

COURSE MEASURER

DUTY STATEMENT

Introduction

This statement describes the duties and responsibilities of the Course Measurer and describes the procedures required to obtain accurate measurements of various types of courses for both walking and running events. The degree of accuracy will be a function of the significance of the event and the type of terrain traversed by the event. The courses will be non-stadium courses typically used for the Clubs winter program but will also include non-stadium courses for national championships and other similar events. The degree of accuracy will be less for cross-country events where the track is less well defined.

Course Measurer

The Course Measurer shall preferably be someone who has attended and passed an IAAF Course Measurers Training Seminar with a Class C as a minimum. The Course Measurer should have or should have access to a bicycle with a Jones Counter or the equivalent.

The Course Measurer shall establish an accurately measured calibration course of at least 250m long within approximately 1 hrs drive of the course to be measured. The calibration course shall be established and permanently marked in accordance with the IAAF Course Measurers Guidelines.

The current calibration course for the Adelaide metropolitan area is 500m long on the shared path to the west of the Victoria Park Race Course. It starts adjacent to a light pole on the southern end of the path and is marked by a nail driven into the pavement.

Course Selection

The courses to be measured shall be proposed by the event coordinators (Walks and Runs) and endorsed by the SAMA Management Committee. The following steps are recommended.

- Decide whether the course is to be a running or walking course or suitable for both.
- Decide whether the course needs to be an exact distance such as 2.5km, 4km, etc. In this case the course should have sections where the course could be lengthened or shortened to achieve the exact distances. These will typically be turn points on out and back sections of a course.
- Plot the proposed course using tools such as Google Earth. Path measuring should be turned on. The plot would be prepared by the event coordinator with or without input from the Course Measurer.
- Inspection of the course by the event coordinator and the Course Measurer to make sure that the proposed route is feasible, safe and meets the basic

requirements of the course. These requirements may be different for running and walking events.

- Mark up any proposed changes to the course.

The result will be a preliminary plan of the course which satisfies the basic objectives of the course. This should preferably be a Google Earth plot with the terrain shown. The next stage is to accurately measure the course.

Course Measurement

The Course Measurer shall calibrate the bike by riding up and down the calibration course at least 4 times and calculate the Jones Counter readings for 1 km for the prevailing conditions in accordance with the IAAF Course Measurers Guidelines.

The Course Measurer will then measure the proposed course and calculate the actual length of the course. The line taken shall be the shortest possible and will generally be from tangent point to tangent point. Where this is not possible or safe the course will have to be marked with cones or bunting to reflect the actual course measured. The course shall be adjusted if an exact distance is required by adjusting the length of the out and back section.

The Calibration should be rerun at the end of the measuring session and counts per km again calculated and the course length adjusted as required.

The start and finish points shall be accurately described and permanently marked if possible with an unobtrusive marker. Similar the turn around point should also be permanently marked.

If required distances could also be permanently marked on the pavement. It is more difficult to permanently mark.

Records

The Course Measurer shall record the calibration and course readings taking during the course measurement and fully describe the course by means of a course map and a course description so that the course can be reestablished at any time in the future. The records should comply with the IAAF Course Measurers Guidelines.