



WFTDA Referee and Officiating Standardized Practices

Being uniquely concerned with interleague and tournament practices and ignoring home needs.

(Updated July 2011)

Skating Officials	
Issue	Standard Practice
<p><u>Outside Pack Referee Movement</u></p> <p>How should Outside Pack Referees line up and in what manner should they move to make sure the pack is covered?</p>	<p><u>Half Lap Skate and Wait:</u> Three skating Outside Pack Referees provides for the referees to maintain a constant eye on the pack and consistent coverage.</p> <p>Basic referee positioning should start at opposite corners. If starting positions are in turns 1 and 3, two referees start at one turn, and the third referee starts at the opposite turn. If starting positions are at turns 2 and 4, the first referee starts at turn 2, the second referee starts at turn 4, and the third starts at the pivot line.</p>
<p><u>Outside Pack Referee Communication</u></p> <p>In what way shall Outside Pack Referees communicate penalties to the Penalty Trackers?</p>	<p>Outside Pack Referees shall call the penalty normally (for both the skater and Penalty Wrangler to hear). Then, if the Penalty Wrangler did not acknowledge the penalty on the first call, signal it to the Outside Whiteboard.</p>
<p><u>Head Referee Positioning</u></p> <p>Where should the Head Referee be located?</p>	<p>The Head Referee will be in position on the inside of the track. They will position themselves as a front or back Inside Pack Referee.</p>
<p><u>Jammer Referee Designation</u></p> <p>How should Jammer Referees designate which jammer is assigned to a specific referee?</p>	<p>Color coded arm- or wristbands will be worn by Jammer Referees to designate the teams they are currently assigned to.</p> <p>Teams are responsible for maintaining their own appropriately colored set of bands and providing them for each bout.</p> <p>Jammer Referee helmet covers may optionally be worn, but not to the exclusion of wrist- or armbands.</p>
<p><u>Jammer Referee Duties</u></p> <p>Penalties called on jammers can be decisive. Who is responsible for calling these penalties?</p>	<p>While anyone can call major penalties on any skater, a referee witnessing a minor committed by the jammer will communicate immediately to the corresponding Jammer Referee to make the call.</p>
<p><u>Jammer Point Recording</u></p> <p>Should the Jammer Referee ever take their eyes off the jammer to communicate points earned or for any other reason?</p>	<p>A Jammer Referee should be able to visually check with the Scorekeeper to verify the score reported. The Scorekeeper will visually signal back the exact score for the pass that the Jammer Referee signaled.</p> <p>This does require that the Scorekeeper maintain the ability to make eye contact instantaneously, and be signaling the score received until the referee verifies it.</p>
<p><u>Echoing Calling off the Jam</u></p>	<p>When calling off the jam, all referees will echo the end-of-jam whistles and hand signals.</p>
<p><u>Signaling a Skater Off Before the Whistles Blow</u></p> <p>How should a referee direct a skater off the track for a penalty before the pack or jammer whistles blows?</p>	<p>In order to avoid confusion a referee will signal the skater off the track following the standard procedure, but does not whistle.</p>

<p><u>Signaling Off the Last Blocker</u></p> <p>When a team has only one skater remaining on the track and that skater commits a penalty, what should a referee do since, per the rules, a team must have at least one blocker on the track at all times?</p>	<p>The referee calling the penalty should communicate the following to the last blocker: COLOR, SKATER #, PENALTY, “Stay on the track.”</p> <p>The referee will then signal the skater to the penalty box when one of her teammates returns to the track and a seat in the penalty box is available.</p>
<p><u>Expelled Skater</u></p> <p>How shall a Head Referee handle an expelled skater whose penalty box time has elapsed while the jam is still on?</p>	<p>The Head Referee shall be the official to send the skater to the locker room.</p>
<p><u>Hierarchy of Calls</u></p> <p>If a skater blocks an opposing skater in the back, making contact with the forearms, it could be called as either a forearm block or a back block. How should a referee ensure that it is not double reported or that two separate calls do not get counted as one?</p>	<p>A hierarchy based on the following penalty categories will be used:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gross Misconduct 2. Misconduct 3. Position on the Track 4. Illegal Target Zone 5. Illegal Blocking Zone 6. All other non-contact penalties (such as cutting, skating out-of-bounds, illegal procedures, insubordination)

