



Newsletter No 4

Guidance on the use of the new warning cards

I hope those of you who attended the Officials Conference enjoyed both the guest speaker and the workshops. If you didn't go to conference you don't know what you are missing. Make a date for next year it is advantageous for all levels.

A couple of items of interest have cropped up that are worth me sending round to you all.

The **new warning cards** produced by UKA were available at conference and several questions were asked about usage so I thought I would go over it again for clarity.

UKA Rules for Competition do not mention the use of warning cards which come from the IAAF rules. However when these cards first started to be used at IAAF meetings UKA Officials adopted their use as a matter of good practise at UKA meetings and that remains to date.

So what do they mean and when do we use them. Well the first three -green: yellow/black and red/black cards are for use at all levels of meetings held under UKA rules.

Green card -- this is used where a race has been aborted and no warning to an athlete is being given by the starter. The green card is held up and shown to all the athletes along the line to indicate that no warning is being issued. In practise where you have more than one starters assistant on an echelon start the nearest starters assistant will show the card so one showing to lanes 1-4 and the other to 5-8.

Yellow/black card -{ formerly a solid yellow card} this is a first warning card and is given until 2013 (with the exception of seniors and combined events at senior level) to all age groups. This card is shown when the athlete has committed a false start under the UKA rules and is being warned. This card is shown to an individual athlete making the false start.(rule 111.15) In Senior Combined events the card is shown to the individual athlete making the false start but as any athlete making a further false start in the race shall be disqualified the remainder of the line up are also shown the

yellow/black card. (Rule 111.14). In combined events other than seniors if a competitor is deemed responsible for two false starts they would be shown the yellow/black card each time on the third offence the red/black for disqualification (Rule 111.15)

Red/black card --{ formerly a solid red card } this card indicates a disqualification from the event for a false start. In senior completion this would be any athlete making a false start (Rule 111.14).

The solid red and solid yellow cards now only relate to conduct warnings under IAAF rules and currently have no usage at meetings held under UKA rules. Worth keeping hold of for when you get to the level of IAAF meetings. Whilst conduct warnings were being considered under the recent rule revisions they were NOT adopted for use at UKA meetings.

How are cards to be shown? Following discussions with the IAAF Technical manager for the Olympic Games and UKA senior officials it has been decided that they are to be shown in a similar manner to that used by Premier League referees in football.



The showing of a card is for the benefit of several people 1) the athlete 2) other officials 3) spectators 4) stadium announcers 5) team management 6) TV and 7) Media

This is the reason why it has to be shown in an elevated and conspicuous manner.

I hope that this clarifies the usage of starters warning cards for you. If you did not make the conference and would like a set drop me an email and whilst stocks last I will send you a set out by post. [The cards are produced via a Gordon Staines contact and gratefully paid for by the Competitions team.]

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