

APPENDIX NO 18.9 CHIEF TRACK UMPIRE, TRACK UMPIRES, RELAY CHANGEOVER UMPIRES

(HURDLES, 100m, 200m, 400m and RELAYS)

All track umpires should view the **General Track Rules Video on the ACC web site at:**

<https://www.accsport.asn.au/carnivals/athletics/officials-info/officiating-video-tips>

Umpires are assistants to the Track Referee. They have no power to make decisions, only to report infringements to the Referee.

Umpires are required to ensure that the relevant IAAF rules are observed in all track events and, if necessary, to report any infringements to the Track Referee. IAAF rules 141, 143, 161, 162, 163 and 166 are particularly relevant. See [Appendix 33](#) for more information on ACC relay rules.

Umpires will stand at such points as the Referee shall specify and in case of fouls, or other rule violations, will report the incidents to the Chief Track Referee, immediately. At A and B division carnivals one extra umpire will watch the bend in the 200m, 400m 800m and relay events to ensure that runners do not run out of their lane. In 1,500m events the extra umpire will watch for race jostling/impeding of runners. The extra umpire will be positioned by the track referee.

The Assistant Track Referee will also act as a track umpire for all LD events (800m/1500m).

Umpires will indicate fouls/violations by immediately raising a red flag. The red flag will be kept raised until acknowledged by the Referee who will speak to the particular Umpire to ascertain the infringement. Umpires must note lane and competitor's numbers when infringements occur.

Umpires will watch for competitors who:

- 1) Run out of lanes on the inside. This includes on the inside line (Red flag to be raised);
- 2) Voluntarily leave the track;
- 3) Receive any outside assistance;
- 4) Jostle, run across or otherwise impede progress of other competitors;
- 5) Change lanes before the cut-in point of 800m events.

In Hurdles events, Umpires are to:

- 1) Stand so as to clearly see hurdlers as they attempt to clear hurdles;
- 2) Check that competitors clear own hurdles;
- 3) Watch for deliberate knocking down of hurdles with hand/s or foot;
- 4) Watch that both legs go over the hurdle - the trailing leg **must not** come around and below the hurdle top.

NB 1: The Track Umpires are also to assist in moving runners off the track once they have completed their race. This is particularly important with short distance events (100m/200m/400m/Hurdles/Relay) as no place cards are handed to the runners at the finish line. Track umpires are to hold all runners on the track in their correct lane facing down the track in the direction of the race. Umpires are to hold all runners

until they receive an all clear signal from the Referee. If the Referee declares a disqualification on an athlete or team then **where possible** this should be conveyed to the runner by the Referee before the runner(s) leave the track. If the infringement requires further investigation by the Referee then the Umpires should hold the athletes to the side of the track so that the next event can continue.

Relay Officials:

The Track Umpires will also act as **relay officials** at the designated relay changeover areas: (see App 33 Relay Rules)

- **Chief Track Umpire 1, at finish end Final 100m Straight**
 - **Umpire 2 at Changeover 1 - (L1-8S), Lanes 1 to 8 (start of zone)**
 - **Umpire 3 at Changeover 2 - (L1-8S), Lanes 1 to 8 (start of zone)**
 - **Umpire 4 at Changeover 3 - (L1-8S), Lanes 1 to 8 (start of zone)**
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- Ensure runners are in their correct lane. **Indicate to the Chief Relay official that all competitors in the current relay event are ready to start.**
 - During the Relay events the relay umpires watch all eight lanes in their changeover region.
 - Other track and field event officials will **also** act as Chief Relay Officials and relay changeover officials at the end of the changeover zones.
 - The chief relay official at each changeover will have a white and red flag to indicate to the referee of infringements or non-infringements. Also to notify the starter, timekeepers and judges that all runners are in place for the start of each event. If available the chief relay officials should also have a two way radio so that they can keep in radio contact with the chief referee in cases of disqualification.
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- 1) **Watch that the outgoing runners are positioned to start their run inside the changeover zone;**
 - 2) **Watch that runners only use adhesive tape to mark the track, no other markings are allowed;**
 - 3) Watch that the baton is not changed **before the 30m changeover zone** (note that the baton position determines compliance);
 - 4) If a baton is dropped watch:
 - a) That it is picked up by the competitor who dropped it
 - b) That no other competitor's progress is impeded;
 - 5) Watch that after passing the baton, no competitor impedes the progress of another by leaving their lane;
 - 6) After the changeover is completed inform the chief relay official if any infringements have occurred or give the all clear. The chief relay official will raise the white or red flag if there is no infringement or an infringement has occurred immediately all outgoing competitors have taken the baton. The referee will come to the changeover to discuss the infringement with the chief relay official at that changeover to clarify any disqualifications.
 - 7) Relay umpires/officials should not discuss infringements or disqualifications with school teachers or coaches. If a disqualification has been given by the Referee schools will be notified and have the option to lodge a protest with the Referee within 15 minutes of the event.