



# Rule of the Month

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## Start List, Score Sheet, Flight Sheet Abbreviations Amended

For a law and legislation year, the USATF Rules Committee, chaired by John Blackburn, was kept busy mostly by the rules that needed to be considered for compliance with World Athletics.

Fifty-five of the seventy-five rules discussed involved compliance issues. Sixty of the seventy-five rules were adopted, amended, replaced, or added to the 2024 USATF rulebook. The rulebook should be available online for viewing shortly after the first of the year. The paperback copy of the rulebook can be purchased around the middle of February.

Many officials use different abbreviations as shortcuts on score sheets and flight sheets. USATF Rule 132.4 was amended to make a set of standard markings for this purpose that coincides with World Athletics. Also, some common markings are now written into the rule.

The following standard markings should be used in the preparation of start lists and results where applicable:

Did not start—DNS

Qualified by place in track events—Q

Did not finish—DNF

Qualified by time in track events—q

Disqualified—DQ

Qualified by standard in field events—Q

No valid trial recorded—NM

Qualified by performance in field events—q

Valid Trial in High Jump / Pole Vault—O

Advanced to next round by Referee—qR

Valid trial in other field events—measurement

Advanced to next round by Jury of Appeal—qJ

Failed trial in a field vent—X **not a "O", an "X"**

Advanced to next round by draw—qD

Forgoes or a Passed trial in field event—‘-‘

Bent knee—‘>’

Lane violation noted without DQ—L

Loss of contact—‘~’

Lane infringement—L Rule 163.5

Yellow Card—YC Second Yellow Card—YRC

Retired form Field or Combined Event—r

Red Card—RC

Note 2: For warnings and disqualifications, appropriate rule reference should be noted.

As **Bob “Pod” Podkaminer** would say, use the rulebook as it is, don’t make up your own rules. Now, don’t make up your own standard markings.