

Overview

As 2014 winds down and we take a break after the first two meets (Last Chance & Dino Opener) of the 2014/15 Indoor Season, I'm sure many of us are already thinking about what lies ahead in the summer months of 2015.

2015 outdoors appears as if it's going a "reference" type year. In addition to Athletics Alberta's usual Provincial Outdoor Championship meets and our various local area/club meets, Edmonton this summer will be hosting the Canadian Junior/Senior National Championships (combined into one event for the first time) and also the Pan American Junior Championships. And if that doesn't fill up the memory banks to your satisfaction, Athletics Alberta officials will be "staffing" the athletics portion of The Western Canada Summer Games in Wood Buffalo and likely also will be asked to provide some officials for the 2015 Pan American Games meet in Toronto. Years from now we will likely be saying, *"Do you remember summer 2015? WOW!!!"*

And if you think we're overstating the matter:

May 6, 2015	Sherwood Park Twilight Season Opener
May 9 – 10, 2015	Calgary Spring Challenge & CE
May 23, 2015	U of A Outdoor Challenge - Edmonton
May 24, 2015	New Balance Athletics Series #1 - Calgary
May 30 – 31, 2015	St. Albert Challenge
May 31, 2015	New Balance Athletics Series #2 - Calgary
June 5 – 6, 2015	ASAA T & F Championships – Lethbridge
June 7, 2015	New Balance Athletics Series #3 - Calgary
June 13 – 14, 2015	Sherwood Park Relays & Throws Showcase
June 20 – 21, 2015	CALTAF Classic - Calgary
June 27 – 28, 2015 (tentative)	Calgary Summer Meet
July 2 – 5, 2015	Canadian Junior/Senior Championships - Edmonton
July 11 – 12, 2015	Track Town Classic (NTL) - Edmonton
July 15, 2015	Calgary Summer Twilight
July 25 – 26, 2015	Sherwood Park Track Classic
July 29, 2015	Sherwood Park Stadium Buster Twilight

July 31 – Aug2, 2015

Pan American Junior Championships – Edmonton

August 7 – 11, 2015

Western Canada Summer Games – Ft. McMurray

All in all, a tremendous opportunity for Alberta officials to accumulate many valuable officiating credits, to take advantage of the ample evaluation/upgrading opportunities provided by these meets, while at the same time, watching and enjoying many world caliber athletes who will be performing right here on our own home turf.

2014 Officials' Committee AGM

After being postponed for one week due to the early onset of serious Alberta winter weather, the Officials' AGM was held in Red Deer on Nov. 15, 2014.

Minutes of that meeting are now posted in the Officials' section of the AA website.

Below are the reports from the various sectors of our Alberta Officials' Committee which were presented at this meeting.

Chair – Louise Buskas

Officials upgraded nationally last year were:

John Butler	Vertical Jumps 4	April 2014
Peter Faid	Horizontal Jumps 5	October 2014
Ed Moore	Photo Finish Chief Judge	October 2014
Garret Haubrich	Horizontal Jumps 4	October 2014

Alberta has 3 Train the Trainers, Ian Gordon, Heather Climenhaga and Peter Faid, who will be conducting clinician training early next year. NOC has approved 14 Alberta officials to be trained as clinicians. All new clinician materials have been completed.

Edmonton Zone Coordinator – Philippa Fairbairn

The 2014 indoor season was extremely busy—with the addition of CanWest and CIS to the normal indoor schedule. The outdoor season was not quite to jam-packed although July saw

back-to-back weekend meets with the Edmonton Track Classic on July 5 and 6 and the Sherwood Park Classic on July 12 and 13

We were able to provide enough officials (but could always use more) for the meets in our area although the 55+ Games in early August turned into a last-minute scramble. Normally we would not supply any officials for that type of low-key unsanctioned meet but the meet director was a former official who had worked at the Commonwealth Games and Universiade when those two meets were held in Edmonton. As a result he was most anxious to have a core group of our officials involved in his Sherwood Park meet

I do have some concerns about the Last Chance meet scheduled for the last week of November. For a variety of reasons the organizers have been very slow about getting things into place and the officials I have currently lined up are fewer in number than usual. Additionally it has turned into a two-day meet for the first time in several years. If Vernon's schedule has too many concurrent field events in the morning it will be difficult, if not impossible, to provide a chief for each event. The busy morning sessions arise out of a desire on the part of AA to have the peewee and bantam athletes finish around noon.

Calgary Zone Coordinator – Cathy Simpson

It was a very busy year for Calgary Officials with four indoor meets and six outdoor meets. Although the first outdoor meet had to be rescheduled due to bad weather we managed to survive the other meets and had a few very enjoyable sunny days.

