

## Overview

In *Timestamp Mode*, the Polaris timer serves as an interface between up to four pairs of electric eyes and a computer connected to the Polaris timer. When an electric eye beam is broken or restored, a message is sent to the computer through a serial port. The message identifies which electric eye was affected, the event that occurred (beam broken or restored), and the time that the event occurred.

## Preparation For Use / Operation

Additional instructions specific to your event are probably required. However the following general instructions will apply:

- 1) Attach each electric eye to a tripod. Place Transmitter/Receiver pairs facing each other to form start/stop lines between the eyes.
- 2) Turn the electric eyes ON. The power indicator lamp on each unit should glow steadily. If the indicator is blinking, the battery is low and should be replaced.
- 3) Align the electric eyes. The opposing electric eye should be directly in-line when sighting down either line on top of the electric eye (left to right alignment), and when sighting down the crack on the side of the eye (up and down alignment).
- 4) Turn on the timer in the announcer's booth by plugging the A/C adapter into a wall outlet and into the POWER jack on the timer. (The optional A/C Eliminator battery pack can be used instead of an A/C adapter).

## TIMESTAMP MODE

The time value provided (the "timestamp") is a 10 digit integer with a unit resolution of 125 microseconds. Time values start at zero when timestamp mode is first selected and then continually increment for up to 74 hours before repeating.

Detailed interface information for the Timestamp Mode is available from FarmTek, Inc.

- 5) The current event type is shown on the Status display on the timer console. If **TIMESTAMP MODE** is not displayed, select the Timestamp Mode as follows:

- a) Press **SETUP** to access setup functions.
  - b) Press **ENTER** to select a new event.
  - c) Press **NEXT CHOICE** until **Timestamp Mode** is displayed.
  - d) Press **ENTER** to select **Timestamp Mode**.
- 6) Walk through each electric eye beam to force the eyes to send a message to the timer console. This makes the timer console update its electric eye alignment indicators (see below).

### Operation

As electric eye beams are broken during the course of a run, the alignment indicators for each eye will update (see below). No other indication of activity is displayed on the Polaris timer console.

## Checking Electric Eye Alignment

The bottom right corner of the Status display shows the alignment status of each electric eye. When an electric eye is aligned, its eye number is displayed. If not aligned, an "x" is displayed. (Note: If less than four sets of eyes are in use, fewer eye numbers may be displayed than shown here.)

**Important!** When setting up the electric eyes, always take time to align the eyes as outlined above – *even if the timer indicates the eyes are aligned*. This ensures a strong alignment instead of a possibly marginal alignment.

Alignment	Display Shows
Eyes aligned	Eye #1 로 골 바
Eye #2 not aligned (or beam broken)	Eye #1 x 로 골 바

## Overview

The Keypad Mode allows use of the keypad on the Polaris timer to enter times and scores for display on a large arena display. For example, while one timer and scoreboard is being used for timing the current

## KEYPAD MODE

rider (normal operation), a second Polaris timer and scoreboard could be used to display the time to beat (Keypad Mode).

## Preparation For Use

- 1) Connect the Polaris timer console to the scoreboard as directed in the instructions that came with the scoreboard.
- 2) Turn on the timer in the announcer's booth by plugging the A/C adapter into a wall outlet and into the POWER jack on the timer.
- 3) If the bottom display does not show **PRESS SCORE key to enter number**, select the Keypad Mode as follows:
  - a) Press **SETUP** to access setup functions.
  - b) Press **ENTER** to select a new event.
  - c) Press **NEXT CHOICE** until **Keypad Mode** is displayed.
  - d) Press **ENTER** to select Keypad Mode.

- 4) Times and scores entered on the keypad are displayed on the scoreboard using the same format as the numbers displayed on the Polaris' s time display. To select a different time format, follow these steps:

- a) Press **SETUP** to access setup functions.
- b) Press **NEXT CHOICE** until **Set Time Format** is displayed, then press **ENTER**.
- c) Press **NEXT CHOICE** to scan through the list of available time formats.
- d) When the desired time format is displayed, press **ENTER** to select that time format.

## Operation

- 1) Press the **SCORE / PENALTY** button to begin entry of a time or score for display.
- 2) Key in the time or score followed by the **ENTER** key. The value entered is displayed on the scoreboard and on the top, numeric display on the timer console.

When entering a time or score, note the following:

- Pressing the decimal point key moves the cursor to the right of the decimal. However, zeros to the right of the decimal *do not* need to be entered.
- **Mistake?** Press *and hold down* the **CLEAR TIME** button until the value is zeroed, then re-enter the time or score for display.