

Athletics Alberta Officials' Annual General Meeting
Sunday, October 19th, 2008
10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON
Red Deer College, Room 2002A
Red Deer

MINUTES

Attendance

Philippa Fairbairn, Bud McInnis, Ian Gordon, John Takahashi, Cathy Simpson, Maureen Horlick, Louise Buskas, Darlene Kowalchuk, Fidelma Muldowny, Irene Gaudet, Colin Robertson, Jack Leman, Ian Maplethorpe (board representative).

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Ian called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Motion: To accept the agenda.

Fidelma / Darlene - Carried.

3.0 Approval of Minutes of October 28, 2007.

Motion: To approve the minutes of October 28, 2007.

Philippa / Bud - Carried.

4.0 Business arising from the Minutes of October 28, 2007.

Item 5.1 Record Forms

Jack noted that the record form posted on the Athletics Alberta web site still needs correcting. At the last Athletics Alberta AGM, Ian pointed out to Peter Ogilvie that on the declaration part by the referee, there is nothing being declared, and this needs correcting. The form has still not been changed. Ian will contact Peter in this matter.

5.0 Reports

5.1 Chair – Ian Gordon (see attached).

5.2 Northern Zone Coordinator - Philippa Fairbairn (see attached)

Also see ensuing discussion under item 7.0 Open Forum.

5.3 Southern Zone Coordinator - Ian Gordon (see attached).

5.4 Central Alberta Coordinator - Bud McInnis

- The only meets held in Red Deer this year were school meets.

5.5 Training Group Coordinator – Darlene Kowalchuk (see attached).

- An intermediate throws clinic is needed for some of the Calgary officials. Ray Deere will likely teach this clinic, and Darlene will be kept up to date.
- A Starter's Assistant clinic is requested at the time of the Golden Bear meet. Bud will likely teach this.

5.6 Statistician / Upgrading Coordinator – Irene Gaudet (see attached).

- Anke Seifried's name tag was once again misspelled. Ian will follow up with Ray Deere.

Motion: To accept all the above reports as presented.

5.7 Liaison with Athletics Alberta – Ian Maplethorpe

- Ian stressed there needs to be good communication between officials, meet organizing committees, and the board. Officials need to be heard in the formulation of policies.
- Also see item 7.0 Open Forum.

6.0 New Business (no new business was brought forward).

7.0 Open Forum

- Louise brought up that she and others have had discussions with Mike Robinson about meet staffing. There was much discussion on this issue from several officials with a good amount of input from Ian Maplethorpe. Some of the points made are listed as follows:
 1. The Hershey Provincial meet showed some of the problems encountered in trying to run meets. This meet has about 600 competitors, and is expected to grow to as many as 1000 competitors. Officiating is an important component of running a meet such as this.
 2. The way provincial level meets are run needs to be standardized. A meet manager document is being updated by Athletics Alberta. This document includes meet sanctioning commitments, including the numbers of officials required and in what capacities.
 3. Some meet hosts may not be aware of what is required in holding a meet, even though they may have previously hosted meets. The personnel who are in charge of hosting meets may change from one year to the next, or even within the time frame of organizing a particular meet.
 4. The meet manager document is large. It needs to be simplified so that its components can be quickly understood. A suggestion was made to make a summary sheet a page or two in length detailing the essential components.
 5. Athletics Alberta needs to ensure the meet host is aware of their obligations set out in their sanctioning policy, and the host is following these policies. It was suggested that if the host does not meet these obligations, the sanction may be pulled.
 6. One of the obligations is to appoint a meet officials' coordinator to ensure the meet is properly staffed with volunteers and officials.
 7. An officials' representative, such as the zone coordinator, needs to be proactive with the meet officials' coordinator to ensure the appropriate officials are contacted.
 8. There are many twilight and all-comers meets that may be held during the summer. A full complement of officials will not be recruited for these types of meets, as this would tend to burn-out the officials. Coaches and athletes need to be aware that in these meets, records and sometimes qualifying standards may not be ratified.
 9. If at a twilight or all-comers meet, a particular performance will need to be verified, the onus is on the coach or athlete to ensure sufficient officials are contacted for that event.
- Motion: The chair of the officials' sub-committee write a letter to the President of the Board of Athletics Alberta expressing concern that Athletics Alberta policies need to be followed with regards to officiating at meets. **Moved by Louise, seconded by Cathy, Carried.**

Ian will write a draft letter to be reviewed by the officials' sub-committee and also Louise for final wording, and then send it to Tim Berrett with a copy to Peter Ogilvie and Mike Robinson.

