

2.3 Discus Specific Rules

These rules are to be read in conjunction with Section "A" Competition General Rules and Section "C" – Field Events 1. General Rules and 2 Throws Events.

2.3.1 Officials

- i. A minimum of 6 officials is required, 3 operating at the circle and 3 in the field.
- ii. Official A (normally the Chief Judge) will:
 - a. Stand **outside the Discus cage** to the front of the circle and will watch for infringements, which are most likely to occur at the front.
 - b. Indicate a fair throw with a white flag and a foul throw with a red flag and will read off the measurements.
 - c. Advise the athlete the reason for a foul.
- iii. Official B will:
 - a. Stand **outside the Discus cage** and to the rear of the circle.
 - b. Watch for infringements at the rear as the thrower turns and will also pull the tape through the centre of the circle.
- iv. Official C will:
 - a. Record the result on the Result Sheet and call up competitors.
 - b. Time the trial and indicate with a yellow flag when the last 15 seconds remains for that trial.
- v. Officials D & E will:
 - a. Operate in the field watching the sector lines and assist in determining the point of landing.
 - b. Return the discus to the competitors. (The discus must always be carried and never thrown).
- vi. Official F will:

Indicate where the discus lands with the spike holding the zero end of the tape.

Note

Since the landing of a discus is somewhat unpredictable the officials must observe the actual landing carefully. A discus may land in various ways:

- On its front edge, which presents no difficulty.
- Absolutely flat, when it may be difficult to determine the actual point of contact, particularly on hard ground.
- Tilting over as it lands, with the spin imparted by the thrower causing it to cut up the turf. This may appear to be the mark, but a closer examination of the ground in the immediate vicinity will almost certainly show a curved indentation some 5-10cm behind the cut up turf. This is the first mark made by the implement on landing, and it is from here that the measurement is taken.

2.3.2 Discus Cage

- i. All discus throws **must** be made from an enclosure or cage to ensure the safety of spectators, officials and competitors.
- ii. The cage should also be designed, manufactured and maintained so as to stop the discus so there is no danger of it ricocheting off fixed members of the cage, back towards the athlete or over the top of the net. Provided it satisfies this, any form of cage design and construction can be used.

- iii. The cage should be U-shaped in plan (see Preparation of Facilities).
- iv. Provision should be made in the design and construction of the cage to prevent a discus forcing its way through any joints in the cage or the netting or underneath the netting panels.
- v. The netting for the cage can be made from suitable natural or synthetic fibre cord or, alternatively, from mild or high tensile steel wire. The maximum mesh size shall be 50 mm for steel wire and 44mm for cord netting. The minimum size of cord or wire depends on the construction of the cage, but the minimum breaking strain should be 40kg.