management.
- Rationale:** Standard metric progressions are typically in 5 cm increments, with 15 cm aligning closely to the traditional 6 inches. This change simplifies implementation, aligns with common metric practices, and supports consistency in meet management.
- 6-8-6 (NEW)** Standardizes warm up times for athletes entering the high jump and pole vault after 60 minutes have elapsed.
- Rationale:** The current rule allows warm-up only after passing three consecutive heights, which can result in long periods of inactivity—sometimes over an hour—in large competitions. This can be a disadvantage and potential safety concern for athletes entering later. Changing the rule to provide a standardized 1.5 minutes for high jump or 2 minutes for pole vault warm-up for any athlete entering after 60 minutes have elapsed promotes fairness, consistency, and risk minimization.
- 6-9-21** Clarifies that padding is required for hard and unyielding surfaces that are elevated relative to the ground.
- Rationale:** The addition of "above ground level" clarifies that the padding requirement applies specifically to hard and unyielding surfaces that are elevated relative to the ground. This refinement helps differentiate between surfaces that present a greater risk of impact during a fall (such as raised concrete, asphalt, wood, or platform extensions) versus ground-level areas that may already be accounted for with landing system setup.

- 6-10-5** Incorporates javelin construction specifications into the rules book for clarity and consistency.

Rationale: Moving the implement construction specifications for the javelin into the rules book provides greater clarity, consistency, and accessibility for high school coaches, athletes, and meet officials. By incorporating the construction requirements directly into the NFHS rules book, we ensure that all necessary information is readily available, specific to the high school level, and aligned with the intent of education-based athletics. This approach maintains appropriate equipment standards while promoting ease of understanding, consistent enforcement, and fairness across all levels of high school competition.

- 9-1-1** Adds the 200 meter dash as an option for indoor meets.

Rationale: Adding the option of the 200 or 300 meter dash in indoor meets provides states with greater flexibility to structure events based on facility size, athlete development, and meet goals. This change supports broader participation and aligns with the varied formats of indoor track and field across the country.

- 9-6-1** Establishes a standardized 20-meter exchange zone for indoor relays.

Rationale: A uniform 20m exchange zone in indoor track and field creates a single standard for ease of officiating.

2026 Editorial Changes

4-3-1b(8), 6-4-2, 9-1-1

Other Changes

Middle Level Recommendations for Aero Javelin

2026 Points of Emphasis

1. Throws Safety – Shot Put, Discus and Javelin
2. Restricted Areas
3. Protest/Appeal Process

INTRODUCTION

This packet contains all necessary information and forms for Divisional Meets and the Meet of Champions. It is the NHIAA Outdoor Track Committee's belief that to ensure successful Championship Meets, it is the coaches' responsibility to **READ ALL MATERIALS CAREFULLY** and promptly and accurately fill out entry information. Please direct any questions or concerns to the NHIAA Outdoor Track Committee. These meets will be governed by the rules of the National Federation. All coaches are expected to have read the rulebook and instructed their athletes accordingly.

I. POINTS OF EMPHASIS

➤ **Meet Requirements:** An Outdoor Track Meet *must* have:

- At least one additional school in attendance.
- At least one official in attendance.

➤ **Scratches:** A competitor who misses or scratches, after the seeding meeting, becomes ineligible for any further competition. Including, but not limited to, preliminaries, trials, relays, and finals of all Track and Field events from that point on.

- Note: any athlete who does not complete an event due to health reasons must be cleared by the athletic trainer before competing in another event.

➤ **Batons must comply with NFHS Rule 5-4 ART. 3:**

- The relay baton shall not exceed 11.81 inches (30 centimeters) in length. Its circumference shall be at least 4 inches and no more than 5 inches (102-127 millimeters). It shall be a smooth, hollow tube, made in one piece of wood, metal or other rigid material. It shall weigh at least 1.766 ounces (50 grams). Tape shall not be used to wrap the baton.

