

Why Do Officials Have Two Numbers?

Instructions on Becoming a USATF Member

By Jim Hanley, So. Calif. Assn. Officials Vice-Chair: Certification

The 6-digit number on your badge is your official's certification number, and it remains with you as long as you are an official. The \$50 dues and \$15 certification fee (for new members only) that you paid to the Southern California Officials Committee for 2010 covers badge costs as well as rule books, administrative costs and clinics.

The 10 digit number on your USATF membership card is your USATF membership number and is separate and distinct. That \$30 covers the benefits you receive as a member (athlete, coach or official), and some of it comes back to the Association to cover our administrative costs such as running the Association office. The National Officials Committee now requires that every official **MUST** also be a member of USATF. Among the benefits are liability and accident insurance.

Every official will have 2 numbers: The official's badge number which identifies him or her as a certified official and which is used on all documents relating to being an official, and the USATF membership number (the 10 digit one) that shows that he or she is a member of USATF. Both numbers are required on all applications for USATF Championship Track Meets.



The easiest, fastest, and most dependable way to become a USATF member is to go on-line to usatf.org and register with a Visa credit card. You will get your number instantly and can receive a discount for multiple-year registrations. You may also download an application and then mail it in to our Southern California Association with a check.

If you do not have a computer, there are many officials who can help you register. And, of course, you can always call our So. California Association office (562) 941-2621 and have a form mailed to you and then return it with a check or money order.

Notice the four boxes on the right side of the official's badge in the picture? Starting in 2010, decals indicating current USATF membership are to be affixed to the badge in the appropriate box. The local certification chairs will distribute such decals, and if you do not have a decal in the current year's box, your badge will be no good for that year.

For more information about becoming an official, please contact our Membership Chair Dawna Brown at deurydice@sbcglobal.net (310) 330-0320 or our Certification Chair Jim Hanley at Jim@Hanley.cc

or (805) 496-1829 (10am-10pm).