

PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC. (PIAA)
POLE VAULT VERIFICATION FORM
(Revised December 20, 2022)

ALL MEMBER SCHOOLS are required to process the **PIAA Pole Vault Verification Form** listing the name and grade of each contestant participating in the pole vault event. The head coach must verify, on the day of each meet, the weight of each contestant, and the proper ratings of all poles used by each contestant. This procedure is required for both indoor (winter) and outdoor (spring) track and field competition. **The completed form must be presented to the MEET REFEREE/STARTER or HEAD FIELD JUDGE prior to the start of warm-ups, on the day of competition.**

School Name _____

Name of Pole Vaulter	Grade	Vaulter's Weight*	Pole Rating
1. _____	_____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____	_____

*Includes full competition uniform and footwear

Name of Head Coach (please print) _____

Date _____ Signature of head coach _____

NOTE TO ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS, TRACK AND FIELD COACHES AND OFFICIALS

The following are NFHS Track and Field Rules relevant to pole vault safety:

NFHS Track and Field Rule 6-8-15: The competitor's weight shall be at or below the manufacturer's pole rating. The manufacturers must include on each pole: the pole rating that shall be a minimum of $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch in a contrasting color located within or above the top hand-hold position; a 1-inch circular band indicating the maximum top hand-hold position with the position being determined by the manufacturer. Prior to the competition, the coach must verify that all of the school's pole vaulters and poles meet these requirements. **NOTE:** Etchings, serial numbers, etc. that may appear on poles shall not replace the requirement of the manufacturer's pole rating of the minimum $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch marking in contrasting color on each pole.

NFHS Track and Field Rule 6-8-16: A competitor shall not use a variable-weight pole, a pole which is improperly marked, or a pole rated below his/her weight, or any other equipment that is not legal during warm-up or competition. **NOTE:** Altering the pole in any fashion renders it illegal. **PENALTY: Disqualification from the event.**

NFHS Track and Field Rule 6-8-17: Prior to warm-up, the field referee or head field judge shall inspect each pole to be used in the competition to verify that the poles are legal equipment, per NFHS Rule 3-10-1. This includes checking the placement of a top hand-hold band, numerical pole ratings a minimum of $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in a contrasting color located within or above the top hand-hold band, and the proper binding of adhesive tape of uniform thickness when used. The binding shall not be on or above the top hand-hold band.

NFHS Track and Field Rule 6-8-24: A competitor shall not be allowed to use the pole of another individual without the consent of the owner. The event judge shall approve the use and verify that the pole is rated weight-appropriate. **PENALTY: Disqualification from the event.**

NFHS Track and Field Rules 6-8-27h: It is a foul if the competitor grips the pole above the top hand-hold band. **PENALTY: An unsuccessful trial is charged, but not measured.**