II. GENERAL INFORMATION

- **There will be a preseason meeting for Outdoor Track coaches on:**
 - **Division I**: Tuesday, March 17, 2025, at Londonderry High School (7:00 p.m.)
 - **Division II & III**: Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at Merrimack Valley High School Cafeteria (5:00 p.m.)
- Starter/Official: The hosting school is responsible for supplying the shells for the meet OR reimbursing the official for the cost of the shells.
- The Sports Officiating Committee has clarified the fee structure for invitational meets. An invitational meet is defined as having 5 or more teams with 10 or more competitors per team. Refer to the NHIAA Handbook.
- **NFHS Guidelines for Management of Concussions:**
 The NHIAA mandates the following of the NFHS guidelines for management of Concussions. Concussions: Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional. For additional information and potential symptoms, please be sure to visit By-Law Article III; Sports Medicine: Sect. 13: Concussions and the New Hampshire SB402 and its language as written.
- **New England Championships:**
 - **Saturday, June 13, 2026 – Noble High School, Berwick, ME**
 - **New England Qualifying**
 The top six (6) athletes in each event will qualify for the New England Championship Meet. There will be **no alternates** accepted for this meet. Plan on an entry fee of at least \$20.00 per athlete. More information will be available at the Meet of Champions.

III. DIVISIONAL MEETS AND MEET OF CHAMPIONS INFORMATION

- **Scratches:** A competitor who misses or scratches, after the seeding meeting, becomes ineligible for any further competition. Including, but not limited to, preliminaries, trials, relays, and finals of all Track and Field events from that point on.
 - Note: any athlete who does not complete an event due to health reasons must be cleared by the athletic trainer before competing in another event.
- All entries for the **Divisional Meets** are subject to challenge if they do not appear on the Battlenotes of that particular division. Verification by means of meet results will be required (for the verification). The coach of the athlete being challenged must provide these results.
- Qualifying performances must be achieved during the current outdoor track season as designated by the NHIAA.
- The committee recommends that the lines on the fields for javelin and discus events should be either white or yellow.
- At all **Divisional Meets and MOC**, all vaulters shall be weighed and all poles inspected. All pole vaulters must report to check in with their pole and Official Outdoor Track Pole Vault Certification Form fully completed, dated no more than 7 days prior to the State Meet. Athletes will be ineligible to compete if they fail to comply as stated.
- All field event implements must meet specifications for competition (NFHS rules)
- Coaches and athletes that are not participating in events on the infield will not be permitted on the infield during **Divisional Meets and MOC**.
- **Relays** will be run in **sections** only – NO TRIALS.
- A competitor may place a maximum of three markers in the high jump approach area.
- **Starting heights, heat and lane assignments will be determined by the Games Committee based on entry information.**
- All field event finals and preliminaries will conclude five minutes after the last competitor present has completed their attempts.
- **NUMBER TO QUALIFY FOR FINALS IN THE FIELD EVENTS:**
 - On a six lane track with a six lane straightaway, seven athletes will qualify for the finals in the field events.
 - On a six lane track with an eight lane straightaway, eight athletes will qualify for the finals in the field events.
 - On an eight lane track with an eight lane straightaway, eight athletes will qualify for the finals in the field events.
- Runbacks are not allowed in the Long Jump, Triple Jump, Javelin, and Pole Vault per NFHS Rule
- **Appeal Procedure at State Divisional Meets:** Shall be made in accordance with the accepted standards of the National Federation Rulebook There shall be no appeals to the Executive Director. All appeals shall be resolved by the Jury of Appeals. (Form Attached)
- Meet Directors from each of the **Divisional Meets and Meet of Champions** should review the final results and submit records to the Committee for approval.

IV. STATE DIVISIONAL MEET INFORMATION

➤ Location and Dates Divisional Meets:

Boys and Girls

Division I				
DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SITE DIRECTOR	MEET DIRECTOR
Saturday, May 30, 2026	8:30 a.m.	Londonderry High School	Jimmy Lauzon	Kristi Hikel
Division II				
DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SITE DIRECTOR	MEET DIRECTOR
Saturday, May 30, 2026	8:30 a.m.	Londonderry High School	Jimmy Lauzon	Matt Skidds
Division III				
DATE	TIME	LOCATION	SITE DIRECTOR	MEET DIRECTOR
Friday, May 29, 2026	4:00 p.m.	Pelham High School	Mike Soucey	Kristi Hikel

**Spike sizes for DI, DII, DIII: ¼" Pyramid Spikes only*

➤ Entry Regulations and Information - Please Read Very Carefully

*It will take 24 hours for new users to be accepted into the DirectAthletics system. Be sure to register before entries are due.

