

Hazards for Pole Vault

	Who/How Affected	Control Assessment
Runway	Athletes, Officials- injury from slipping/tripping due to defective surface, objects on the runway or track kerbing being in the runway line	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Inspect runway area regularly and ensure it is level, free from holes and adequately maintained2) Clean runway surface regularly to allow drainage3) Ensure no obstructive objects (eg markers) are placed on the runway4) Ensure that measuring tapes do not encroach onto runway5) Encourage athletes to wear appropriate footwear <p>Control measure responsibilities 1,2 Ground staff 3,4,5 Athletes, coaches, officials</p>
Box	Athletes- injury (and pole damage) due to defective box, box not flush with runway or incorrect back plate angle	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Ensure that box conforms to relevant rules and specifications2) Inspect box regularly and ensure adequately maintained <p>Control measure responsibilities 1,2 Technical Manager, Officials</p>
Uprights	Athletes, officials- injury from being struck by falling uprights, collision with uprights	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Inspect uprights regularly and ensure they are regularly maintained2) Ensure bases are stable and uprights correctly joined onto the base before use3) Ensure cross bar supports face each other4) Ensure uprights properly positioned to athletes requirements during warm up and competition <p>Control measure responsibilities 1,2,3 Technical Manager, officials 4 Officials, athletes</p>
Crossbar	Athletes- injury from splinters and sharp edges	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Ensure that only crossbars that conform to the rules and specifications are used2) Inspect crossbars regularly and ensure they are adequately maintained3) Ensure crossbars are undamaged and free of splinters prior and during competition <p>Control measure responsibilities 1,2 Technical Manager 3 Officials</p>
Surrounds	Athletes- injury from tripping/falling onto a hard surface/objects	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Ensure that no objects (such as scoreboards) are placed within 2m of the sides or rear of the landing mats2) ensure unused poles are kept clear of the immediate competition area and "stacked" securely to prevent rolling <p>Control measure responsibilities 1,2 Technical manager, officials</p>
Landing mats	Athletes, officials- injury from poorly maintained or incorrectly set up landing mats	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Ensure landing mat units are correct size and otherwise conform to relevant rules and specifications2) Inspect landing mats regularly and ensure they are free from tears and holes, and that the impact foam is in good condition3) Ensure landing mats are securely fastened together and covered with a topper mat prior to competition4) Ensure that where landing mats are placed on timber pallets or other hard material that the edges of such surfaces are covered by the mats both prior and during competition <p>Control measure responsibilities 1,2,3 Technical Manager 4 Technical Manager, officials</p>

Poles	Athletes, officials- injury from pole breaking, or falling onto official	1) Inspect poles regularly to check for damage 2) Prevent poles from dropping onto hard surfaces 3) If possible, poles should be caught after each vault, and be aware of falling poles Control measure responsibilities 1 Athletes, coaches 2 Officials 3 Officials, athletes
Weather	Athletes, officials- injury from slipping on wet surfaces, hands slipping on poles, missing the landing mats (due to high winds), or landing on wet mats effects of sun/heat/cold	1) Ensure runway surface is cleaned regularly to allow drainage 2) Sweep runway during competition to remove any excess water, grit or debris 3) Provide shelter from the elements, sunscreen, water 4) Ensure that athletes are competent enough to deal with weather conditions 5) Avoid vaulting into the wind if possible Control measure responsibilities 1, 3 Ground staff, Technical Manager 2,4 Officials 3 Coaches
Light Conditions	Athlete, officials- injury from not being able to see event area layout, objects or other dangers	1) Ensure adequate lighting for meetings in hours of twilight or darkness Control measure responsibilities 1 Ground staff, Technical Manager, Officials
Warm-up/Competition	Athletes- injury from collision with other competitors	1) Supervise all warm-up and competition jumps 2) Ensure runway is kept clear when athletes are about to start their approach 3) Ensure each athlete jumps in turn 4) Be aware of falling cross bar Control measure responsibilities 1,2,3,4 Officials 2,3,4 Athletes
Additional points for pole vault		
1) If the run up area encroaches onto the track, officials need to be aware of what track events are taking place and control their pole vault athletes accordingly. 2) If the run up crosses another field event competition area, officials need to be aware of what the competitors at the other competition are doing and control their pole vault athletes accordingly 3) Officials need to be aware of the need to stop the competition if the weather conditions become dangerous. 4) At Porritt Stadium, ensure pad covers are placed in a safe position during competition, especially with regard to stability if conditions are windy		
Additional points for all field events		
1) If the weather conditions make continuing the competition hazardous (wind, rain, lightning, lack of light) competition should cease until conditions become safe again. 2) Ensure officials, athletes and any other persons present in the competition area are aware of safety requirements for the event. 3) Anyone who refuses to comply with safety requirements should be removed from the competition area.		