For clerk, start area, finish line captain, scoring table. See also clerking instructions.

Sprints are events up to 400 meters. These events are run in lanes and timed per lane. A slower heat of the 400 could be done as a run, with competitors breaking to the rail, instead of a sprint..

FINISH LINE CAPTAIN reports to CLERK maximum number per heat, based on number of timers available. Heat size will generally be 4 to 6 people.

FINISH LINE CAPTAIN should have a clipboard with SPRINT SCORE SHEETS in blank.

CLERK collects event cards, sorts them into heats, and delivers them to starter / start crew. Any prospective participant who does not have a bib number should be referred to REGISTRATION.

Method A: Where possible, age group / gender heats may be formed. Up to age 18, age groups are two years. Open is 18-39. Above age 39, 5 year age groups: wider ranges are OK. Age groups may be combined. Mixed age group heats can be sorted out a scoring table. If there are no significant prizes (typical situation), it is not a serious issue. If there are prizes, people contending for the same prize should run the same heat.

Method B: Where there is no clear division, a group of cards, ordered from slow to fast.

For Method A, CLERK presents START AREA with a clipboard having SPRINT START REGISTER completed with bib numbers, names, and if feasible, age and home town or club information for each runner.

For Method B, CLERK presents START AREA with either event cards or SPRINT START REGISTER in blank or completed as for method A.

Four to six heats of the same event may be presented together.

CLERK may temporarily become part of the start area crew. This may be convenient if there is another clerk to prepare the next heats.

START area crew (or announcer) **announces heats**. When a particular heat is called to the start line, the start crew should also announce the group that is "NEXT" and if feasible, the group that is "THIRD," or some other obvious terms.

Prior to start, SPRINT START REGISTER should be filled out if not done by clerk. This can be done for "NEXT" heat while the finish line crew is resolving the race just completed.

THE RACE IS RUN.

FINISH area completes SPRINT SCORE SHEET with event and heat number completed, and noting for each competitor, at least lane, place, bib number, and times recorded. Stapling paper tape printouts is OK as long as it is obvious which times match which competitor.

FINISH LINE CAPTAIN returns SPRINT SCORE SHEET to CLERK. The sprint score sheets may be returned as completed or en masse.

START AREA returns SPRINT START REGISTER to CLERK.

For clerk, start area, finish line captain, scoring table. See also clerking instructions.

CLERK sends to SCORING TABLE the SPRINT START REGISTER, event cards, and SPRINT SCORE SHEET.

The scoring table will often be the same as the clerks' table.

SCORING TABLE completes SPRINT SCORE SHEET.

If feasible, scoring table should produce DUPLICATE SPRINT SCORE SHEET for immediate posting.

Where two or three times are recorded, the scored time is the second fastest. Single times are inadequate for USATF sanctioned scoring, but acceptable for informal all-comer events.

Hand timing, round UP to next whole tenths of seconds.

Speed-of-sound correction for audible-only start device (horn) (does not meet USATF sanction requirements)

For the 100 meters, this will typically be 0.23 seconds ADDED to the recorded time, but could vary slightly depending on the temperature – since it does not satisfy sanctioned scoring requirements, we are not too picky.

For 200 meters, the value may be determined empirically. Typical values are: high school tracks (long straights) ADD 0.32 seconds, IAAF standard tracks, 0.31 sec.

For hand timing, first add the speed-of-sound correction, then times are rounded UP to the next whole tenths of seconds.

RESULTS FOLDER gets SPRINT START REGISTER, SPRINT SCORE SHEET, and event cards.

The information in the RESULTS FOLDER should be sufficient to reconstruct and double check the results. When possible, the names of the starter, finish line captain, clerk, and score keeper should be noted. It is not necessary to do this repetitiously. In the unlikely event that records are needed, we would like to have contemporaneous and unbiased evidence of who was present in what role.

SUMMARY

Before first heat: Finish line captain gets sprint finish sheets from clerk, reports maximum heat size to clerk.

Pre-heat: clerk presents heats to starter. Start register completed between clerk and start crew.

Post-heat: finish crew completes preliminary score sheet. Finish captain returns score sheet to clerk. Start crew returns start register to clerk.

After several (or all) heats: clerk sends start register and score sheet to scoring table. Scoring table finalizes score sheet.