A. **Divisional Meets Entry Information -**

All schools must use the DirectAthletics web site (www.directathletics.com) to enter the athletes. No forms will be accepted. Please enter the athlete's full name (no nicknames). An improper entry will not be accepted. **If your school offers the sport and is not entering any athletes, the NHIAA must be notified in writing before or on the deadline date. There is no section on the website to indicate this information.**

1. **Entries shall be entered to DirectAthletics by Sunday, May 24, 2026 by 12:00 p.m.**

"It is the responsibility of the meet director to check the entries on Direct Athletics to be sure all schools have made their entries by the due date. If there are schools that have not entered their entries the meet director shall contact the NHIAA to advise of the late entry and the NHIAA will then contact those schools."

No school will be allowed to enter after that date. All coaches are to print the receipt of their entries from DirectAthletics.

- "Seeding will begin at 16 entries (8-lane track) or 18 entries (6-lane track) and will be worked up if a coach signifies whether an athlete is competing or not until the field is filled to 16 entries (8-lane track) or 18 entries (6-lane track) with the exception of the 4x800 relay which is limited to the top 12."
- Procedures for Divisional Meet Entries

- An athlete may only compete in 4 events.
- FAT times are required (no conversions).

4. **Qualifying Entries for Divisional Meets**

- The field for all events (**excluding relays and pole vault**) shall consist of 16 entries on an eight (8) lane track or 18 entries on a six (6) lane track.
- Entries for the Relays**
 - (4 X 100 m) The field for relay events shall consist of 16 entries on an eight (8) lane track or 18 entries on a six (6) lane track
 - (4 X 400 m) The field for relay events shall consist of 16 entries on an eight (8) lane track or 18 entries on a six (6) lane track
 - 4X800m: No minimum required. Top 12 Qualifying Times
 - Pole Vault: Top 12 Performances

5. DRAW AND LANE ASSIGNMENTS:

- **Divisional Meets:** Formation of heats and lane assignments for running events will be determined from entry form information.

6. It is important for all coaches to attend **Division's Seeding Meeting** in order to provide input for their athletes.

DIVISION I SEEDING:

The Seeding Meeting for Division I will be held on **Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at Londonderry High School.**

DIVISION II SEEDING:

The Seeding Meeting for Division II will be held on **Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at Merrimack Valley High School Cafeteria.**

DIVISION III SEEDING:

The Seeding Meeting for Division III will be held on **Monday, May 25, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM.**

7. Meet Directors reserve the right to request verification on any entries. **SCRATCHES:** A competitor who misses or scratches, after the seeding meeting, becomes ineligible for any further competition. Including, but not limited to, preliminaries, trials, relays, and finals of all Track and Field events from that point on.
- Note: any athlete who does not complete an event due to health reasons must be cleared by the athletic trainer before competing in another event.
8. Qualifying lists from all divisions will be posted on Lancer Timing two days after the seedings meetings.

B. Divisional Meet Schedule and Order of Events

- In the event of extreme circumstances, the Outdoor Track Committee reserves the right to modify the order of events.

Division III Meet – Friday

Order of Events:

3:30 p.m.

Check-in begins

3:30 p.m.

Pole Vault Check in, Implement Certification and Weigh In.

Field Events

4:00 p.m.

Field event order will be announced the week prior.

Track Events

5:00 p.m.

G	4 X 800 Final	B	4 X 800 Final
B	110m Hurdles Trials	G	100m Hurdles Trials
B	100m Trials	G	100m Trials
G	100m Hurdles Final	B	110m Hurdles Final
G	100m Final	B	100m Final
G	1600m Final	B	1600m Final
G	4 X 100 Relay Final	B	4 X 100 Relay Final
G	400m Final	B	400m Final
G	300m Hurdles Final	B	300m Hurdles Final
G	800m Final	B	800m Final
G	200m Final	B	200m Final
G	3200m Final	B	3200m Final
G	4 X 400 Relay Final	B	4 X 400 Relay Final

Awards Presentation

Division II Meet – Saturday**Division I Meet – Saturday****Order of Events:****8:00 a.m.****Check-in begins****8:00 a.m.****Pole Vault Check in, Implement Certification and Weigh In.****Field Events****8:30 a.m.**

Field event order will be announced the week prior.

