

Venue #2 Pole Vault

New PV Landing Pad 19'8" wide 20'2" deep 16'5" back of box	The overall size of the pole vault landing system shall be a minimum of 19-08" wide and 20'02" deep. The front section of the landing system "The Front Buns" shall be a minimum of 16'-5". The Mercer County pole vault pit meets the entire safety requirements in regard to size. The pads are properly put together and a common cover is in place to pull the pads into a single safe landing area. A weather cover is in place to protect the investment Mercer County has made.
Vaulting Box Zero Point Markings	The front edge of the vaulting box shall not extend above the grade of the runway surface. It is recommended that the planting box be of a color contrasting to the color of the runway. A painted line from standard to standard shall be painted on the ground under the landing system to clearly indicate where the zero point marking is located. At the time of the inspection the vaulting box need painted and that was done two days later as the inspector returned to officiate a meet at the site. The standards were properly secured to the ground with the zero point maintained properly from standards through the vaulting box. The new box collar is in place.
Runway 130'0"	The recommended length of the runway is a minimum of 130 feet. The runway is 140' in length and 42" wide and in excellent condition.
Standards / Crossbars 13'8" - 14'8" Bar - 14'10"	The normal cross bar shall be 14'10" in length Effective January 1, 2013 the crossbar shall be circular. Square with beveled edges or triangular crossbars shall no longer be legal. The standards are new and in excellent condition. The proper cross bars are in use and in amply supply. Extenders are in place if needed.
Weigh in Athletes	It is pointed out that the host school is responsible to provide scales for the KHSAA Meet Official to weigh all the vaulters before each competition. It is highly recommended that each coach weigh his or her vaulters weekly to assure that they are legal for the vaulting poles that they are using. Scales were present for the pole vault competitors to be weighed before the vaulting competition.
Coaching Box	For the Regional Meet a coaching box must be established and an area flagged off. It is recommended that ONLY authorized PCSCB certified coaches with a badge or wrist band to identify them be allowed in the coaching box.
Area surrounding the Pole Vault Venue	Rule 7-5-9 Hard or unyielding surfaces, such as but not limited to concrete, metal, wood or asphalt around the landing pad or between the planting box and the landing system, shall be padded or cushioned with a minimum of 2 inches of dense foam or other suitable material(s). A box collar must be in place. Note: It is recommended that any excess material such as asphalt or concrete that extends out from beneath the side or back of the landing pad be removed. All the area around the vaulting landing area was covered with extra padding.
Pole Vault Venue (General Notes)	Excellent pole vaulting venue that has the capability to move the pit to the other end of the runway if weather conditions prevailed.

Venue # 3 High Jump

HJ Landing Pad 16' x 8'	The landing pad shall not be less than 16'00" wide and 8'00" deep. The pad thickness should be at least 24". When the landing system is made up of two or more sections they shall be attached and a common cover in place to assure a safe landing surface for the athletes. The pads that make up the high jump landing are properly placed and a common cover brings them together to assure a safe landing for all the competing athletes. A weather protector is in place to protect the Mercer County investment. The pads meet all the National Federation and KHSAA safety requirements.
HJ Apron	The high jump apron is 75' x 50' and has a rubberized surface that provides a safe take off area for the jumping athletes. Care need to be taken to make sure that mowers blow the grass away from the rubber surface. The edges around the arch of the apron needs to be cut low so that the athletes that start with a long approach in the grass has a safe transition from the grass to the rubberized surface.
Standards / Crossbar 12' apart bar is 12' to 14'10"	Standards are new and in excellent condition. Cross bars are the proper size and in abundant supply.
Area surrounding the HJ Venue	Rule 7-4-4 Hard and unyielding surfaces, such as but not limited to concrete, wood or asphalt, that extend out from beneath the sides and back of the high jump landing pad shall be padded with a minimum of 2-inch dense foam or other suitable material. Note: It is recommended that any excess material such as asphalt or concrete that extends out from beneath the side or back of the landing pad be removed.
High Jump Venue (General Notes)	Bleachers were moved in to allow for spectators to observe the High Jump competition. Flagging needs to be in place to keep spectators and general track traffic off the runway area. Officials need to be observant and move the flags to assure that athletes are given the area they need for their approach to the bar.

