



**From:** Bob Gidari

**Sent:** Saturday, November 15, 2025 6:53 AM

**To:** Stephen Largy

**Subject:** Memorial Field Report

Hi Stephen, I am sorry for the delay, sometimes real life gets in the way. I am attaching my report on Memorial Field based on our walkthrough and meeting on November 3rd. Please feel free to contact me for more details or specific information. I am out of the country for all of next week so email me and I will get back to you when I return. Good luck with this facility. BOB

BOB Gidari

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My name is BOB Gidari. I am a USATF Master level certified official, #023253. I have 48 years of experience as a track and field official. I travel the country working meets at various levels. I have worked meets from the youth level through masters, ages 6-97. I have worked the last 5 Olympic Trials and many national championships for our professionals. I am currently the head referee for the USATF Youth Committee. As such I have been asked to attend site visits around the country to inspect and evaluate various sites for their ability to host The USATF Junior Olympic Track and Field Championships. A 7-day meet of approximately 8000 athletes ranging in age from 6-18 years of age.

I was asked by Steven Largy, athletic director at Concord High school to look at and evaluate the condition and safety of the 400-meter track used by Concord High and located at Memorial Field in Concord NH.

I set an appointment for a walk through with Steven for Monday November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025. The following are the results of my observations and findings.

## **TRACK**

The track at Memorial field is a 6-lane tar with a rubberized topcoat. Starting at the finish line for most races it was immediately noticed that there are significant cracks that transvers all 6 lanes. Throughout the entire length of the oval

there were cracks completely crossing the track. These cracks occurred approximately every 10-15 meters all the way around. This could pose a possible hazard to any runner but more importantly to those wearing track spikes. One or two spikes could get caught inside one of these cracks and cause a potential tripping hazard to the athlete.

It was noticed that the corner of the painted soccer field is actually on the track surface itself. At this location it was noted that there was grass growing in the cracks. Again, a possible tripping hazard. At approximately 150 m from the start there is a hole in lane one where the rubberized covering is gone and the underlying tar is fully exposed.

At the 200 m start there were noticeable large cracks over all lanes. Many smaller ones some covering all lanes and some only crossing one or two lanes. Again, these were every 10 to 15 meters. This surface could be considered unsafe.

Just before the last turn, there are very large cracks in lane 1. It is noted that the start of the 110m hurdles is in good shape. Perhaps because of only being used for the 1 event.

At the 100 m start the rubber covering was completely gone, and the underlayment of tar was completely exposed. This is the area where the athletes set their blocks and start the race. There was also more grass filled cracks.

At the 50 m point the track itself is noticeably uneven with huge patches and cracks. The entire 100 meter straight away has huge cracks transversing the track and running parallel to the track as well. There is a 30 m crack in the underlayment running the last 30 m towards the finish line. There are several uneven areas and some existing dips in the straightaway.

## **Field**

The field events are located throughout the facility. The javelin area is painted in the grass off site, behind the bleachers or on a separate field away from the oval. The facility was toured in November where most of the field event equipment was stored inside and not looked at.

The Javelin event is held off site and constructed in a field with a grass runway and landing sector.

The High Jump apron was small. Athletes would be changing surfaces in order to get their full run-up in. The actual apron while small is acceptable for use.

There was no cage set up for Discus although it appeared that there are footing set for hanging a 2 net safety system. The placement of the front footings appeared to be adequate. If the facility would allow, without interference of the other sporting fields the front posts should be extended further out towards the sector for safety. The circle itself is recessed.

The Shot Put sector appears to be exact with wood boards for sides. This does not allow for an out of bounds throw without hitting the wood. The wood should be pushed back further and the 34.92\* sector drawn inside the borders. The material for landing is a rough gravel. This material wears the shots and will eventually make the shots illegal. A less coarse substance such as stone dust would cause less damage to the individual shots and still leave an easily marked spot in the field.

The circle is painted. There should be a ring or a recessed circle for the athletes to throw out of. The grass has grown up and over the circle and the cement pad where the painted circle is encompassed.

There are 2 horizontal pits. The pits looked good but low in sand. Normal for unused, off season. The runways looked fine except for the entrance to the pit. There is wood, part of the pits frame, that is raised and could be a hazard to a jumping athlete. This is a simple fix by cutting the wood down to grade level with the runway. The end of the pits is very close to the track. This could be an issue for athletes that run through the pit as part of their warm-up or landings.

At the far end of the track, the Pole Vault runways are in need of repair. There are places on the runway where the rubberized top surface is missing and the tar under it is fully exposed. There are 2 boxes at each end of the runway allowing for change in

direction if needed. The pit themselves was not present, being off season.

Over all the condition of this track and field facility is poor. I do not believe that it is a safe venue to hold meets. It is in need of at least resurfacing and structural repairs. It would not be safe to hold competitions on this track. Visiting teams would be at risk and a great disadvantage due to cracks, holes and an uneven surface. Many parts of this facility are unsafe. I would also question its use as a practice facility for Concord High School athletes and the surrounding middle school teams.

In summation this facility is in need of major repairs. I do not believe that it is save to hold competitive events at this location. I would also question the safety of this facility for practice of track and field teams. The safety for recreational use is also in question. I would be happy to discuss this further. My email is [bgidari@usatfne.org](mailto:bgidari@usatfne.org) if you have any questions.

Respectively submitted November 2025.

Robert C. Gidari

USATF Official #023253.