Track Events**TBD**

DII	4 X 800 Final (G)	DI	4 X 800 Final (G)
DII	4 X 800 Final (B)	DI	4 X 800 Final (B)
DII	110m Hurdles Trials (B)	DI	110m Hurdles Trials (B)
DII	100m Hurdles Trials (G)	DI	100m Hurdles Trials (G)
DII	100m Dash Trials (B)	DI	100m Dash Trials (B)
DII	100m Dash Trials (G)	DI	100m Dash Trials (G)
DII	100m Hurdles Final (G)	DI	100m Hurdles Final (G)
DII	110m Hurdles Final (B)	DI	110m Hurdles Final (B)
DII	100m Dash Final (G)	DI	100m Dash Final (G)
DII	100m Dash Final (B)	DI	100m Dash Final (B)
DII	1600m Final (G)	DI	1600m Final (G)
DII	1600m Final (B)	DI	1600m Final (B)
DII	4 X 100 Relay Final (G)	DI	4 X 100 Relay Final (G)
DII	4 X 100 Relay Final (B)	DI	4 X 100 Relay Final (B)
DII	400m Final (G)	DI	400m Final (G)
DII	400m Final (B)	DI	400m Final (B)
DII	300m Hurdles Final (G)	DI	300m Hurdles Final (G)
DII	300m Hurdles Final (B)	DI	300m Hurdles Final (B)
DII	800m Final (G)	DI	800m Final (G)
DII	800m Final (B)	DI	800m Final (B)
DII	200m Final (G)	DI	200m Final (G)
DII	200m Final (B)	DI	200m Final (B)
DII	3200m Final (G)	DI	3200m Final (G)
DII	3200m Final (B)	DI	3200m Final (B)
DII	4 X 400 Relay Final (G)	DI	4 X 400 Relay Final (G)
DII	4 X 400 Relay Final (B)	DI	4 X 400 Relay Final (B)

Awards Presentation

V. MEET OF CHAMPIONS INFORMATION

Location and Date: Meet of Champions
Saturday, June 6, 2026 - 1:00 p.m.
Oyster River High School
 Site Director: Andy Lathrop
 Meet Directors: Matt Skidds and Kristi Hikel

Spike Size:
1/4" Pyramid Spikes Only

Meet of Champions - Games Committee

Alley-Violette	Kerrie	kalleyviolet@saui7.net
Burns	Steven	sburns@mansd.org
Clark	Scott	sclark@sau80.org
Cox	Tim	tcx@coebrown.org
Custer	Gary	grcuster@icloud.com
Demers	Phil	phillipdemers9@gmail.com
Hikel	Kristi	hikelkristi@gmail.com
Leveille	Nathan	nathan.leveille2@gmail.com
Noe	Rebecca	rnoe@orcsd.org
Ricciardi	Nicholas	nricciardi@orcsd.org
Sanborn	Amy	alrun2@aol.com
Skidds	Matt	mskidds@coebrown.org

Meet of Champions

- A. The first place winner in each event in each Divisional Meet will qualify for the Meet of Champions. In addition, the field will be filled with the next best performances from the season regardless of Division. The field is determined by the number of lanes on the host track.
- B. **Meet of Champions – Entry Procedures (Coaches/Lancer Timing)**
 1. Coaches must enter qualified athletes from the above criteria on DirectAthletics.
 2. DirectAthletics will close Sunday, May 31, 2026, at 8:00 p.m. **and will not reopen.**
 3. **Preliminary Entry Lists** will be posted Sunday, May 31, 2026, after 8:00 p.m.
 4. Coaches will email scratches (no additions) to LancerTiming until noon, Tuesday, June 2, 2026.
 5. **Final Entry List** will be certified by the Outdoor Track Committee at MOC Seeding Meeting on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, by 3:30 p.m.
 6. **Final Entry List** will be posted on LancerTiming by noon on Wednesday, June 3, 2026. As of noon, Wednesday, June 3, 2026, the scratch rule will be in effect.
 7. All late entry requests need to be sent DIRECTLY to Matt Skidds (mskidds@coebrown.org)
 8. Qualifying entries for the Meet of Champions will be the same as the Divisional Meets.

MEET OF CHAMPIONS INFORMATION

- **Registration:** There will be a sign-in table for the school-designated adult (**REQUIRED**) to pick up any additional information. There will be NO competitor's numbers issued. Track event competitors will be issued hip numbers for each separate event.
- **Trainer:** the NHIAA provides a certified trainer for this event. The trainer will be on the infield for pre-meet preparation as well as for problems that arise during the meet. For those athletes requiring pre-meet preparation such as taping and wrapping, **please bring supplies needed for your athletes such as tape, wraps, dressing, splints, pads, etc.**
- Final results can be found on DirectAthletics and the Lancer Timing website in the evening after the completion of the meet.
- **ATHLETES MUST REPORT to an event, track or field when called, and check in with the Clerk**

AND field event official. Arriving and not physically and verbally reporting does not constitute officially reporting for the event.

