



Speed Testing Protocol

A 50-foot course is laid out on each of the game courts. The start and finish of the course should be marked by a taped strip a minimum of 5 feet long. It is also recommended that cones be placed five feet past the finish line tape. There must be sufficient space at the start of the course for the players to get to full speed and at the end of the course for the players to safely stop. The timers should emphasize that players should not stop until they have passed the cones.

If there is space at the facility, an additional speed course(s) may be made available to teams to test their speeds. It is the responsibility of the teams to arrive at competitions with their chairs, guards and any other necessary equipment meeting all requirements of the Laws of the Game, the competition rules, and safety.

Teams assemble at speed testing area with guards on 30 minutes prior to their match.

Each player rolls the course on a straight line at full speed timed by two of the match referees or two trained timing officials. The averaged time must be no faster than 5.5 seconds. If there is a discrepancy between the two timers of more than .25 seconds, the player must test again. (This does not count as one of the player's two allowed tests.) If the averaged time is less than 5.5 seconds, then the chair's speed must be adjusted and tested again. Teams will not be allowed to use the official speed test prior to the game as a tool to fine-tune their speed. Players will be allowed a second run if they fail to test at a legal speed. It is also considered a failed test if a player does not maintain a straight line through the course, stay at full speed during a test or stops before finishing.

If the player fails to pass the second speed test, the player will not be allowed to participate in the match.

At the end of the course an official recorder will record the players number and their legal averaged time. The recorder will also place a colored sticker or tape on the player's control box to signal a successful time for that match. Having established a legal time, the player must not leave the court or their technical area without the permission of the match referee. No adjustments to a players speed controls are permitted after they have received the sticker.

If a team has a spare chair(s) that may be used during the game this chair must also be tested during the pre-match testing. The chair does not have to be driven for the speed test by the player who might use it in the game. If the chair is chosen for the post-match speed test, the person who drove it for the original test must also drive it for the post-match test.

It is suggested that each team should have one person designated to stand with the speed recorder to ensure that the times are accurately recorded.

Once a team has completed the testing, they must remove all programmers from their technical area until the match is over and the post match speed test is completed.

Post-match Testing

Immediately after the end of the match, the referees will designate at least one player from each team to undergo a post-match speed test. These players must go directly to the speed test course. The players will be tested by the same officials who tested them before the game.

As some chairs go faster once they are warmed up, an increase of 5% in the top maximum speed is allowed post match. The top speed allowable post-match is therefore an average of 5.22 seconds.

If a player fails the initial post-match speed test he/she will be immediately retested. If the player fails the second test then his/her team will forfeit the match with a score of 3-0 and the guilty player will be awarded a one match suspension. If the spare chair is tested and fails then the player who used it during the match is awarded the suspension.

Notes:

Other electronic means are in development for accomplishing this testing, including infrared timing and rolling road. Currently, a commercial infrared timing system is available on the market and has shown to be accurate.

It should also be understood: the speed limit is inclusive of forward and backward speed. When a reasonable means of testing backwards speed becomes available, backwards speed will be handled in the same manner as forward speed testing standards.