

PLACE JUDGES



Function:

To determine the order in which athletes cross the finish line in a track/course event.

What Do I Need?

- Recording sheet
- Place Tickets
- Pen
- Clipboard

Where Do I Stand?

All Place Judges should:

- operate from the same side of the track
- on a raised stand at least 5m back from the inside lane of the track
- in line with the finish line

How Many Place Judges Should There Be?

It is preferable that there is a Chief Judge and enough Place Judges to take at least the first four places.

For longer races, Place Judges should note the finishing order of all athletes.

What Do I Do?

Place Judges are allocated a specific place to judge e.g. 3rd place

- Judging a place occurs when an athlete's torso – (not head, neck, arms, hands, legs) crosses the finish line which is defined as the vertical plane of the nearer edge of the finish line to the start.
- Record the athlete's number and club and hand to the Chief Judge or athlete to proceed to the Recording Area.
- In distances greater than 400m, athletes may be handed place numbers from the Place Judges before being placed in finishing order and proceeding to the Recording Area

How Do Place Judges Record the Finish?

- The Chief Judge notes the first athlete to finish
- The First Place Judge notes the first athlete and checks the second athlete
- The Second Place Judge notes the second and checks third
- The Third Place Judge notes third and checks fourth

The Chief Judge determines the placings after collecting the Recording Sheet

What Happens If A Mistake Is Made?

Sometimes you may miss the finish. It may be too close for you to make an accurate decision or you are unsure.

- Remain calm and inform the Chief Judge immediately and they will assist you.



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Handy Hints for Place Judges

- Be aware of all Place Judges on the stand and don't obstruct their view
- Don't converse with other Place Judges over your decision
- Don't converse with the athletes as this slows down the process
- In non-laned events, be aware of athletes being lapped or withdrawing

Note: The single function of Place Judges may vary widely on the type of meeting at which they are officiating. At some competitions with limited Officials, Timekeepers may also perform the role of Place Judges. Where an Official has a dual role, it is important that the Official does not lose sight of their athlete until identity is clearly established.

COVID-19 Requirements for Return to Competition:

- Avoid touching your face
- Wear a facemask
- Use hand sanitizer and have it available at the event site (This may need to be provided by the Event Organiser)
- Any personal equipment taken onto the field of play (FOP) e.g. Clipboard, stop watch etc, must be cleaned before entering the FOP
- If equipment is shared by Officials e.g. Clipboard, rake, the equipment must be cleaned after each person

