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Road Race Walk – Rules & Regulations

Before the start of the race, the Chief Judge will address all competitors and will advise how the race will be judged.

RULES ENFORCED

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATHLETICS FEDERATIONS SECTION VII - RACE WALKING EVENTS RULE 230 Race Walking

Definition of Race Walking

1. Race Walking is a progression of steps so taken that the walker makes contact with the ground, so that no visible (to the human eye) loss of contact occurs. The advancing leg shall be straightened (i.e. not bent at the knee) from the moment of first contact with the ground until the vertical upright position.

Judging

2. (a) The appointed judges of Race Walking shall elect a Chief Judge, if one has not been appointed previously.
- (b) All the Judges shall act in an individual capacity and their judgements shall be based on observations made by the human eye.
- (c) In competitions held under IAAF Rule 1(a), all Judges shall be International Race Walking Judges. In competitions held under IAAF Rule 1 (b) and (c), all Judges shall be either Area or International Race Walking Judges.
- (d) For road races, there should normally be a minimum of six to a maximum of nine Judges including the Chief Judge.
- (e) For track races, there should normally be six Judges including the Chief Judge.
- (f) In competitions held under IAAF Rule 1(a) not more than one Judge from any country can officiate.

Chief Judge

3. (a) In competitions held under Rule 1(a), (b), (c), (d), the Chief Judge has the power to disqualify an athlete inside the stadium when the race finishes in the stadium or in the last 100m when the race takes place solely on the track or on the road course, when his/her mode of progression obviously fails to comply with the paragraph 1 above regardless of the number of previous Red Cards the Chief Judge has received on that athlete. An athlete who is disqualified by the Chief Judge under these circumstances shall be allowed to finish the race.
- (b) The Chief Judge shall act as the supervising official for the competition, and act as a Judge only in the special situation noted in paragraph (a) above in competitions under IAAF Rule 1(a), (b), (c) and (d). In competitions held under IAAF Rule 1(a), (b) and (c), a maximum of two Chief Judge's Assistants shall be appointed. The Chief Judge's Assistant(s) are to assist with the notification of disqualifications only and shall not act as Race Walking Judges. (c) For all competitions held under IAAF Rule 1(a), (b) and (c) an official in charge of the Posting Board(s) and a Chief Judge's Recorder shall be appointed.

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Caution

4. Athletes shall be cautioned when, by their mode of progression, they are in danger of failing to comply with paragraph 1 above by showing the athletes a yellow paddle with the symbol of the offence on each side. They cannot be given a second caution by one and the same Judge for the same offence. Having cautioned an athlete, the Judge shall inform the Chief Judge of his action after the competition.

Red Cards

5. When a Judge observes an athlete failing to comply with paragraph 1 above by exhibiting visible loss of contact or a bent knee during any part of the competition, the Judge shall send a Red Card to the Chief Judge.

Disqualification

6. (a) When three Red Cards from three different Judges have been sent to the Chief Judge, the athlete is disqualified, and he shall be notified of this disqualification by the Chief Judge or a Chief Judge's Assistant by showing the athlete a red paddle. The failure to give notification shall not result in the reinstatement of a disqualified athlete.

(b) In all competitions, either directly controlled by the IAAF or taking place under IAAF permit, in no circumstances shall the Red Cards of two Judges of the same nationality have the power to disqualify.

(c) In track races, an athlete who is disqualified shall immediately leave the track and, in road races, shall, immediately after being disqualified, remove the distinguishing numbers and leave the course. Any disqualified athlete who fails to leave the course or track may be liable to further disciplinary action in accordance with IAAF Rules 22.1(f) and 145.2.

(d) One or more Posting Boards shall be placed on the course and near the finish to keep athletes informed about the number of Red Cards that have been sent to the Chief Judge for each athlete. The symbol of each offence should also be indicated on the Posting Board.

(e) For all IAAF Rule 1(a) competitions, hand held computer devices with transmission capability must be used by the judges to communicate all Red Cards to the Recorder and the Posting Board(s).

Protests / Appeals

7. Protests must be lodged in writing with the nominated event referee within 30 minutes of the completion of the event in dispute and accompanied by a cash fee of \$20.00.

The event referee will note the time of the lodging of a protest and if valid in accordance with the rules of competition, accept the fee and have the announcer notify that a protest has been lodged and the event result is pending. As necessary, convene a 'Jury of Appeal' (event referee plus two other persons), adjudicate, as appropriate, on matters allocated to the Jury and ensure the verdict of the Jury is delivered to all parties that need to be notified.