New this year were three meets hosted by the Airdrie Aces track club. They held two twilight meets and hosted the Alberta Summer Games. We had a fantastic turnout from officials and volunteers for the Summer Games and despite scheduling issues and very long days for some of the officials they were a great success.

Many of our officials had the opportunity to travel up to Edmonton for the indoor season and gained valuable experience in officiating at a large indoor meet. Some were mentored or had the opportunity to mentor others. This is crucial to encourage our officials to continue to share their knowledge and encourage others to volunteer.

Several officials also volunteered to officiate at the Chinook Throws Gala in Lethbridge in May.

Ian and Ray Deere conducted an introductory clinic for 17 new officials in November of 2013.

Although our numbers of officials are growing and we continue to encourage them to advance, we appreciate the continued support and assistance from the Edmonton Officials. Thank you

for your continued support at the Spring Challenge, High School Provincials, Caltaf and the Alberta Summer Games. We couldn't do it without your help.

Provincial Upgrading Coordinator – Irene Gaudet

The following people were upgraded this year:

For level 1:

Henry Charrois (Edmonton)
Lisa Lem (Edmonton)
Shivani Naidu-Barrett (Edmonton)
Darrell Penner (Devon)
Dale Ronsky (Calgary)
Mark Wagner (Calgary)

For level 2:

Marianne Chichak
Dierdre Choate
Mihaela Cozma
Sharon Duke
Dave Dunn
Tracy King
Ben Kluyts
Lisa Lem
Praxede Lepine
Belle Magilton
Noella Lee Pong

For level 3:

Chris Baker – Starter
Chris Baker – Umpire
Bing Chu – Horizontal Jumps
Heather Climenhaga – Umpire
Julie Miller – Horizontal Jumps
Ken Phillips – Vertical Jumps
Denise Roche –Throws
Mary Wittenberg – Combined Events Referee
Jack Yee – Throws

Jogging

A reminder.....

- Upgrading documentation for Levels 1, 2 and 3 should be sent either to Athletics Alberta's office or directly to Provincial Upgrading Coordinator - Irene Gaudet, Box 10, Egremont, AB T0A 0Z0.
- Upgrading documentation for Levels 4 and 5 should be sent directly to the Officials' Chair - Louise Buskas, RR2, Wetaskiwin, AB T9A 1W9.
- Hold on to your Meet Record Cards until all upgrading requirements have been met and then submit them with the complete documentation to either of the two parties listed above.
- It is helpful, if anyone is working on getting upgraded in more than one officiating discipline, to keep separate Meet Record Cards for each individual discipline.
- Note that officials should renew their Athletics Alberta membership prior to the end of each calendar year. There is no cost/fee involved. Failure to renew means no insurance coverage is provided for that unregistered official should an accident occur at any of our meets.
- Mileage expense reimbursement rates as of Oct 2012 are: 1 official - .35/km, 2 officials - .40/km, 3 or more - .48/km

NACAC U23 Championships - 2014

I had the privilege of attending the North American, Central American and Caribbean (NACAC) under 23 Championships in Kamloops BC August 8 to 10, 2014. The facilities were great in Kamloops and from the residence it was a short walk to the track. As always, it was great to have a chance to meet with other officials, share information and catch up on the news.

We had an opportunity to attend two clinics. One on Starting and the other on Race Walk. What I really enjoyed about this meet is that we had enough officials so the four of us that attended the race walk workshop were encouraged to shadow the race walk judges while they were judging. This was a fantastic experience and I feel much more confident in taking the first step towards judging a race walk.

I was very fortunate to have the American judge and he took me step by step as to where I should be on the track, the area I should be judging and the mechanics of the race walk. He was an excellent instructor as he was a former race walker and coach.

I would encourage all officials to attend any clinics that are offered and to ask to shadow other officials if you are interested in learning other disciplines.

Despite being disappointed with the lack of Canadian Athletes invited to attend the meet I left with a very positive feeling. Looking forward to my first race walk.

Cathy Simpson

Alberta Mourns the Loss of a Great Official

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Gordon Mundle of Calgary on Nov. 22, 2014.

Gord was involved extensively with Canadian sport and world sport first as a coach and ultimately as an athletics official. He officiated at Olympic Games in Munich and Montreal, a few Pan-Am Games, Canada Games, and a number of Commonwealth Games including Edmonton 1978. He most recently oversaw 'weights and measures' at the Olympic Trials in Calgary in 2012 and was recently asked but was unable to assist with the upcoming 2015 Pan-Am Games in Toronto.

The Athletics community in Alberta will greatly miss Gordon Mundle.