Venue # 4 Long and Triple Jump

Landing Pit Take Off Marks LJ - (8' and 12') TJ - (28' and 32')	The Mercer County Complex has two excellent sand pits. Both sand pits are 25' long and 10' wide which meets all the National Federation and KHSAA Safety requirements. Pit #1 (Near the 200 Start) is basically used for the Triple Jump but is marked for the Long Jump as well. The Board for the Long Jump in placed 8' from the pit while the Triple Jump marks are tape at 24' and 28' and 32". It is recommended that the tape be removed and that painted lines be put in place for the three triple jump take off marks. Pit #2 (Near the 100 Start) is used solely for the Long Jump with a board at 8'. At the time of this inspection the takeoff board at Pit #2 was in need of some repair and needs to be freshly painted. All takeoff boards and painted takeoff marks should be freshly painted before a major competition.
Runway	The runway should have a minimum length of 130 feet and where conditions permit it should be 147 feet 6 inches from the main long jump foul line. Both runways are 155' in length and 42" wide and are in excellent condition. When a wooden or synthetic material is used as the takeoff board it should be 8 to 24 inches wide and be the width of the runway. On hard surface runways, a painted foul line of contrasting color to the runway may be used.
Sand Pit Condition	The landing pit shall be filled with sand or other soft material to a depth that will ensure a safe landing. The surface shall have the same elevation as that of the takeoff board. The sand level should always be level with the edges of the landing pit. The landing pit shall have a minimum width of 9 feet and minimum length of 15 feet. At the time of the inspection both sand pits needed some attention. It is recommended at before any competition a tiller be placed in the pits and the sand loosened and fluffed up to assure that the level of the sand is level with all the edges of the pit. The edges of both pits have a concrete boarder and it was pointed out at the time of the inspection that all concrete edges must be kept clean of sand. The concrete edges must remain clean so that the competing athlete can see the potential hazard. Brooms must be a necessary piece of equipment for all field events.
Area around the Long and Triple Jump Pit(s)	To excellent sand pits and mowers need to be instructed to keep clippings of the concrete and rubberized surfaces as it caused safety conditions with footing.
Long and Triple Jump Venue	Flagging is necessary for crown control as spectators move to see the athletes competing in the field events outside the second curve of the track and field complex

Venue #5 Shot Put

Circle – Concrete Pad Toe Board	A concrete surface with a 1 millimeter roughness is recommended. A 7' circle, sunken with drainage, raised metal ring properly secured or a 2" painted line. Back half indicators should be permanently marked on the concrete slab. The toe board shall be 4 feet in length along the inside of the surface, 4 inches in height and 4 1/2 inches in width and it shall be firmly fixed into a non-movable position. Sector lines should be placed on top of the toe board. With the renovation of the complex this area was neglected. The concrete slab is very old and at the time of this inspection the grassy area needed trimmed and the clippings not placed inside the throwing circle. It is recommended that the concrete outside the metal ring be painted in the schools colors with one color representing the front half of the circle and the other color representing the back half of the circle. A new toe board was observed in the storage building that needs to replace the very old toe board currently attached to the slab. It is pointed out that the 34.92 degree sector lines should be placed in the proper position on the concrete slab as well as on top of the toe board.
Sector	A 34.92 degree sector shall be marked on the ground for both practice and competitions. The 34.92 degree sector was properly placed and marked to show the sector. The actual sector was a grassy area that was very high at the time of the inspection. The sector area needs to be mowed lower than surrounding areas to assure safe footing for officials working throughout the sector. With the location of the shot put venue away from everything it is recommended that the grass be removed from the sector, edges be inserted and that Class I Sand be placed in the sector as it would be safer for all involved with the event. It is recommended that arch lines be placed <u>through</u> out the sector 5' intervals.
Cage	At the present time cages are not required, however with so many of the young athletes learning to use the spin technique it is recommended that consideration be given to adding a cage in the future.
Weight in of Implements	It is pointed out that the <u>host school is responsible</u> to provide scales for the KHSAA Meet Official to weigh all the throwing implements before each competition. It is <u>highly recommended</u> that each coach weigh his or her athletes' implements weekly to assure that they are legal and that no alterations have been made to the implements.
Surrounding Area	It is highly recommended that all throwing areas be cordoned off, roped, fenced, or with flags placed well outside the sector lines to minimize the risk of injury for spectators, athletes and/or officials. There are a number of single benches lined up near the storage building. These are extremely close to the throwing area and present a major liability issue for Mercer County. Officials have to be constantly alert as to where athletes non currently throwing are in a safe area and that spectators are in a safe area.
Shot Put Venue (General Notes)	The two throwing events did not receive the same renovation that the rest of the facility received. Upgrades need to be given to the circle, toe board and sector. Flagging must be in place. Safe spectator should be set up and flagged. Complete safety in this area needs to be revisited.

