

# Place Judging

## 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 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

## How Many Place Judges Should There Be?

The number required depends on the type of event (laned/unlaned). It is preferable that there is one for each lane or per athlete and a Chief Judge.

## What Do I Do?

Place Judges are allocated a specific place to judge e.g. 3<sup>rd</sup> place

- Judging a place occurs when an athlete's torso – (not head, neck, arms, hands, legs) crosses the finish line
- Record the athlete's number and club and hand to Chief Judge or athlete to proceed to the recording area
- In distances greater than 400m, athletes may be handed place numbers from the 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 to finish
  - The First Judge notes first and checks second
  - The Second Judge notes second and checks third
  - The Third Judge notes third and checks fourth .....
- The Chief Judge determines the placings after collecting the record sheets

## 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.

- Don't panic



# Place Judging

- Don't let your mistake be known to the athletes, spectators, coaches
- Inform the Chief Judge immediately and they will assist you

## Handy Hints for Place Judges

- Be aware of all judges on the stand and don't obstruct their view
- 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 Judges may vary widely on the type of meeting at which they are officiating eg at some competitions with limited officials Timekeepers may also perform the role of 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

