

**Athletics Alberta Officials' Annual General Meeting**  
**Sunday, October 23, 2011**  
**10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**Red Deer College, Room 2002A**  
**Red Deer**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance**

Louise Delsing, Philippa Fairbairn, Jack Leman, John Takahashi, Ian Gordon, Doug Kyle, Carol Kyle

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

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

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion: To accept the agenda**

**Doug Kyle / Louise Delsing - Carried.**

**3. Approval of Minutes of October 24, 2010.**

**Motion: To approve the minutes of October 24, 2010.**

**Jack Leman / John Takahashi - Carried.**

**4. Business arising from the Minutes of October 24, 2010.**

**6.5 Resolution**

The original resolution was changed to read: "Therefore, be it resolved that the Alberta Officials request that the Athletics Alberta Board of Directors consider the designation of a permanent position on the Executive Committee for the Chair of the Officials' Committee."

**6.3 Meets for Qualifying Standards**

The CDC has stated that the AA sanction is enough—it does not matter how many officials are in attendance. Jack said that the Edmonton twilight meet package did not state that the meets were sanctioned by AA.

It would appear that if AA decides to accept the results from a meet with no or too few officials, even if a 400-metre hurdle race is involved, there is nothing we can do. Jack said he will not work a meet where there are no umpires. Ian pointed out that one of the New Balance meets is to be held in Lethbridge next summer but Lethbridge has, at most, two officials.

**7.1 from Minutes of October 18, 2009 Dangerous Weather**

The policy is now posted on the AA web site.

**5. Reports**

**5.1 Chair – Darlene Kowalchuk (see attached).**

Ian read Darlene's report. Contracting out was a sore point with some officials but it was Ian's understanding that while the supply and operation of the electronic display boards would be contracted out for next summer's Canadian Championships, the photofinish positions would be filled by our officials.

**5.2 Northern Zone Coordinator - Philippa Fairbairn (see attached)**

**5.3 Southern Zone Coordinator – Cathy Simpson (see attached).**

Ian read Cathy's report.

#### **5.4 Training Group Coordinator – Darlene Kowalchuk (see attached).**

Ian presented Darlene's training coordinator report. It was noted that the national clinics held in Calgary were not included in the report. It was suggested that the report be updated to include the number of attendees at the national clinics.

Calgary will be holding an introductory clinic at the end of November. The Edmonton introductory clinic will be held in January.

#### **5.5 Statistician / Upgrading Coordinator – Irene Gaudet (see attached).**

Ian presented Irene's report and will follow up with the new chair with respect to the sending out of letters of congratulations to those who were on this fall's provincial upgrading list. Cathy Simpson, Eric Wittenberg, Bing Chu and Ian Gordon were all upgraded to level 5 during 2011. Some of the applications submitted to NOC this fall were incomplete through no fault of the individual officials. They will be resubmitted with the additional paperwork in time for the spring NOC meeting and are likely to be backdated.

**Motion: To accept all the above reports as presented.**

**Doug Kyle / Louise Delsing - Carried.**

### **6. New Business.**

#### **6.1 IAAF Rule Changes.**

An article in the most recent edition of NOC NOC lists the most significant changes. One rule change not mentioned is that races on a straightaway can now be run in either direction. The new rules come into effect as of November 1, 2011.

Ian plans to order new books for the Calgary officials once they become available.

#### **6.2 Canadian Track and Field Championships - 2012**

Doug reported on the 2011 Championships. He said that there had been 24 bailouts, or one-third of the officials who had committed in March and April. This had resulted in a lot of last-minute scrambling to fill spots.

- In 2012 those being mentored will be brought in as officials and will be listed in the assistant chief position.
- An officials' handbook will be put out in 2012.
- The officials will stay at the Best Western on Crowchild trail so shuttle buses will not be needed.
- There has been a request that the shot put circle be put in the infield close to the finish line.
- Shirts will come in men's and women's sizes.
- There will be no banquet on Saturday night. An officials' dinner will be held on the Tuesday evening before the events start.
- The organizers are going to try to include high school relays and special events in the long breaks in the afternoon.
- The 2011 schedule came out too late and there was a conflict with the discus and javelin.
- The tent in the baseball area was not ideal. In 2012 a tent will be set up in the shot put area. There will be a new caterer.
- Photofinish officials will be fully included.
- The meet officials' committee will look after contacting the announcers.
- The throwing direction needs to be brought up at the tech meeting.

Ian said that at the NOC meeting David Weicker had indicated that false-start apparatus needed to be used. Ian would like to start using that equipment during the indoor meets and Spring Challenge.

## 7 Nominations and Elections

Ian indicated that no formal notice of motion had been put forward with respect to the proposed restructuring of the committee. It was also important to consult with Joanne Archibald—VP of Personnel. As a result, these elections would be for the existing positions.

### 7.1 Provincial Chair (one-year term)

Interim Incumbent: Darlene Kowalchuk

Philippa Fairbairn nominated Louise Buskas. Louise was acclaimed.

### 7.2 Training Coordinator (one-year term)

Incumbent: Darlene Kowalchuk

Philippa Fairbairn nominated Ian Gordon. Ian was acclaimed.

### 7.3 Statistician (two-year term)

Incumbent: Irene Gaudet

Philippa Fairbairn nominated Irene Gaudet. Irene was acclaimed.

### 7.4 Central Zone coordinator (two-year term)

Incumbent: Bud McInnis

Philippa Fairbairn nominated Bud McInnis. Bud was acclaimed.

### 7.5 Southern Zone coordinator (two-year term)

Incumbent: Cathy Simpson

Ian Gordon nominated Cathy Simpson. Cathy was acclaimed

## 8 Other Business

The number of attendees at this meeting was a disappointment. If there is no improvement for next year's meeting it might be time to look at other options.

