

VSI Officiating Update

No. 11

07 June 2007

Rule Change Regarding the Determination of a Primary Timing System Malfunction

Referees, Timing Equipment Operators, Timing Judges, and Recorders please take note.

Rule 102.16.5 "Determination of Official Time" was modified at the USA-S Convention last September. Billed as a housekeeping change, the rule was modified as follows:

102.161.5 Determination of Official Time
.5 Determination of Official Time

C Primary Timing System Malfunction – May have occurred if:

(1) The difference between the time obtained by the primary system and the back-up system(s) is more than .30 seconds ~~or more~~.

[underlined words are new; struck through words have been eliminated]

(2) A late or missed touch is reported by an official observing the finish.

Housekeeping or not, the change to the rule is not just a change in wording, but changes the rule as well.

CTS5 Operators: The software on the CTS5 flags differences greater than or equal to 0.30 seconds. This value cannot be changed and CTS has indicated that the software will not be upgraded. The best that you can do is remind the Timing Judge that differences equal to 0.30 seconds will still be flagged.

CTS6 Operators: Enter the SETUPS menu, enter TIMING, enter "#0 Pad to Backup Comparison Interval = ##" and set to 0.31. Differences equal to or greater than 0.31 seconds will now be flagged.

Daktronics Operators: The value can be changed under: "4) SETUP MENU", "4-2) TIMER", "4-2-4) FLAG TIME." According to the instructions, "*FLAG TIME is the time used when the touchpad is compared to the backup time. If the discrepancy exceeds the flag time, the timer puts an asterisk (*) next to that touchpad time on the final results.*"

Based on the instructions, setting the value to 0.3 should flag differences of 0.31 or greater.

Timing Judges: Timing Judges need to review the timing data with the new rule in mind. You can also remind the Timing Equipment Operator to check that the applicable changes have been made.

Recorders: Beginning with version 2.0Dp of Meet Manager, the software flags pad times that differ by greater than 0.30 seconds (plus or minus) from the backup time.

Referees: Referees need to be aware of all of the above.

Our training manuals and documents will be updated to reflect the rule change.

Questions?

Do you have a question about officiating or a tip you'd like to share? Is there a rule that you'd like to have clarified? Is there something that you'd like to see the Officials Committee do? Do you have a suggestion for a future item in this newsletter?

If so, please send your questions/comments to Kevin Hogan (Chair, VSI Officials Committee, kevinhogan56@earthlink.net).

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