8.0 Nominations and Elections

8.1 Northern Zone Coordinator

Incumbent: Philippa Fairbairn
Fidelma nominated Philippa. Philippa was acclaimed.

8.2 Training Coordinator

Incumbent: Darlene Kowalchuk
Philippa nominated Darlene. Darlene was acclaimed.

8.3 Chair

Incumbent: Ian Gordon
Bud nominated Ian. Ian was acclaimed.

Cathy Simpson will be moving to Calgary next spring. She is willing to take on the role of Southern Zone Coordinator for next summer.

9.0 Adjournment

- Darlene moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Attached Reports

Chair Report, Fall, 2008 - Ian Gordon

Thanks to all officials, who have helped me in doing my work at the Chair of the Officials' Sub-Committee.

We have approximately 120 registered officials in Alberta. On our grading chart, there are 18 level 5 officials, 20 level 4, 24 level 3, 34 level 2, and 30 level 1 officials. Not all registered, and there are a few provisional officials, so that the numbers do not add to 120.

During this year, Alberta officials helped in supporting eleven indoor meets (six regional, four provincial, and one national level meet) and seventeen outdoor meets (nine regional, seven provincial, and one national level meets). There were two national level meets during the last year; the Golden Bear meet (indoors), and the Francophone Games (outdoors).

Race Walk officiating is gradually improving. We now have two level 3 officials, one in Calgary and one in Edmonton. Hopefully, we will be able to bring more race walk officials to level 3, and be able to competently cover race walk events in this province.

There were ten mentoring sessions for levels 4 and 5 this last year. Four of these were indoor, and six were outdoor. Two officials were upgraded to level 4 after the indoor season, and there are four applications pending after the outdoor season. Two of these are for level 4 and two for level 5.

There are only about three officials who do not have email addresses at this time. The Athletics Alberta web page is being kept up to date with the help of our liaison Jack Leman. Nationally, the NOC bulletin is now being emailed, and the sub-committee is in a position to do the same. The mass emailing of notices and documents will cut down administration costs, and is also very quick.

Northern Zone Report- Philippa Fairbairn

The meets in the Edmonton area this past summer were quite well spread out—not only in terms of their dates but also geographically.

In May we had the St. Albert Challenge; in July the Sherwood Park Classic. The only major meet that took place in Edmonton was the Francophone Games in August. We provided between 20 and 25 officials, mainly chiefs, to the meets in St. Albert and Sherwood Park. A somewhat smaller number worked the Francophone Games—a meet that presented some challenges. Constant changes in staff meant that every few months I was dealing with a new person in the organization. In June, two young Quebec women came to organize the track and field portion of the event. Neither was familiar with the sport, but they did their best. Five officials from Quebec were brought in and they were a tremendous help. Despite everything, including a shortage of officials, it did seem to go off reasonably smoothly. There were glitches including delayed starts to the 100 metre races and the triple jump because nobody had picked up the wind gauges from Athletics Alberta. Fortunately the first day of the meet was a Friday, which meant that the office was open. Had the meet started on a Saturday it might have been a different story.

The meet officials' coordinators for the St. Albert Challenge and the Sherwood Park Classic did a commendable job when it came to contacting the officials. I provided the names and they did the rest. I believe there were some communication problems with respect to officials and the Francophone Games but that was understandable given the inexperience of the two organizers.

In May, at the invitation of the St. Paul Regional High School, six officials went to Lloydminster to help with the North-east Alberta high school zone meet. It turned out to be a very wet day, which made things extremely difficult for the athletes and the teacher and student volunteers—to say nothing of the officials. Several Edmonton-area officials also worked meets in Calgary and the Alberta Summer Games in Medicine Hat. The twilight meets held in Edmonton were generally not staffed by our officials except when qualifying distances, heights or times were being sought. The Hershey finals were also staffed very minimally but this could change next year. Louise Buskas and Mike Robinson of Athletics Alberta have discussed the need for more officials to help out with the Hershey finals.