- **NO athletes will be added once the final seeding has been started.**
- **TIME LIMITS:** field events will close five minutes after the final attempt of the last competitor present. Athletes must complete a trial or pass within one (1) minute after being called or be charged with an unsuccessful attempt. **EXCEPTION:** when only three or fewer remain in the vertical jumps as stipulated by the rules of the event.
- **UNIFORMS:** Federation Rule 4-3 applies.
- **Restricted areas:** Infield, track, areas along the jump and javelin runways are **restricted areas** and no one is allowed, except meet personnel and competitors for events in progress. Designated coaches areas are roped off for coaches.
- **Removal of any part of the team uniform except shoes, while in restricted areas shall lead to a warning, and if the incident recurs, the athlete will be disqualified from further competition.**
- **MOC Awards** – Official NHIAA place medals will be awarded to the top six (6) finishers in each event, including relays for boys and girls.
- **New England Championship Meet Qualifier:** The top six (6) athletes in each event will qualify for the New England Championship Meet. There will be **no alternates** accepted for this meet. Plan on an entry fee of at least \$20.00 per athlete. More information will be available at the Meet of Champions.

Meet of Champions Schedule

- In the event of extreme circumstances, the Outdoor Track Committee reserves the right to modify the order of events.

Order of Events:

12:00 p.m.

Check in begins

12:00 p.m.

Pole Vault Check in, Implement Certification and Weigh In

Field Events:

1:00 p.m.

Field event order will be announced the week prior.

Track Events

2:00 p.m.

G	4 X 800 Final	B	4 X 800 Final
B	110m Hurdles Trials	G	100m Hurdles Trials
B	100m Trials	G	100m Trials
G	100m Hurdles Final	B	110m Hurdles Final
G	100m Final	B	100m Final
G	1600m Final	B	1600m Final
G	4 X 100 Relay Final	B	4 X 100 Relay Final
G	400m Final	B	400m Final
G	300m Hurdles Final	B	300m Hurdles Final
G	800m Final	B	800m Final
G	200m Final	B	200m Final
G	3200m Final	B	3200m Final
G	4 X 400 Relay Final	B	4 X 400 Relay Final

VI. LATE ENTRY PROCEDURE

For both **Divisional** and **MOC** entries

1. Any Late Entry requests **MUST** be emailed to Matt Skidds (mskidds@coebrown.org) by the building principal by noon on the day of the seeding meeting.
2. A Late Entry Fee of \$35 payable to NHIAA, via letter emailed to school administration.
 - Athlete cannot be entered until fee is paid.

VII. FIFTY/FIFTY (50/50) RAFFLES:

Fifty/Fifty drawings are permitted by the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA); at the site of an NHIAA member school hosting any round of an NHIAA tournament event (s). Fifty-fifty raffles will not be permitted at "neutral sites" that are not NHIAA Member School sites.

VIII. BLOOD SPILLAGE AND BODY FLUIDS:

The NHIAA Sports Medicine Committee suggests that each school develop a local policy in cooperation with their local medical personnel, on how to handle blood spillage.

Housekeeping Procedures for Blood and Body Fluids

Disposable latex gloves should be worn to avoid contamination of the hands of the person cleaning spillages involving blood or other body fluids and secretions. Persons involved in cleaning contaminated surfaces should avoid exposure of open skin lesions or mucous membranes to blood or body fluids. A freshly prepared solution of dilute household bleach (one quarter cup of bleach diluted in one gallon of water) or other disinfectant labeled as *virucidal*, *Tuberculocidal*, *staphylocidal* is useful. Allow the disinfectant to stand wet for a minimum of one minute to start killing pathogens and disinfecting the area (10 minutes of disinfection time guarantees surface sterility). Whenever possible, disposable towels, tissues, and gloves should be used and properly discarded and mops should be rinsed in disinfectant.

Interpretation Of Excessive Bleeding -National Federation Rules call for a player, who is bleeding, has an open wound or excessive blood on the uniform, to leave the court/field.

The NHIAA interprets "excessive blood on the uniform" to mean that part of the uniform is saturated with blood. Saturated does not mean a wet spot. Saturated means a major portion of the garment is covered and soaked with blood. For this to occur, significant bleeding would have had to take place.