Non-Skating Officials	
Inside Whiteboard	
Issue	Standard Practice
<p><u>Skater Identification</u></p> <p>How should skater numbers be listed on the inside whiteboard? Are skater names to be included?</p>	<p>Skater numbers on the inside whiteboard should be listed in an alphabetic sort. The order of characters will start first 0-9 , followed by A-Z. (Example: 1, 11, 11A, 1A, 2, 21, 2B, 4, 9, A1, etc....)</p> <p>Numbers are the only skater identification needed on the inside whiteboard. Names are not needed.</p>
<p><u>Location</u></p> <p>Is there a specific place that the inside whiteboard should be placed?</p>	<p>One single whiteboard should be placed at the center of the track between the pivot and jammer lines facing the team benches.</p>
<p><u>Notation</u></p> <p>On the single whiteboard in the center, how should the minor penalties and turns in the box be marked?</p>	<p>In the case of minor penalties, hash marks will be used. As for turns in the box, if the skater is sent to the box for four minors then a “4” will be used. For any other major penalties, the penalty code for the infraction shall be used (e.g., “X” for cutting, “B” for back block, etc.).</p>

Penalty Trackers and Wranglers	
Issue	Standard Practice
<p><u>Number Of Penalty Trackers</u></p> <p>How many Penalty Trackers should be used during bouts?</p>	<p>The officiating crew shall use two penalty trackers, one for each team.</p>
<p><u>Miscommunication of Number</u></p> <p>What should a Penalty Tracker do if an incorrect or non-existent number is reported?</p>	<p>A Penalty Tracker shall check in with the Head Referee or the appropriate official between jams.</p>
<p><u>No Penalty for a Skater in the Box</u></p> <p>When a skater reports to the box and no penalty has been reported, what should a Penalty Tracker or Wrangler do?</p>	<p>If no penalty has been reported for a skater in the box, the Wrangler or Penalty Tracker shall check in with the Head Referee in between jams.</p>

<p><u>Fouling Out</u></p> <p>How should a Wrangler handle on-track skaters with six penalty turns in the box?</p>	<p>Wranglers shall inform the Head Referee of any skaters that are at risk of fouling out due to turns to the box.</p>
<p><u>Penalties Issued Between Jams</u></p> <p>If a skater incurs a penalty between two jams, which jam number shall be recorded on the penalty tracking sheets?</p>	<p>The previous jam is the correct jam number to use for penalties occurring in between jams. If the penalty occurs before the first jam, then jam “zero” shall be used.</p>
<p><u>Penalty Issued in Jam, Time Served in Another Jam</u></p> <p>If a skater incurs a penalty in one jam, but doesn't begin serving that penalty until the following jam, which jam number shall be recorded on the penalty tracking sheets?</p>	<p>The jam in which the penalty occurred is the correct jam number to record on the penalty sheet.</p>

Penalty Box	
Issue	Standard Practice
<p><u>Clockwise Penalty Box Entry</u></p> <p>At what point is a skater considered to be entering the box from a clockwise direction?</p>	<p>So long as the skater is touching the floor within the boundaries of the furthest forward edge of the Penalty Box (the "Point of No Return"), they should still be considered to be in the box, and need not skate around to enter the box. The boundary line is to be considered “in”.</p>
<p><u>Pivot/Jammer Cover Management</u></p> <p>What should a skater do if she has a helmet cover on her helmet when she reports to the penalty box?</p>	<p>Skaters in the penalty box that have helmet covers on their helmets must keep the helmet covers visible to the referees at all times while in the box.</p>
<p><u>Communication of Penalty Time Remaining</u></p> <p>Besides warning skaters when they have 10 seconds left, when else should Penalty Timers tell a skater how much penalty time they have remaining?</p>	<p>In addition to telling skaters to stand at 10 seconds, and telling skaters they are done at 0 seconds, Penalty Timers should update a skater when she asks how much penalty time is remaining, within reason.</p>
<p><u>Penalty Box Release Procedures</u></p> <p>What is the procedure for the Penalty Box Official to follow to release a skater from the box?</p>	<p>The standard verbal practice for releasing a skater from the penalty box is “COLOR”, “SKATER #”, “STAND” at 10 seconds, and “COLOR”, “SKATER #”, “DONE” at 0 seconds remaining. The verbal cue should be given so that “STAND” is said when there are exactly 10 seconds left and “DONE” is said when there are exactly 0 seconds left.</p> <p>At that point, it is the skater’s responsibility to enter play legally.</p>
<p><u>Communication from the Penalty Box to Referees</u></p> <p>How should the Penalty Box Official communicate to the referees that a skater has left the box early, owes time, or was waved off and now has a seat available?</p>	<p>Similarly to the outside whiteboard, the penalty box whiteboard is split down the center by color. When a skater owes time, the Penalty Box Official displays the skater number on the appropriate side of the board. If the skater was not officially released by the Penalty Box Official, the number shall be circled. Upon seeing this, a referee sends the skater in question back to the penalty box. If the number is circled, the referee sees that the skater is not in the penalty box and assigns an illegal procedure penalty for early departure from the penalty box.</p>
<p><u>Refusal to Stand</u></p> <p>What actions should the Penalty Box Official take if a skater refuses to stand as directed?</p>	<p>The Penalty Box Official shall inform the skater who is refusing to stand that the remaining time of her penalty will not be timed until she stands.</p>