Finally, I would like to thank the Northern area officials. You are a terrific group of dedicated people who respond magnificently to any and all requests for help.

Southern Zone Coordinator Report – Ian Gordon

The Southern Zone hosted a total of four indoor track meets in Calgary at the University of Calgary this past winter. There was also a meet held in Lethbridge at the University.

The outdoor season in southern Alberta saw the following six Provincial level meets: the Chinook Throws Gala meet in Lethbridge, the High School Provincials hosted by Cochrane in Calgary, the Rocky Mountain Relays in Medicine Hat, the Caltaf meet and the Age Class provincials in Calgary, and the Alberta Summer Games in Medicine Hat. In addition, there were 3 local meets in the New Balance series.

The Lethbridge track was torn up this summer, and will be replaced. As a result, the Rocky Mountain Relays were moved to Medicine Hat. There is an enthusiastic core of officials in Medicine Hat who helped out with both these Rocky Mountain Relays and the Alberta Summer Games. Four of these officials have now upgraded to level 1.

In previous years, the southern zone officials' coordinator was contacted by meet managers in the expectation that they would also be meet officials' coordinator. This simply burns out anybody in the position of southern zone officials' coordinator. With the resignation of last year's zone coordinator, the meets had no choice but to do the work normally done by the meet officials' coordinator. I supplied lists of officials, and made contact with Philippa for officials required from northern Alberta.

The clubs in Calgary have decided to initiate a different method to staff meets starting this last summer. Each club will be responsible to staff particular events, and the volunteers will be much more likely to then officiate at the same events from one year to the next. This will place the onus on clubs to gain expertise in running these specific event areas. It was recognized that the volunteer base was eroding, and that something had to be done. We will see how this works out over the next year or two.

Training Coordinator Report – Darlene Kowalchuk

The following clinics were held in Alberta since the last AGM (Oct 2007).

2008 Alberta Clinics

CLINIC	DATE	LOCATION	ATTENDEES	CLINICIAN	LEVEL	PROVINCIAL (P) or NATIONAL (N)
Introductory	January 15 / 08	Edmonton	13	Jack Leman, Philippa Fairbairn, Darlene Kowalchuk	1	P
Horizontal Jumps	January 19 / 08	Edmonton	1	Philippa Fairbairn	3	P
Introductory	February 19 / 08	Calgary	20	Doug Kyle Jack Leman, Fidelma Muldowney, Darlene Kowalchuk	1	P
Introductory	February 28 / 08	Edmonton	4	Doug and Carol Kyle	1	P
Introductory	May 13 / - 8	Calgary	24	Bud McInnis	1	P
Introductory	June 14 /08	Calgary	1	Doug Kyle	1	P
Race Walk	September 12 / 08	Edmonton	18		1	P
			81			

Anyone requiring a clinic please let me know by email at dzkowalchuk@shaw.ca.

Clinics require at least four participants; however, arrangements can be made for individual clinics should the need be critical.

Statistician Report 2008 – Irene Gaudet

The following people were upgraded this year.

For level 1:

Bellerine Crosson (Edmonton)
Monique Hosanee (Medicine Hat)
Cammie Kannekens (Medicine Hat)
Simon Mackintosh (Edmonton)
Katie Oszip (Gibbons)
Christine Rapp (Edmonton)
Eva Rasmussen (Camrose)
Victor Rodriguez (Edmonton)
Miriam Stanisavljevic (Edmonton)
Cindy Stephen (Calgary)
Sharon Stubor (Medicine Hat)
John Victor (St. Albert)
Jim Werner (Medicine Hat)

For level 2:

John Butler
Peter Gray
Norma Love-Pankonin
Brenda Spitzer
Sandra Wigg

For Level 2 Racewalk:

Ian Gordon

For level 3:

Louise Buskas (Track Referee)
Peter Faid (horizontal jumps)
Irene Gaudet (Horizontal Jumps)
Audra Jones (Racewalk)
Anke Seifried (Throws)

Please remember to send in your **original** cards (I got some photocopies and had to ask for the originals). Thank you.