

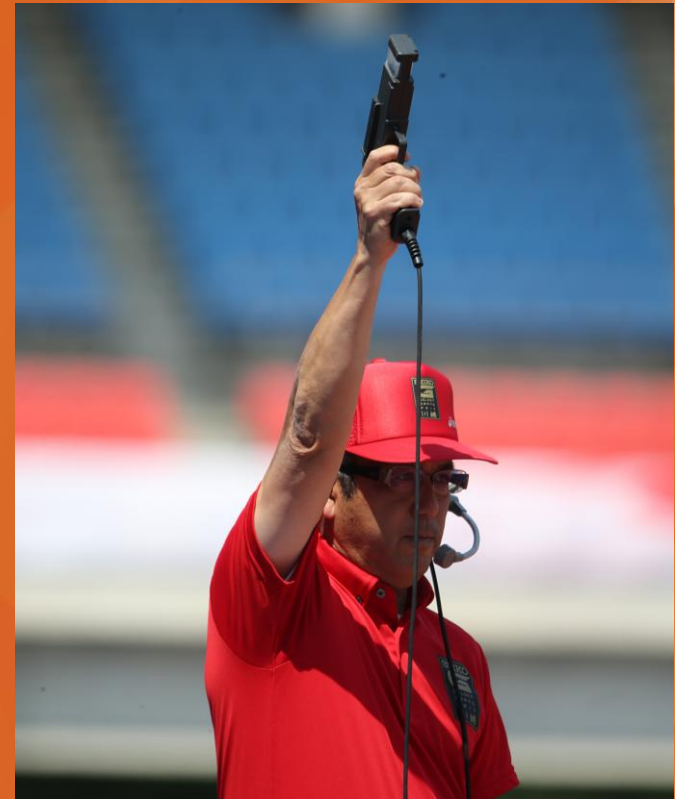


Comité Nacional de Jueces  
Comisión de Salidas

# RESPONSABILITIES AND TASKS OF THE START TEAM STARTER vs. START REFEREE



Seminar for starters  
Firenze / ITA  
January 2018



## STRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION OF THE START TEAM:

- **START COORDINATOR**
  - **STARTER**
  - **RECALLERS**
  - **STARTER'S ASSISTANTS**
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- **START REFEREE** (works alongside the start team)

## START COORDINATOR



- his/her role is crucial for smooth running of the team and each individual belonging to it
- responsible for the organisation and management of the starting team
- responsible for the implementation of the Technical Rules of the whole team

### START COORDINATOR

- Allocate duties to team members (when IS appointed, duties and races to start by IS under the direction of TD)
- Supervise the duties of each member of the team
- Control and manage the start process.
- Plan the position and movements at the start area of the Starter, Recallers and Starter's Assistants, by meeting the whole team before competition.
- Be the link to the Competition Management and follow their instructions at the start area (especially related to the TV presentation and timetable).

### START COORDINATOR

- Inform the Starter, after receiving the relevant order from the Competition Director, that everything is in order to initiate the start procedure (checking: timing, finish, wind gauge operator, etc.)
- Keep the competition on time and manage situation if some delay happens.
- Be the link to the providers of the SIS and timing company.
- Keep all relevant paperwork.
- Ensure Rule 162.9 is observed and followed.

### START COORDINATOR

*The role of Start Coordinator can be implemented in two possible ways:*

- He/she is a supervisory official who manages all aspects of the start process. He/she should be a senior starter with significant experience but never starts a race when is in the role of Start Coordinator during the competition.
- He/she continues to implement his managerial role but also acts as the senior starter, thus giving an added dimension of expertise to the team's contributions. In this case, the Start Coordinator will delegate a team member to co-ordinate when he is starting.

## STARTER



- remains the key person in the starting process
- his/her judgement, supported by SIS technology and the start team, is crucial
- the same Starter must start all rounds of the same event and similarly must start all heats within a round.



### STARTER

- All Athletes have a fair start and within the rules.
- He/she is the judge **to decide regarding false starts** including when the race is recalled by any Recaller. Quick consultation between team members on these occasions is recommended to avoid delay).
- Be positioned to have view of all athletes, and in a similar angle of vision.
- SIS control module positioned close to him for fast checking, and use that information as one resource to decide in a false start.
- His/her commands and the start and any recall signals are heard **simultaneously by all athletes**.



## RECALLERS



- are deployed to specific positions to give an alternative and enhanced view of a race start
- support the starter and identify any offence or technical fault at a start that the Starter may not have observed.
- if there is any doubt about the legality or fairness of the start, the Recallers must recall the race. Then inform the Starter the offence observed who will take the decision (if any).

## STARTER'S ASSISTANTS



- play an important role in:
  - the management of the athletes
  - the preparation of the race
  - keep the timetable on time
  
- must ensure that the relevant parts of Rules 130 and 162 are fully observed and implemented

## STARTER'S ASSISTANTS

- All athletes are in the correct heat and lane.
- All athlete's bibs and hip lane identifications are correct and correspond with the start list.
- Starting blocks are positioned according with Rule 161
- All athletes are correctly assembled before Starter initiates the start process → signal to Starter.
- After command "On your marks", inform the Starter that athletes controlled by them are correctly positioned (position of hands, knee and feet) → signal to Starter.