<p><u>Seat Assignment</u></p> <p>As a skater is coming into the box, how is she to know the appropriate seat in which to sit?</p>	<p>The Penalty Box Official shall signal the appropriate side and/or seat as the skater skates into the box.</p>
<p><u>Further Penalty Box Practices</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penalty Timers should not sit or stand in any location in which they may be confused with a skater serving a penalty. • If not timing a penalty for any reason (skater is not sitting, skater entered the wrong direction), the timer should inform the skater.

Outside Whiteboard	
Issue	Standard Practice
<p><u>Penalty at the End of a Jam</u></p> <p>What is the procedure for an Outside Whiteboard Operator who has a penalty to report at the end of a jam?</p>	<p>If time allows, the Outside Whiteboard Operator shall run to the inside track to report the penalty to the Wrangler.</p>

Jam Timer	
Issue	Standard Practice
<p><u>Jam Timer Location</u></p> <p>Where should the Jam Timer be located?</p>	<p>The Jam Timer is stationed where they can be heard by both the pack and the jammers, without being in any referee's way.</p>
<p><u>Hand Signals at the Beginning of the Jam</u></p> <p>Should the Jam Timer make some sort of signal 5 seconds before the start of the jam? Are there any signals that the Jam Timer should use at the jam start (single) or the jammer start (double) whistles as well?</p>	<p>5 seconds before the beginning of the jam, the Jam Timer shall raise their open hand in the air with all five fingers visible. Once the jam start (single) whistle is blown, the Jam Timer will drop their arm. Then the Jam Timer will point to the jammer line when the jammer start (double) whistle is blown.</p>
<p><u>"No Pack" Starts</u></p> <p>How should the Jam Timer handle a "no pack" at the moment the jam start (single) whistle is blown?</p>	<p>The Jam Timer shall wait for a referee to signal "no pack", then signal the jammer start (double) whistle.</p>
<p><u>Official Timeouts</u></p> <p>If the 30 seconds between jams is about to expire, what should the Jam Timer do?</p>	<p>The Jam Timer is empowered to request an official timeout, if the 30 seconds is about to expire.</p>
<p><u>Timeout Procedures</u></p> <p>What is the procedure for a timeout from the moment a skater signals it to the moment it is displayed on the scoreboard?</p>	<p>The skater signals the timeout. After confirming that the team has a timeout remaining, the first referee to see the signal calls the timeout. The Jam Timer stops their stopwatch and signals to the Scoreboard Operator that a timeout has occurred. The Jam Timer corrects the visible game clock as needed during the timeout.</p>
<p><u>End of Timeout</u></p> <p>How should the "End of Timeout" whistle sound?</p>	<p>The whistle shall be one rolling/swooping whistle blast.</p>

Scorekeepers and Scoreboard	
Issue	Standard Practice
<p><u>Point Reporting</u></p> <p>Shall Scorekeepers echo back the number of points being reported by their Jammer Referee?</p>	<p>Yes, the Scorekeeper shall make a physical signal for each pass.</p>
<p><u>Not on the Track Point Recording</u></p> <p>What process should a Scorekeeper use to determine "Not on the Track" (NOTT) points?</p>	<p>The NOTT points should not be captured. No differentiation is needed as long as the score reflects the actual points scored.</p>
<p><u>Scoreboard Updates</u></p> <p>How often should the Official running the scoreboard update the score?</p>	<p>The score on the scoreboard shall be updated per pass.</p>

Head NSO and Paperwork	
Issue	Standard Practice
<p><u>Big 5 Head NSO</u></p> <p>Will there be a Head NSO at the Big 5 tournaments?</p>	<p>Yes, there will be a person appointed as a Head NSO for the Big 5 Tournaments.</p>
<p><u>Populating Paperwork</u></p> <p>Who populates and prints the NSO paperwork at the Big 5 Tournaments?</p>	<p>The Head NSO will handle populating and printing the NSO paperwork.</p>