

Javelin Ratings

When I manufactured the Dick Held brand javelin from 1982-1987, this is exactly how they were designed. We (Dick Held and myself) used to shoot the javelins out of a javelin gun or cannon to be sure the rating was exactly what distance the javelin would fly to get a 5 degree angle upon landing. So, if you threw 50m with a 70m javelin, you would most likely not get a point first landing. Therefore you would get more benefit throwing the javelin rated for the distance you are throwing.

The new rule 800gm javelin limited the size the tail section can be and moved the balance point 4cm forward. This made the new rule 800gm javelin rated for about 55-60m (if you apply the rating standard for the old rule). The rating, for the most part, has to do with the diameter of the tail section and how close the balance is to the max allowance.

Not all brands of javelins are "the higher the rating the stiffer the shaft". Each brand is different. Most of the low cost javelins do not vary much in stiffness. When I manufactured the OTE javelins in the 1990's the 70m rated and below javelins were about the same in stiffness and the 80-90m javelins had more of the weight in the middle of the shaft(thicker wall tube in the middle). So, there was two different stiffness's for the OTE javelin. I have been told they are still made the same. Since then, OTE has came out with the carbon and the FX, I'm strictly talking about the aluminum javelins.

Nordic steel javelins are similar in a way as the low end javelins have a smaller diameter (Viking) and therefore flex more than the higher rated javelins. The 60 and 70m rated javelins are very similar in stiffness and the higher rated 80m and above are very similar in stiffness with different points on them for different throwing conditions. The Carbon javelins are stiffer than the steel javelins (at this point and time).

In a perfect world, the higher the rating, the better the javelin is balanced and the closer the tolerances are to the min. and max. and in some cases the stiffer the shaft.

Ron Johnson

I agree with Jeff, the Nordic Master 70 is a good javelin for the price. I would suggest nothing less than a 70m.

Nordic Master 70m javelin

OTE Special Headwind 70m javelin

The Nordic Master 70 is, essentially, a less stiff Air Glider.

The design (tapers, point and grip) are the same- differences in stiffness/shaft mass distribution and paint job. It's a really great javelin for the price that is good for the 55m guy as well as the 75m guy: they've been thrown 80m or more in many meets.

http://www.javeland.com/javeland_javelins.htm