

These concerns were raised in regard to the issue of whether an outside (non-PPS) group may use the track and field equipment at Princeton High School on site to conduct track and field activities.

How will the risk of damage to equipment be addressed?

USA Track and Field sanction includes an insurance provision covering damage to equipment. This is documented in the USA Track and Field insurance brochure. The insurance broker can provide a more precise explanation of the rider to the general liability policy.

As documented in photographs, the major installation-type components, such as the discus safety net, high jump landing mat, and pole vault apparatus, are left exposed to the weather and the general public for months at a time. In this regard, PPS already assumes all risks related to use by anyone. This appears to be the normal manner of care. Princeton University also leaves its track and field equipment exposed to the weather and the general public.

Some components are routinely stored in cages near the track. These include hurdles and the crossbars for vertical jumps. The plastic parts are subject to embrittlement due to age. These parts are inexpensive and easy to replace by design. Crossbars cost around one hundred dollars. They can break, but I have never seen it. Breakage in the course of ordinary use would likely be the result of a small force applied to an already existing hairline fracture.

What about ordinary wear of the equipment?

The principal mode of degradation of the equipment is aging. This is demonstrated by the manner of care noted above. There is no provision for logging number of jumps or number of throws.

Weathering occurs, but is not of such concern that equipment is stowed in climate controlled storage. The mats have covers to prevent being inundated; activities can be conducted even in wet conditions.

The wear generated by the use of the school's own track team would be difficult to measure. Materials degrade naturally due to age.

Is there a limiting principle? Other organizations might want to use other equipment. (One committee member asked, if PPS can be called on to provide four tables, why not 30 tables?)

A limiting principle is whether the site and equipment requested is especially well suited to the proposed activity. Additional considerations would be the existence of nearby publicly available alternatives and whether the provision of the equipment is reasonably convenient.

The track and field facility and the installation-type equipment situated there is the unique publicly owned track and field facility and equipment in Princeton. The poured concrete discus ring is dedicated to the exclusive purpose of throwing discuses.

The major equipment is installed seasonally. Its availability requires only confirmation as to the dates of installation. Other equipment, such as the high jump crossbar, is stored in cages under the stadium

seating.

Tables and chairs, when not left out, also find a home under the stadium seating. The number of tables requested aligns with the number of tables routinely observed at the site. There is no expectation that PPS should obtain additional equipment to the order of an outside group.

What staff or administrative time will be required in order to make the equipment available?

For the major installation equipment, only confirmation as to the fact of installation is needed. The smaller items are in storage cages under the stadium seating. Access requires unlocking the cages.

We sometimes bring in specialized timing equipment that requires the Guyot street gate be opened. This gate is routinely opened for other groups. It is as simple to unlock the gate as it is to unlock a cage.

There are painted lines in the throwing area indicating the landing sectors for the implements. It may occasionally be helpful to have the lines made bright and fresh. We can do this ourselves, but the grounds crew does this routinely and easily. It is a small task, but does consume field paint. If it is possible to provide this service, I would expect there to be an additional fee. One of the grounds crew suggested \$25.

There was also inquiry as to whether the facility and equipment accommodates all ages of participant.

Yes, all ages can use the equipment. Other community track and field meets take place at other high school facilities.

USA Track and Field provides a rules comparison, including facilities specifications, for high school (NFHS), collegiate (NCAA), and international activities (IAAF). The NCAA and NFHS facilities specifications there are almost identical. There is some variation in the IAAF mat sizes in comparison with the other standards. Typically, they are a bit larger.

The main limitation is that performances at high school facilities may not be records-eligible. The type of hurdles used at many high schools do not conform to the higher level standards. The typical high school high jump standards do not go high enough for a world record performance.