



Athletics Alberta

Officials' Bulletin

May

2015

By Jack Leman

So.....the 2014/2015 Alberta indoor season is now complete and here we are, in our blocks, in the “**Set**” position, steady (with both feet firmly against the block plates - SA’s take note), waiting for the gun so that we can accelerate into the busy next few months.

The indoor season formally wrapped March 14th at the Butterdome with the final session of the Running Room Indoor Games. This was the culmination of a series of RR meets which saw more than 5,000 elementary and secondary school athletes competing in an effort to qualify for the final day of competition. As usual, it was a treat to see the enthusiasm on the faces of the young athletes and to hear the encouragement of their friends and families from the stands.

And now, on to current matters.

Athletics Canada Website

Some of you will be aware that Athletics Canada has done a rather major revision to the layout/appearance of their website. It can be accessed here <http://athletics.ca/>. There is an officials’ page on the website <http://athletics.ca/programs/officials/>.....which unfortunately does not yet contain the broad extent of information and documentation that was available on

the “old” version of the website. This is likely a function of the website transition process and also the fact that NOC may be going through a change in the makeup and appointment process for their committee personnel.

Rollie Miles Athletic Facility

Edmonton athletics officials who have been around for a while will recall that prior to the opening of Foote Field, most of our Edmonton area meets were held at the Rollie Miles Athletics Facility. As a track official, I was always impressed with this facility if for no other reason than the markings on the track were extremely clearly laid out and easy to understand. A renewal of the facility has recently been completed with the following changes having been made:

Track

- Replace the 400m Standard Track (8 lanes) with new track surface.
- Replace drainage infrastructure and track subsurface.

Field Elements

- With exception of long jump, all field elements will be accommodated inside the track for competition.
- The existing long jump facility inside the track will be moved to a location outside of track.

I have not yet had a look at the renovated facility but am going to try to do so in the next few days so that I can update the Rollie Miles track diagram (if required) which is currently posted in the Officials’ area of the AA website.

As a matter of interest, the Edmonton Track and Field Council, in celebration of the completion of this renovation, is holding a Grand Opening Party & Meet on Friday May 22nd from 4pm to 8pm. There is going to be a 10,000m (on track) event as part of this meet so clearly, those officials who want to test their lap scoring capabilities would be more than welcome....please!! Further information on this event can be found on the “Calendar” section of the AA website.

The facility is located at 10503 74 Ave NW and is adjacent to Strathcona High School.

Western Canada Summer Games

Please be aware that we are in the process of making arrangements for the transportation of our officials up to Fort McMurray for the WCSG. We plan to use a chartered bus and as such, individual officials do not need to take steps relative to making flight arrangements as seems to

be suggested in the recent email from Kathi Brewer-Gouthro, the games Technical Officials' Chair. Further information will follow once our travel arrangements have been finalized.

2014 Officials of the Year

At the recent Athletics Alberta Annual Awards ceremony, two of our members were recognized for their contributions with awards/presentations as 2014 Officials of the Year.

Alberta Official of the Year – Cathy Simpson

Both Calgary and Edmonton claim Cathy as one of their own. In 2001 she began officiating in Edmonton where she lived and worked. With family moving to Calgary in 2008, she started travelling between the two cities and moved permanently to Calgary in 2009. She has held the position of Calgary Zone Coordinator on the Officials' Committee since 2009. Cathy became a level 5 umpire in the spring of 2011 and is also a national mentor and a national clinician.

She continues to travel to Edmonton frequently, and not only works the Calgary meets but also most of the Edmonton meets. Opportunities to travel to out-of-province meets have taken her to BC and Saskatchewan and to the National Championships in Toronto. Most recently, she worked the NACAC meet in Kamloops this past summer.



Alberta Novice Official of the Year – Deirdre Choate

Deirdre began her athletics competitive career at the age of 11 in Ireland and went on to represent Ireland internationally in her specialty – the 100m hurdles. These days she is bringing her enthusiasm and dedication to the area of officiating and last year completed the requirements for Level 2. She is currently pursuing level 3 in both vertical jumps (her favourite)

and umpiring. Always willing to help out wherever she is needed. Dierdre has become, in a fairly short time, a highly valued member of the core group of officials in Calgary.

Congratulations to both these dedicated officials!

