

USATF OFFICIALS BEST PRACTICES

POLE VAULT RULES COMPARISON

GOVERNING BODY	IAAF	USATF	NCAA	NFHS
EQUIPMENT/FACILITIES				
Pad surface (L x W x H)	7 m x 6 m x 0.8 m	6.15m x 6m x 0.813 m	6.5m x 6m x 0.813 m	20' 2" x 19' 8"
Box collar required	No	No	Yes	Yes (eff. Jan 2015)
Crossbar length	4.48 - 4.52 m	4.48 - 4.52 m	4.48 - 4.52 m	14' 10" (4.52 m)
Distance between pegs	4.30 - 4.37 m	4.30 - 4.37 m	4.30 - 4.37 m	4.16-4.48 m (13'8"-14'8")
Bar support peg length	55 mm	55 mm	55 mm	Max. 3" (76 mm)
ATHLETE MATTERS				
Marks beside runway	1 or 2 markers; no chalk/indelible marks	1 or 2 markers; no chalk/indelible marks	1 or 2 markers, 7x15cm max; no shoes	Allowed
Electronic devices	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	No wireless communic. device or viewing of video
Tape on pole	No restrictions, unlimited layers planting end	No restrictions, unlimited layers planting end	No restrictions, unlimited layers planting end	Uniform layers grip end; no restrictions planting end
Tape on hands/fingers	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not allowed
Wear of gloves	Not allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not allowed
Standards positioning (from zero line)	0-80 cm	0-80 cm (Youth 45-80)	45-80 cm	18-31.5 inches (45-80 cm)
Warm ups at venue after competition starts	Not allowed	Open: not allowed. Master & Youth: 1 run-thru after 3 passed hts, w/o bar	2 min. per athlete if no jumps after 1 hour, w/o bar, at entry height	2 min. per athlete after 3 consec. passed hts, w/o bar, at entry height
Athlete arrives after competition starts	Start at current height - if entered	Start at current height - if entered	Can't compete	Can't compete
Athletes competing in another event	Not addressed	For one trial at a time may jump out of order. If not at venue, call "up" & record "pass" after time limit	May jump out of order. If not at venue and round is otherwise complete, call "up"; record "pass" after time limit; & raise bar	May jump out of order in prelims & finals; if leave venue, excusal time set by Games Cmte
TIMING FOR ATTEMPTS				
Open - 4 or more athletes	1 Min	1 Min	1 Min	1 Min
Open - 2-3 athletes	2 Min	2 Min *	3 Min *	3 Min
Open - 1 athlete	5 Min	5 Min *	5 Min *	5 Min
Open - Consecutive jumps	3 Min	3 Min	3 Min	3 Min
Combined events - 4 or more	1 Min	1 Min	1 Min	1.5 Min
Combined events - 2 or 3	2 Min	2 Min	3 Min	4 Min
Combined events - 1 athlete	3 Min	3 Min	3 Min	6 Min
Combined events - consecutive	3 Min	3 Min	3 Min	3 Min
* 1st attempt in competition - 1 min.				
Time expiration - warning method	Clock, or hold up yellow flag w/15 seconds left	Clock and hold up yellow flag w/15 seconds left, at end drop flag, verbal	Clock, or hold up yellow flag w/15 seconds left	Not addressed
CONDUCTING THE EVENT				
Passes	Pass height	Pass height	Pass attempt(s)	Pass attempt(s)
Use of 5 alive	Not addressed	Use if large field; abandon when <13 after end of a ht.	Use if >15 in competition; abandon when < 9 at a ht.	Games Committee decision abandon when < 9 at a ht.
Athlete steadies bar	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed
Athlete leaves the ground but does not complete the vault	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Aborted runup allowed Aborted attempt not allowed
Increments - Open	5-15 cm	5-15 cm; never increase	5-15 cm; never increase	Games Committee
Increments - combined events	10 cm	10 cm	10 cm	Not addressed
1st place ties: Where to start; increments to raise & lower	At next ht in progression after tied height; 5 cm	At next ht in progression after tied height; 5 cm	At next ht in progression after tied height; 5 cm	At failed height 3 inches
Score sheet markings				
Make	O	O	O	O
Miss	X	X	X	X
Pass / Did not jump	P or --	P or --	P	P