For any blood on uniform less than "saturated", the uniform does not have to be changed. School personnel have the responsibility of treating the blood area with the appropriate disinfecting solution before the athlete may participate. If the uniform is "saturated" with blood, the uniform must be changed before the athlete may participate. This interpretation is to be followed in the conduct of all NHIAA athletic events.

IX. NHIAA SITE SELECTION CRITERIA POLICY:

NHIAA Sports Committees will make every effort to provide sites with the following criteria in mind. The criteria are not listed in order of priority.

1. Health and safety of participants.
2. Comfort and safety of spectators (including adequate seating and parking, and restrooms).
3. Handicapped accessible for spectators.
4. Relative travel requirements of participating schools.
5. The ability to collect tickets in a secure manner, when applicable.
6. Playing surfaces must meet the requirements as established for that sport.
7. Costs of facility and personnel associated with facility.
8. Sufficient parking.
9. Cost of public safety personnel (fire and police).
10. Receptivity and cooperativeness of personnel working at site.

X. OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY LIGHTNING:

Lightning is the most consistent and significant weather hazard that may affect outdoor athletics. Within the

United States, the National Severe Storm Laboratory (NSSL) estimates that 100 fatalities and 400-500 injuries requiring medical treatment occur from lightning strikes every year. The existence of blue sky and the absence of rain are not protection from lightning. Lightning can, and does, strike as far as 10 miles away from the rain shaft. It does not have to be raining for lightning to strike. Additionally, thunder always accompanies lightning, even though its audible range can be diminished due to background noise in the immediate environment, and its distance from the observer.

The following guidelines are recommended:

- A. All athletic staff and game personnel are to monitor threatening weather. Establish a chain of command as to who makes the decision to remove a team or individual from athletic sites or events (athletic/site/event director, game officials/umpires, sports medicine staff?).
- B. An emergency plan should include planned instructions for participants as well as spectators.
- C. Be aware of potential thunderstorms that may form during scheduled athletic events or practices. Included here should include National Weather Service – issued (NWS) thunderstorm “watches” and “warnings” as well as signs of thunderstorms developing nearby. A “watch” means conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop in an area; a “warning” means that severe weather has been reported in an area and for everyone to take proper precautions.
- D. Know where the closest “safe structure or location” is to the field or playing area, and know how long it takes to get to that safe structure or location.

Safe structure or location is defined as:

- 1. Any building normally occupied or frequently used by people, i.e., a building with plumbing and /or electrical wiring that acts to electrically ground the structure. Avoid using shower facilities for safe shelter and **do not use** the showers or plumbing facilities during a thunderstorm.
- 2. In the absence of a sturdy, frequently inhabited building, any vehicle with a hard metal roof (not a convertible or golf cart) and rolled up windows can provide a measure of safety. A vehicle is certainly better than remaining outdoors. It is not the rubber tires that make a vehicle safe shelter, but the hard metal roof, which dissipates the lightning strike around the vehicle. **DO NOT TOUCH THE SIDES OF THE VEHICLE!**

- E. WHEN YOU FIRST HEAR THUNDER OR SEE LIGHTING, SUSPEND ACTIVITIES AND GO TO A SAFE SHELTER OR LOCATION. **“IF YOU CAN SEE IT (LIGHTNING), FLEE IT (TAKE SHELTER). IF YOU CAN HEAR IT (THUNDER) CLEAR IT (SUSPEND ACTIVITIES).”** WAIT UNTIL 30 MINUTES AFTER THE LAST OBSERVED LIGHTNING OR THUNDER BEFORE RESUMING ACTIVITIES.

If no safe structure or location is within a reasonable distance, find a thick grove of small trees surrounded by taller trees or a dry ditch. Assume a crouched position on the ground with only the balls of the feet touching the ground, wrap your arms around your knees and lower your head. Minimize contact with the ground, because lightning current often enters a victim through the ground rather than by a direct overhead strike. **MINIMIZE YOUR BODY’S SURFACE AREA, AND MINIMIZE CONTACT WITH THE GROUND! DO NOT LIE FLAT!** Stay away from the tallest trees or objects (such as light poles or flag poles), metal objects (such as bleachers or fences), individual trees, standing pools of water, and open fields. Avoid being the highest object in a field. Do not take shelter under a single, tall tree.