Upgrading

Athletics Alberta officials who successfully upgraded at the 2015 Spring Provincial and National Officials' Committee meetings were as follows:

PROVINCIAL

Level 1 – General

Emly Anderson
Sydney Anderson
Annette Case
Selma Isret
Selma Guigard
Trudy Tienkamp

Level 2 - General

Henry Charrois
Julie Francois
Milan Kostelnik
Shivani Naidu-Barrett
Darrell Penner
Terry Protz
Dale Ronsky

Level 3

Photofinish - Jon Hirst
Starters Assistant - Cathy Simpson
Throws - Darwin Starner

NATIONAL

Level 5 – Starter

Roger Hazlewood
Sandra Wigg

Level 5 - Photo Finish Chief Judge

Vernon Schmid

Level 5 – Track Referee

Louise Buskas

Technical Manager - National

Dale Schoenthaler

Jury – National

Ian Gordon
Jack Leman

Congratulations to all and a thank you for the many hours of hard work and volunteering that were required to satisfy the upgrading requirements for each of the above positions.

Recently Louise Buskas, John Chang, Irene Gaudet, Pat Inglis, Jack Leman, Norma Love-Pankonin, Norma Morgan, Estella Rung, Vernon Schmid, Eric Wittenberg and Mary Wittenberg attended a National Clinicians' Clinic conducted by Heather Climenhaga and Peter Faid.

The second stage of this process is for each individual to then conduct a clinic under the supervision of either Heather, Peter or Ian Gordon at which point if successful, they will then be certified by NOC as National Clinicians.

CLINICS

An integral part of upgrading as an official is the requirement that at some point in the process, the candidate must take a clinic in their chosen discipline. With that in mind, we are in the process of making arrangements for multiple clinics during the 2015 outdoor season.

A tentative list of those clinics is set forth below. As is apparent, specific dates have been chosen for some clinics while for others; only the meet for the clinic has been decided. Once these arrangements have been finalized, more formal notices will be given. In the interim, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any member of your Officials' Committee.

<u>CLINIC/ DISCIPLINE</u>	<u>MEET</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Combined Events Referee	PanAm Jrs	July 31, 2015
Field Referee Jumps	PanAm Jrs	Aug. 1, 2015
Field Referee Throws	Canadian Jr/Sr Championships	July 2, 2015
High Jump	Canadian Jr/Sr Championships	July 3, 2015
Photo Finish Chief Judge	TBD	TBD
Race Walk	PanAm Jrs	July 31, 2015
Starter	ASAA Prov. Championships	June 5, 2015
Starter	PanAm Jrs	Aug. 1, 2015
Starter's Assistant	Canadian Jr/Sr Championships	July 2, 2015
Throws	Canadian Jr/Sr Championships	July 3, 2015
Track Referee	PanAm Jrs	Aug. 1, 2015
Umpire	Caltaf	TBD
Umpire	Canadian Jr/Sr Championships	July 3, 2015
Vertical Jumps	Canadian Jr/Sr Championships	July 2, 2015
Vertical Jumps	Pan Am Jrs	July 31, 2015

NOTE: You do not have to be working as an official at any of these meets to attend a clinic held in conjunction with the meet. If you wish to attend just let us know a bit in advance so that we can make sure we have enough hand-out material.

Logging (again)

A reminder of the importance/significance of officials renewing their Athletics Alberta membership each calendar year. If you are not registered, there is no insurance coverage provided in case of an accident at any of our meets. There is no membership fee/cost involved.

IN MEMORIUM



It is with sadness that we announce the passing Garnet Millar. Garnet passed away peacefully in Qualicum Beach on December 16th, 2014.

Garnet became involved in athletics officiating just prior to 2000 and worked primarily as an Athletics Alberta track umpire at many significant competitions over the 12 year period of his involvement with the sport.

Garnet resided in Sherwood Park during this period of time and moved with his wife Shirley to Qualicum Beach on Vancouver Island in 2012.

Our condolences are extended to Garnet's family.

Athletics Alberta Officials' Sub-Committee

Chair – Louise Buskas

Vice Chair – Ian Gordon

Edmonton Zone Coordinator – Philippa Fairbairn

Calgary Zone Coordinator – Cathy Simpson

Medicine Hat Coordinator – Liz Haubrich

Provincial Upgrading Coordinator – Irene Gaudet
Communication/PR Coordinator – Jack Leman
Member at Large – Eric Wittenberg