

 	POLICY & PROCEDURE	POLICY NUMBER: 292
	Subject: Automatic Relay Takeoff Equipment Policy	EFFECTIVE DATE: Approved: 3/21/23 Amended: 1/21/25 Retired:

1. Meets Where Automatic Relay Take-Off Judging May Be Used

- A. If available, automatic relay judging equipment may be used at the Senior State Championship meet at the discretion of the Senior Chair or their designee. Such determination shall be communicated in writing to the Meet Referee, and by copy, the Officials Chair and the LSC office.
- B. If available, automatic relay judging equipment may be used at the Age Group State Championship meet at the discretion of the Age Group Chair or their designee. Such determination shall be communicated in writing to the Meet Referee, and by copy, the Officials Chair and the LSC office.
- C. Automatic relay judging equipment may only be used at Minnesota Regional Championships or Minnesota Achievement Championships at the discretion of the Age Group Chair or their designee if all sites are using automatic relay judging equipment. Such determination shall be communicated in writing to the Meet Referee, and by copy, the Officials Chair and the LSC office.
- D. Automatic relay judging equipment may be used at other meets at the discretion of the host club.

2. Rules for Use of Automatic Relay Take-Off Judging

- A. Two relay takeoff judges must be assigned to observe the relay exchange in all lanes at meets where automatic relay take-off judging equipment is used.
- B. If the automatic relay judging equipment detects an exchange differential (take-off pad time minus finish pad time) of -0.09 through $+0.09$ second inclusive from the manufacturer's starting point, the decision of relay takeoff judges shall be considered to confirm a disqualification. The determination of electronic relay judging equipment shall be official when indicating an exchange differential of -0.09 through -0.01 seconds from the manufacturer's starting point, if confirmed by at least one takeoff judge. If the electronic relay judging equipment indicates values of 0.00 through $+0.09$ seconds from the manufacturer's starting point, there shall not be a disqualification for an early relay takeoff and the observations of the takeoff judges are not considered.
- C. If the automatic relay judging equipment records an exchange differential outside of the range -0.09 through $+0.09$ second from the manufacturer's starting point, a disqualification shall occur if there is dual confirmation of an early relay take-off by (a) the automatic relay judging equipment and a relay take-off judge or (b) by two relay take-off judges.
- D. An alleged early relay take-off that is observed by a relay take-off judge shall be recorded immediately in writing. Each relay take-off judge who observes an alleged early relay take-off shall report the alleged infraction to the Referee or their designee in a manner communicated by the Referee or their designee at the officials' briefing.
- E. An alleged early relay take-off that is recorded by the automatic relay judging equipment shall be made public only after the race is completed and then only if there is a resulting disqualification. A coach may have access to all automatic relay judging equipment records that have been generated by their team.
- F. The Referee has the ability to declare a system malfunction and not count the electronic readings of a given lane if they have clear evidence that the system has failed. Eliminating the readings in one heat is limited to that heat only and all other heat readings remain valid.