## STARTER'S ASSISTANTS

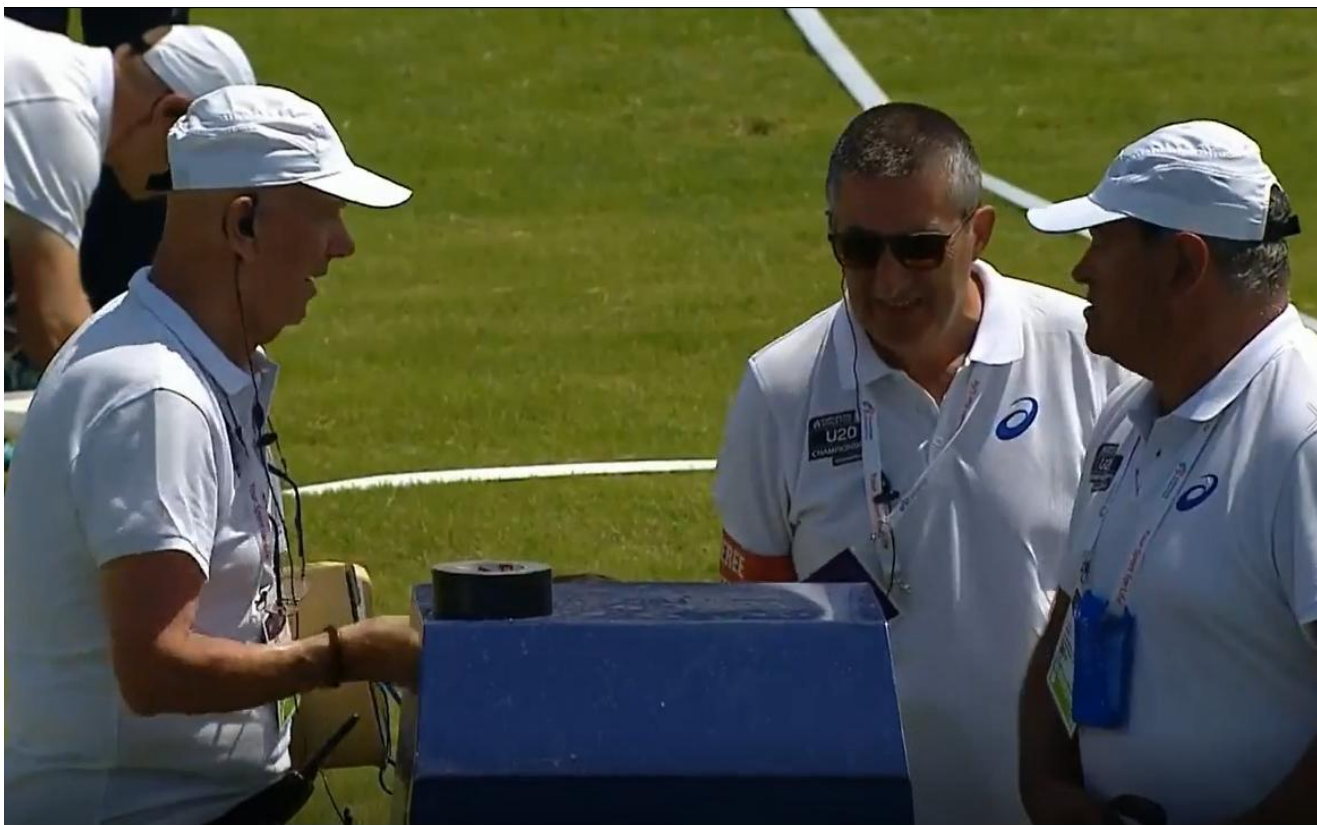
- Rules 162.3 and 162.4 are observed during that period of time.
- In case of recalled start or aborted start, Starter's Assistants have to show the corresponding cards stated in Rule 162.9 (information of the card to be shown has to be given by Starter, who takes the decision).
- Batons for Relay races are ready at the start and duly identified.

## STARTER'S ASSISTANTS

*Showing of the cards to the athletes (IMPORTANT):*

- All athletes have understood the conditions under which subsequent starts will occur.
  - In the case of Combined Events, all athletes have understood that next false start will accrue a disqualification.
- ✓ *Must be aware that any disqualified athlete immediately leaves the area of competition. If necessary, ensure the athlete is escorted from the area.*

## START REFEREE



## START REFEREE

- plays an important role at all starts
- he/she has to oversee the start area (positioned there)
- should be a specialist and experienced starter (their observations and decisions will have a technically sound background)
- the Start Referee's judgement is crucial when considering protests
- the Start Referee's judgement is crucial as to decide whether a start contravened the rules or was otherwise unfair,



### START REFEREE

- Works alongside and in support of all other members of the start team.
- Does not interfere or comment on starts - except when issues need addressing -.
- Must be present in “0-gun test” together with Chief Photo Finish Judge and a Starter.
- Checks and monitors the operation of SIS.
- Imposes and notifies the imposition to athletes of “disciplinary” warnings or disqualification under Rule 162.5 (Start Referee must also be aware of any previous disciplinary warnings).

## START REFEREE

- Communicates with athletes when appropriate and/or necessary to ensure the good conduct of a competition, including his/her specific duties to deal with:
  - an official protest about a start
  - the failure of the Starter to recall or abort a start
  - a warning / disqualification
- Decides, in accordance with Rule 146.4, if can allow an athlete, who immediately protests, to run the race, subject to the protest being considered afterwards.
- Decides in a protest based on failure of the Starter to recall a false start or to abort a start.

### START REFEREE

- Decides in a protest based on failure of the Starter to recall a false start or to abort a start: disqualify or warn an athlete when the race is completed.

*(in all cases, information provided by SIS must be considered)*

- Considers if might be other irregularities at the start that can be considered as “allowable protest” (blocks slipping, crowd disturbance, etc.)
- When no SIS is in use, Start Referee must make his own judgement on the legality of each start. This adds greater importance to the background of the Start Referee as an experienced starter.