“CROSS COUNTRY MEET OFFICIALS 2020”
Duties & Responsibilities
7/13/2020

1-9 Teams (One Certified Official) This Official Will Also Serve as the Referee

1. Check uniforms & answer questions prior to athletes being assigned to their “team box” and during run outs.
2. Place teams in boxes for final run-outs and perform final check of uniforms.
3. Take a position at one end of the start line or where you feel most comfortable prior to start of race to observe possible false starts, athletes falling by contact in the first 100 meters and any potential problems/issues that may affect the start of the race.
4. Once teams have been called to the start line, the starter shall announce no further runouts. He/she also announces “final” instructions prior to starting the race.
5. The starting command shall be “on your marks.” The starter will make sure all runners are steady at the start line. Once all competitors are steady, the starting device shall be fired.
6. Once the race starts, take a position behind the runners to ensure there are no violations that affect a clean and fair start. If a runner falls during the first 100 meters due to contact with another runner, the race shall be recalled by firing the starting device.
7. Move to the “finish line” to observe athletes finishing the race.
8. Return to the start line for the next race. The official shall allow the runners for the next race to enter the start line area and prepare for their race and conduct a “final” uniform check. The official will repeat his/her pre-race duties once the he/she returns to the “start line”.

NOTE: It is highly recommended that prior to the start of any of the scheduled races, the official should conduct a uniform check of all runners. This will allow time for coaches/athletes to make any necessary uniform changes to come into compliance prior to competition since there is just one official.

10-19 Teams (Two Certified Officials) One of These Officials Will Be Designated as the Referee
Official #1 (start line)

1. Both officials check uniforms & answer questions prior to/during warm-ups.
2. Both officials place teams in boxes for final run-outs and perform final check of uniforms.
3. Official #1 (start line official)
4. Check teams to ensure there are no issues with teams in boxes.
5. Make any final adjustments at the start line.
6. Take a position at the end of the start line prior to start of race and prepare to observe possible false starts and potential problems/issues that may affect the fair start/progression of the race.
7. After the race has started, take a position behind the runners to ensure there are no violations that affect a fair progression of the race for the first 50 meters.
8. Recall the race if a runner falls during the first 50 meters due to contact with another runner by firing the starting device (multiple times if necessary).
9. Remain at the start line for the next race. Once the previous race has successfully been started, this official shall allow the runners for the next race to enter the start line area and prepare for their race. The official will repeat their pre-race duties.

Official #2 (Starter) (Referee)

1. After assisting with the checking of uniforms and placing runners in their boxes, take a position 50 meters down the course to prepare to start the race.
2. Once teams have been called to the start line, the starter shall announce no further runouts. He/she also announces “final” instructions prior to starting the race.
3. The starting command shall be "on your marks." The starter and the starting line official will make sure all runners are steady at the start line.
4. Once all competitors are steady, the starting device shall be fired.
5. For an unfair start, the starter or assistant starter (start line official) or both shall recall the race by firing the starting device multiple times if necessary. If a runner(s) falls during the first 100 meters due to contact with another runner, the race shall be recalled by either or both officials by firing the starting device.
6. Once all runners pass the starter, the starter shall turn and observe all runners for the next 50 meters. If a runner falls due to contact with another runner, the race shall be recalled immediately and re-started.
7. If this official is also the referee, he/she will report to the finish line to observe the finish of the race. Once the race is finished this official will return to the start line to assist the start line official and prepare to start the next race.
20-29 Teams (Three Certified Officials) One of These Officials Will Be Designated as The Referee.

1. Two officials shall be placed at the start line. One official will be designated as the Referee.
2. Both start line officials shall check uniforms and answer questions prior to and during the time athletes are being assigned to their “team box” for run-outs prior to the start of the race.
3. Both officials place teams in boxes for final run-outs and perform final check of uniforms.
4. Both officials take a position one on each end of the “start line” prior to start of race to observe possible false starts and potential problems/issues that may affect the start of the race.
5. Once the race starts, both officials shall take a position behind the runners to ensure there are no violations that affect a clean and fair progression of the race. If a runner is observed by either official falling during the first 50 meters due to “contact” with another runner, the race shall be recalled by firing the starting device.
6. One official (referee) shall move to the finish line area to visually observe the completion of the race and monitor all runners as they approach the finish line from approximately 50 meters out and as they cross the finish line to insure a fair finish.
7. The second finish line official will proceed to the finish line area approximately 100 meters from the finish line to visually observe runners as they approach to ensure a fair finish.
8. The third official remains at the start line for the next race. Once the previous race has successfully been started, this official shall allow runners for the next race to enter the start line area and prepare for their race. All three officials will repeat their pre-race duties including a final check of uniforms.

30 Plus Teams (Four Officials) One of These Officials Will Be Designated as the Referee.

1. Three officials shall initially be placed at the start line. One official will be designated as the Referee.
2. All three start line officials shall check uniforms and answer questions prior to and during run-outs and place teams in their respective boxes. The two start line officials will position themselves at each end of the start line prior to the start of the race. Once the race is started, both officials will position themselves behind the teams to ensure a fair start. If they observe a runner(s) go down by virtue of contact with another runner(s), one or both will signal a recall with their starting device.
3. The 3rd official will report to the starter who is positioned 50 meters down the course and serve as the “assistant starter” to finalize any last-minute details prior to the start of the race. This official (assistant starter) will then take his/her position 50 meters beyond the starter and serve as another re-call starter in the event a runner falls due to contact with another runner by firing the starting device within the first 100 meters of the start of the race.
4. The two start line officials will remain at the start line to prepare for the start of the next race by answering any questions, checking uniforms and placing teams in their team box. The REFEREE will report to the finish line to observe the finish of the race. The ASSISTANT STARTER will report within 100 meters of the finish line to observe the finish of the race. Once the previous race has successfully been started, the two start line officials shall allow runners for the next race to enter the start line area and prepare for their race. These two officials will repeat their pre-race duties. All officials will assume their designated places prior to the start of the race. Note: Whomever is the designated referee in all of the above situations MUST touch base with the timing system operator about the start, primary and back-up system(s) at the finish, team tie breaker settings, and how results are posted, etc. prior to the start of the meet.

NOTE:

(A) It is recommended that all officials check uniforms of all athletes if possible, prior to the start of the first race. If there is a large number of teams participating, this will save time at the start line should there be a uniform issue(s). This will allow the competitor(s) and coaches time to correct uniform issues prior to competition. The rule states that ‘it is the coaches’ responsibility to ensure his/her athletes are in legal uniform prior to competition. If we as officials can assist in uniform compliance without delaying the start of the race we are encouraged to do so.

(B) As officials we realize circumstances may be different at various meet sites which may require us to adjust our assignments/positions slightly including at “regionals” based on the number of teams participating in these meets and various other circumstances. Therefore, adjustments may be made by the officiating crew as they see fit.

7-13-2020