

**Posted 9/28/09 for review by track / XC coaches who wish to know what agenda items were discussed and what recommendations were made by the advisory committee for consideration by the AAA Board of Directors at the October 22, 2009, meeting.
Coaches having comments or feedback please email kathy@ahsaa.k12.ar.us
[See Recommendations to the AAA board at the end.](#)**

**Arkansas Activities Association
Track and Field Advisory Committee
Tuesday, September 16, 2009
Summary of Agenda Items and Recommendations**

Attending: Don Carnahan, Russellville, CH
Leon White, Cabot, 7A
Charlie Carroll, Searcy, 6A
Steve Fleming, Monticello, 5A
Jim West, Boonville, 4A
Scott Glasgow, Atkins, 3A
Glynn Stewart, Union Christian 2A

Joe Nooner, West Memphis, D-H
Steve Oury, Bryant, XC
Cari Hickey, Beebe, GTR
Kathy Tadlock, AAA

Absent: Jerry Brown, Lead Hill, 1A

MEETING NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

BUSINESS, ASSIGNMENTS AND REPORTS:

1. **Coaches end-of-season recap meeting** – It was recommend that that a brief recap meeting be held at each state track meet site again this year immediately following the first (9:30 a.m.) coaches meeting. A reminder will be posted on the track web page along with a form to be filled in by any coach who has an item for input. The form should be brought to the recap meeting at the state meet site and turned in to that classification's advisory committee member or other designated person or place. The form may also be turned in at the Meet of Champs or sent directly to the AAA office (see email address above). This will allow coaches to address: (1) the area of concern, (2) the proposed change, and (3) the rationale for the proposed change

Rationale: This is the time that the most coaches are at the same location and could participate in a recap meeting and discussion without loss of school time or additional travel. Classification reps (see names above) will forward all suggestion forms to the AAA office and these topics will be discussed at the next meeting of the T&F advisory committee.

2. **Conference meets contacts** - Each classification representative is asked to contact conferences in their classification and see that a contact person and information for each conference is reported to the AAA office. The latest date for conference meets is Saturday, April 24.
3. **Future state meet scheduling** – The committee requested that consideration be given to scheduling a later date for the state track meets than the 2009 state dates. **Rationale:** (1) the new earlier start of the season is the week of regional basketball with the second week being the week of state basketball, (2) the earlier start date will most often not permit meets to be held the first several weeks of the season due to weather conditions, and (3) the junior high season becomes extremely short after waiting for the weather to be suitable enough for meets and ending before the earlier date for the senior high conference meet.
4. **Computing qualifying performances** – Each classification representative received a CD containing results and information files needed for computing the track and field qualifying performances for 2010. Each standard is to be rounded to the better performance. The new standards are due in the AAA office by November 1. (Triple jump will continue to be computed on second place finishes until further notice.)
5. **Championship dates** – State track meet dates for 2010 are set for Friday or Saturday, April 30 - May 1 to avoid testing dates. Thursday, April 29, is also not a testing date and could be available, if needed and specifically requested by a state meet potential host. The Meet of Champs is set for Saturday, May 8, and the Decathlon-Heptathlon is scheduled for Wednesday-Thursday, May 12-13.
6. **Administrative track clinic** - The date for the annual Administrative Track Clinic will be set by the AAA T&F liaison and the advisory committee chairman after researching dates of other track events that could be in conflict (indoor meets, etc.) and could be avoided. Information will be posted on the Track/XC web page. It is critical that coaches who host meets identify meet officials and encourage them to attend the administrative clinic. All interested track coaches, officials and other personnel are welcome and are encouraged to preregister and attend.
7. **Concern for qualified state meet officials** – In addition to the annual statewide administrative track clinic it will be important for schools that host meets to provide training for the meet officials and encourage them to register with the AAA as track officials so they will have the NFHS books to study. The track officials registration form is on the track page of the AAA website.

