

Timekeepers



Where do I stand/sit?

Timekeepers should sit in direct alignment with the finish line for the most accurate view of athletes crossing.

What do I do?

Familiarise yourself with the timing device and remain alert and focused at all times.

When do I start timing?

Before the race starts, the Starter will confirm with the Timekeeper that everyone is ready. The timing begins when the Starter presses the button on the timing starter device.

When do I stop timing?

For sprints, timing gates will automatically record the athlete's times. However, for long-distance races, you will need to manually stop the timer when the athlete's torso crosses the finish line, ensuring that you do not consider the head, neck, arms, hands, legs, or feet when determining the exact moment to stop the clock.

What if I make a mistake?

Mistakes can happen, even to experienced timekeepers. If you miss the start, or your computer fails to start or stop, or there's confusion over your assigned place:

- Don't panic.
- Don't let the athletes know there's an issue.
- Quietly inform the Committee, who will handle the situation.

What are some "handy hints" for Timekeepers?

- Concentrate on the Starter's movements once the race is ready to commence.
- Avoid sharing athletes' times trackside, as it is prohibited. This not only slows down the process but can also lead to unfair sportsmanship. With multiple heats, times can influence an athlete's perceived standing.
- Don't get caught up in the event as a spectator, as this may cause you to forget to stop the timer.
- At the finish of the race, focus solely on timing and have no interest in who wins or other placings.