Venue #6 Discus Throw

Circle – Concrete Pad	A concrete surface with a 1 millimeter roughness is recommended. A 8'2 1/2" circle, sunken with drainage, raised metal ring properly secured or a 2" painted line. Back half indicators should be permanently marked on the concrete slab. With the renovation of the complex this area was neglected. The concrete slab is very old and at the time of this inspection the grassy area needed trimmed and the clippings not placed inside the throwing circle. It is recommended that the concrete outside the metal ring be painted in the schools colors with one color representing the front half of the circle and the other color representing the back half of the circle. It is pointed out that the 34.92 degree sector lines should be placed in the proper position on the concrete slab.
Sector	A 34.92 degree sector shall be marked on the ground for both practice and competitions. It is recommended that the area inside the sector be mowed closer than the surrounding area to make footing better for officials as well as making the implement landing marks more visible. It is recommended that arch marking be placed in the sector at various 10' intervals.
Cage	The discus cage is new nylon netting and meets all the safety requirements of the National Federation and the KHSAA, with one exception. The poles are placed around the slab and properly placed in inserts; however the front poles of the discus cage should be placed within 4 to 5 feet of the sector lines (see page 44 of rule book). At the time of the inspection the front pole on the left was 6' from the sector line and the front pole on the right was 7' from the sector line. The inspector talked with the Host Coach and asked to re-do the sector lines so that the right pole was within 5" of the front pole and then move the front pole on the left to being it within the required 5' distance from the sector line. Digital pictures are to be sent to assure that this major liability issues is corrected before the Regional competition. After pictures are received a KHSAA Official will be sent to assure that all the safety issues have been addressed in regard to the discus cage.
Weight in of Implements	It is pointed out that the <u>host school is responsible</u> to provide scales for the KHSAA Meet Official to weigh all the throwing implements before each competition. It is <u>highly recommended</u> that each coach weigh his or her athletes implements weekly to assure that they are legal and that no alterations have been made to the implements.
Surrounding Area	At the present time safety in regard to spectators is in question. The front pole on the left has to be moved to within 5' of the sector line. If this cannot be accomplished the discus venue may have to be moved to another site for the Regional Competition. It is recommend that spectators not be allowed anywhere close to the discus venue until this venue is meeting all the safety requirements of the National Federation and the KHSAA.
Discus Venue (General Notes)	The two throwing events did not receive the same renovation that the rest of the facility received. Upgrades need to be given to the circle, cage and sector. Flagging must be in place. Safe spectator should be set up and flagged. Complete safety in this area needs to be revisited. Pictures must be sent to show the upgrade to the cage.

Meet Management

Seating and Spectator Control	For running events the venue is excellent. Meet Management must set up a plan to assure the safety of athletes, spectators and officials in regard to field events.
Public Address and Press Box	At a recent meet some problems were present with the Public Address. With it being a new facility some of the bugs have let to be worked out.
Meet Management in regard to Running Events	Flagging may well be needed down the back stretch and around the first curve as this is a high traffic area. A Marshal needs to be assigned for traffic control at the Main Gate at the Finish Line.
Meet Management in regard to Field Events	Spectator walk ways and safe viewing areas needs to be set up for all the field events.

<p>Meet Management Equipment</p>	<p>Hy-Tek Meet Management – This is an area where Mercer County excels with an extremely talented Hy-Tek Operator and Mercer County owns the software for the program. Fully Automatic Timing – Mercer County owns the Finish Lynx System and has one of the top Finish Lynx Operators in the state using the equipment. Backup timing equipment – Sprint 8 is use as the backup system Official or volunteer base in place – Harrodsburg has a number of KHSAA Officials in the immediate area and a very strong volunteer base.</p>
<p>Regional Meet Site In your opinion would you recommend this facility to be considered as a Regional Track and Field Meet Site?</p>	<p>The track is suitable for another year of competition; however a recommendation cannot be made at this time in regard to the 2016 Regional Meet one of which Mercer County is scheduled to host at Mercer County High School. A KHSAA Official will need to return to the venue when the Host Mercer County sends the digital pictures to show that the safety concerns have been addressed. Prompt attention to the concerns with the field events needs to be addressed as quickly as possible and pictures sent to the inspector at coachbo@twc.com .</p>

Respectively submitted,

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