8. **False start rule** – The committee confirmed that the intent of the new false start rule was that it would be used for certified meets, conference meets, state meets and the Meet of Champs. For non-certified regular season meets the meet host can choose whether to allow one false start charged to the field.
9. **Heptathlon discussion** – One of the suggestions from the end-of-season recap was to consider moving from the girls heptathlon to a girls decathlon, adding pole vault, triple jump and a running event. The committee declined to recommend the change at this time.
10. **Pole Vault discussion** – The committee discussed the suggestion to set pole vault increments to 6" at a time until one competitor remains but declined to make a recommendation.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE AAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

1. **Order of competition - Throwing and Horizontal Jumps:** Would add a note to the handbook permitting directors or games committees of regular season meets, if desired, to list performers in order of best to poorest performance. Separate into groups of four with the first group being those with the best qualifying performances, etc. This format may be desired when conducting the events as finals only competition.
Rationale: When a meet begins, the better throwers/horizontal jumpers are almost always the most active in the warm up process and then have to sit for possibly an hour or more before they actually throw/jump. This often impacts performances. Also, if a meet is called early due to weather it's the better throwers who get left out.
2. **Vaulter Weight Verification** – The committee recommended that vaulters be weighed at the meet site approximately 15 minutes prior to beginning warmups at all certified, conference and state meets. Weighing would be optional at other regular season meets; however, it would continue to be required that, if a vaulter's weight was challenged a means of weighing that vaulter would still be required. Weight will be recorded on the events sheet at the weigh-in. The person recording the event will stand near the end of the runway where the plant box is and verify the pole immediately following each vault. In the event that a vaulter warms up or competes with an illegal pole the rules book penalty of disqualification will be applied.
Rationale: This provides for consistency in state and qualifying meets and adds accountability to the coaches and athletes.
3. **Qualifying to the state meet** – It was recommended that qualifying to the state track meet be limited to three ways. An athlete may qualify by:
 - a. Finishing in a qualifying place in the conference meet
 - b. Meeting a qualifying standard in the conference meet IF IT IS A CERTIFIED MEET.
 - c. Meeting a qualifying standard in a regular season certified meet if the athlete did not qualify by place in the conference meet.**Rationale:** These procedures preserve the original intent of allowing alternate qualifying for a quality athlete who may have been ill, injured, absent or did not compete in that event on the day of the conference meet.
4. **Timers and Pickers** – It is recommended that for conference and state meets we return to the use of timers and pickers for all places. It was further recommended that an official video camera, in addition to the FAT camera be set up in line with the finish line to capture the finish order in the event of FAT failure.
Rationale: Several times in recent years with only FAT there has been a failure to start or a failure of the system during a race. Timers will provide hand-held times and video will assure that the order of finish is correct and that no runner was left out.
5. **State Meet Time Schedule** – Some time adjustments were proposed for the state meet schedule that should result in a more efficient use of time and slightly shorten the dead time between prelims and finals. The proposed time adjustments are shown on the meet schedule below.

<u>Class 1A</u>	<u>2A-7A</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>Class 1A</u>	<u>2A-7A</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
9:00 9:30	9:00 9:30	Weigh in 1st coaches meeting and Recap Meeting	1:30	2:00 3:00	Weigh in Final coaches Meeting
10:30 11:00	10:30 11:00	Girls Pole Vault Girls Discus Girls Long Jump Boys Shot Boys Triple Jump Boys High Jump	2:30 3:00	2:30 3:30 3:30 4:30	Boys Pole Vault Girls Shot Girls Triple Jump Girls High Jump Boys Discus Boys Long Jump
12:30 4:00	12:30 4:00	Running Prelims Girls 100 m High Hurdles 33" Boys 110 m High Hurdles 39" 100 m Dash 4x800 m Relay Finals 4x100 m Relay Girls 300 m Low Hurdles 30" Boys 300 m Int. Hurdles 36" 200 m Dash	5:00	5:30 6:30	Running Finals 100/110 m Hurdles 100 m Dash 1600 m Run 4x100 m Relay 400 m Dash 300 m Hurdles 800 m Run 200 m Dash 3200 m Run 4x400 m Relay

Track / XC coaches are asked to read and respond to any items in which they have an interest. Send e-mail comments or questions to kathy@ahsaa.k12.ar.us.