XI. NHIAA GUIDELINES ON OZONE POLLUTION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY:

School Administrators and coaches as well as other appropriate staff are to use this document in making decisions regarding indoor and outdoor activities during periods of high ozone pollution.

Charting Air Quality

Local officials use a simple scale to forecast and report on smog levels and other air pollution. Depending on where you live, it might be called Air Quality Index (AQI) or Pollutant Standards Index (PSI).

Current air quality is reported as a percentage of the federal health standard for a pollutant. If the current Index is above 100, air pollution exceeds the level considered safe.

At Ozone smog levels above 100, children, asthmatics and other sensitive groups should limit strenuous exercise. Even otherwise healthy people should consider limiting vigorous exercise when ozone levels are at or above the health standard.

If the index is above 200, corresponding to an ozone pollution level of .20 parts per million (ppm), the pollution level is judged unhealthy for everyone. At this level, air pollution is a serious health concern. Everyone should avoid strenuous outdoor activity, as respiratory tract irritation can occur.

U.S. EPA Air Quality Index

Index Value	Descriptor	Color	1 hr. Ozone ppb
0 – 50	Good	Green	---
51 – 100	Moderate	Yellow	---
101 – 150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Orange	125 – 164
151 – 200	Unhealthy	Red	165 – 204
201 – 300	Very Unhealthy	Purple	205 – 404
301 – 500	Hazardous	Maroon	405 – 604

Observing Air Quality

A. Watch the Calendar

Ozone smog tends to be worst during the May – to – September “smog season.” Be especially conscious of smog levels during warm weather. In warm areas, smog can be a problem at any time of the year. Carbon monoxide pollution levels also are related to the weather, as well as to altitude. In the western U.S., the highest carbon monoxide levels are found in the winter months.

B. Watch the Clock

Since sunlight and time are necessary for ozone smog formation, the highest levels of ozone typically occur during the afternoon. Since carbon monoxide is produced primarily by motor vehicles, the highest carbon monoxide levels usually occur during rush hour or during other traffic congestion situations.

C. Watch the News

Guidelines For Participation

A. Observe appropriate physical activity restrictions represented above.

B. If an ozone exceedance is expected, but has not yet occurred at the time an interscholastic practice or contest is scheduled to begin, that event may begin as scheduled.

C. If an interscholastic practice or contest is scheduled to begin and an E.P.A. warning is in effect (PSI 201 or higher), the event shall be cancelled, delayed or rescheduled.

When ozone levels reach a national PSI level of 201 (.201 parts per million), exercising indoors or outdoors may cause significant respiratory tract irritation and a decline in lung function. Therefore, strenuous exercise indoors and outdoors is to cease.

Recommended Restriction Of Physical Activity

The following limits on activity for each type of episode are as follows:

- A. Level Orange, PSI 101-150 (Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups)
 - 1. Active children and adults and people with heart or respiratory disease, such as asthma or allergies, should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.
 - 2. Healthy individuals with noticeable health effects associated with existing conditions should minimize outdoor activity.
- B. Level Red, PSI 151-200 (Unhealthy)
 - 1. All athletes should discontinue prolonged, vigorous exercise indoors and outdoors.
 - 2. Sensitive individuals, primarily children who are active outdoors and people with heart or respiratory disease such as asthma or allergies, should avoid indoor and outdoor activity.
 - 3. Indoor and outdoor activities that should be avoided include, but are not limited to, calisthenics, basketball, baseball, running, field hockey, soccer, football, tennis, swimming and diving.
- C. Level Purple, PSI 201-300 (Very Unhealthy)
 - 1. All athletes shall discontinue vigorous indoor and outdoor activities, regardless of duration.
 - 2. All indoor and outdoor physical education classes, sports practices and athletic competitions shall be rescheduled.

XII. TOURNAMENT EVENTS POSTPONEMENTS (WEATHER):

The decision to postpone a tournament event on weekends and holidays will be made by the NHIAA. SCHOOLS WILL NOT BE NOTIFIED. It will be the responsibility of the schools playing to check the NHIAA website (visit www.nhiala.org and click on the Alerts). The NHIAA will notify Game Directors, Supervisor of Officials, Police and Trainers. **TEAMS SHOULD NOT LEAVE FOR THE TOURNAMENT SITE UNTIL THEY VIEW THE NHIAA WEBSITE.**

- **Once at the site:** “In the event there is a need to postpone or reschedule a divisional meet or the Meet of Champions the decision will be made by the meet director and members of the Outdoor Track Committee at the site. The first option will be to move the meet to the next day (Sunday), and then if that is not possible, the meet will be scheduled the Monday or Tuesday following the original day of the meet.”

XIII. STATE TRACK AND FIELD RECORDS

NHIAA Outdoor Track performances, at meets other than Divisional Meets and the State Meet of Champions, may make athletes eligible for State record status. In order to be eligible however, a performance must be at a meet, which meets the following criteria:

- A. The meet must be sanctioned by the NHIAA. Any regular season meet or invitational, which appears on a school's schedule, as approved by the NHIAA, shall be considered.
- B. The performance must meet all established criteria for the accurate measurement and verification of the performance.

All nominations for new state records must be submitted on the appropriate form to: NHIAA Outdoor Track Committee, c/o the NHIAA Office, by the third weekend in June of the current season.

APPEAL FORM**NHIAA Cross Country and Outdoor Track & Field**

*Appeals may only be made involving a violation or misapplication of a rule
and **not** on decisions of judgments.*

Name of Meet: _____ Date of Meet: _____
 Competitor's Name: _____ Competitor's #: _____
 School: _____
 Area of Concern: Running Event *or* Field Event
 Event: _____ Rule Reference: _____

Description of Appeal:

Signature of Head Coach: _____

Time Submitted to Referee: _____

Decision of Referee: Appeal Upheld *or* Appeal Denied

Signature of Referee: _____

Appealed to Jury of Appeals: Yes *or* No

Decision of Jury of Appeals: Appeal Upheld *or* Appeal Denied

Signature of Head of Jury of Appeals: _____



OFFICIAL OUTDOOR TRACK POLE VAULT WEIGHT CERTIFICATION FORM

BOYS: _____ GIRLS: _____

School: _____

Town: _____

	Vaulter's Name	Certified Weight	Date
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____

WEIGHT CERTIFICATION SHOULD BE VERIFIED WITHIN ONE WEEK OF CHAMPIONSHIP LEVEL COMPETITION

Name of School _____

Medical Official: _____

Title: _____

Name of Coach: _____

Name of Principal: _____

The Principal certifies that the information contained on this form is accurate.

Principal's Signature: _____

Date: _____

****A copy of this form must be given to the pole vault official at the start of the meet.***

NEW HAMPSHIRE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION TRACK & FIELD RECORD APPLICATION

State Interscholastic Record _____ State Tournament Record _____

Division _____ Male _____ Female _____ Date of Application _____

Please type or print all requested information and include all required signatures. **If this qualifies as a national record, you must also complete a National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Track and Field Record Application, which can be accessed from the NHIAA web site (www.NHIAA.org).**

In order for this record to be considered, it must:

1.) Be established in outdoor competition limited exclusively to high school contestants in a high school contest during the NHIAA approved season;

SECTION A.

Track or Field Event: _____

Record Time (**FAT only**), Height or Distance: _____

Name of FAT Operator: _____

Name of Meet where Record Set/Date: _____
(Date)

Location of Meet (City and State) where Record Set: _____

Print Full Name of Competitor(s) who Set Record (list all four names for relay event) and Include Grade(s) in School:

(Name)	(Grade)	(Name)	(Grade)
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(Name)	(Grade)	(Name)	(Grade)
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High School where Competitor(s) Attend: _____

City where High School is Located: _____

Signature of School Track & Field Head Coach, Principal or Athletic Administrator:

(Name)	(Position)
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SECTION B. (Certification By Contest Officials)

We/I verify that the competitive conditions were in compliance with NFHS and NHIAA rules and regulations. All parameters above were met. For track events, the race course was measured in accordance with NFHS rules and found to be official. For field events, the implement used by the competitor plus all other equipment and the competition area were in accordance with NFHS rules and found to be official. We/I support the record application and recommend its acceptance.

Signature of Referee: _____

Signature of Field Judge (for field events): _____

NOTE: All implements must be properly inspected and certified prior to competition on the day of the event.

Please complete and mail to:

NHIAA Outdoor Track and Field Committee, c/o NHIAA, 251 Clinton Street Concord, NH 03301

Following NHIAA Regional Tournament competition only, forms will be accepted via email: rmisiaszek@nhiaa.org, but a hard copy must also be mailed to the NHIAA Office.