## 9 Adjournment

- Jack Leman moved that the meeting be adjourned at 12 noon

## Attached Reports

### Chair Report, Fall 2011 –Darlene Kowalchuk

As of October, we had 134 registered officials in Alberta, 10 less than last year. On our grading chart, there are 25 level 5 officials, 23 level 4, 83 level 3, 27 level 2, and 35 level 1.

As you can see, the number of officials on our grading chart is 193 and only 134 have registered. Some will be taken off the list because of inactivity, but it also means there are some active officials who have not registered with Athletics Alberta. It is critical that all officials register! Registration is being done on-line, and must be done every year. Please take the time to register as an official. Registration has implications for national funding and for insurance, so it is very important that you do register.

There were three national level meets during the last year that allowed for some level 4 and 5 mentorings. These meets were the Golden Bear meet, Chinook Throws Gala, and the Senior Nationals. The Edmonton International meet was cancelled due to severe weather.

The Senior Nationals in Calgary allowed for Alberta officials to gain experience at a National Competition meet and to attend some national level clinics. Five national clinics were held in Calgary – starter, race walk, throws, track referee and throws referee. There were also opportunities for many Alberta officials to receive Level 4 or Level 5 mentorings, and more importantly, for Alberta officials to gain National Competition experience and credits.

Issues were expressed during the year with a lack of Officials at various meets. Funding for officials for meets is the responsibility of the meet organizers; however, as officials we support meets through our attendance and many officials have gone the extra mile to attend meets at their own costs.

Issues have been expressed with regard to ‘contracting out’ certain aspects of officiating. This issue has been brought to the attention of Athletics Alberta and is continuing to be addressed with them. NOC is also aware of the issues.

Two Alberta Officials were appointed to the National Officials Committee in April – Ian Gordon and Heather Climenhaga. Congratulations to them both. Based on Ian’s appointment in April, the committee selected an Interim Chair. It has been a pleasure to be that Interim Chair and your Training Coordinator before that; however, due to personal commitments, I will not be seeking election on the Officials Committee at this time. I wish everyone great success in reaching your goals in Officiating.

#### **Northern Zone Report – Philippa Fairbairn**

We had a busy summer with the usual meets in St. Albert and Sherwood Park, plus the Provincial High School Championships and the Hershey Provincial Finals at Foote Field.

I continue to be grateful that we have such a large number of officials in the Edmonton area who are so willing to give of their time to work the various track and field meets. And they do it with such good grace and with virtually no arm-twisting on my part. Approximately 20 officials worked each day of the St. Albert Challenge in May and a similar number came out for the High School Provincials on June 3 and 4. Our last major meet of the outdoor season was the Sherwood Park Classic and 24 officials worked each day of that one. And, of course, the past winter indoor season also benefited from the expertise and dedication of our various officiating crews.

The big disappointment was the Edmonton International Track Classic. A summer storm, complete with lightning and some heavy downpours meant that a delayed start finally turned into an outright cancellation. Because the meet was to take place only a few days after the Senior Nationals in Calgary, some top-notch athletes were planning to compete and several hoped to get needed standards. So it was most unfortunate that the weather prevented this meet from taking place. However, planning is already under way with respect to the 2012 event.

A large group of Edmonton area officials worked at the National Championships in Calgary while a smaller number helped out at Caltaf. For many of our newer officials the Canadian National Championships was their first experience of a major meet and I am hopeful that it will encourage them to pursue further upgrading so that ultimately they will be able to achieve positions with a greater degree of responsibility.

The 2011/12 indoor season opens with Last Chance on December 3. This one-day meet is always very busy, as are the meets that follow in January, February and March. I look forward to seeing many familiar faces in the Butterdome—as well as a good crop of recruits to swell our ranks.

## SOUTHERN ALBERTA ZONE REPORT – Cathy Simpson

The fall of 2010 saw our normal 3 indoor meets in Calgary at the University of Calgary, Jack Simpson gym. It was a very busy spring with 5 meets being held in Calgary. There were also two meets held in Lethbridge. Major highlight of the meets during the summer was the Canadian Senior Nationals, June 22 to 25. While there were some obvious issues with using the newly refinished track at Foothills for the first time, it went fairly smoothly, due to the large number of experienced officials from Edmonton and area.

## Training Coordinator Report – Darlene Kowalchuk

There were 12 clinics with a total of 84 attendees. These are shown as follows:

CLINIC	DATE	LOCATION	ATTENDEES	CLINICIANS	LEVEL	PROV/NAT
Photo Finish	Nov. 28, 2010	Calgary	8	Ed Moore	3	P
Intro	Jan. 6, 2011	Calgary	19	Ian Gordon Ray Deere	1	P
Intro	Jan. 19, 2011	Edmonton	5	Jack Leman Darlene Kowalchuk	5	P
Umpire	March 9, 2011	Edmonton	6	Jack Leman	3	P
Starter's Assistant	March 11, 2011	Edmonton	7	Heather Climenhaga	3	P
Race Walk	June 22, 2011	Calgary	8	David Weicker	4	N
Throws	June 22, 2011	Calgary	9	Ray Deere Estella Rung	4	N
Track Referee	June 22, 2011	Calgary	3	Bud McInnis	4	N
Starter	June 23, 2011	Calgary	4	Ian Gordon	4	N
Throws Referee	June 23, 2011	Calgary	8	Peter Fejfar	4	N
Intro	July 21, 2011	Edmonton	6	Jack Leman Darlene Kowalchuk Philippa Fairbairn	1	P
Horizontal Jumps	July 23, 2011	Edmonton	1	Darlene Kowalchuk	3	P

## Statistician Report 2011 – Irene Gaudet

The following people were upgraded this year.

For level 1:

Jonathan Hirst (Calgary)  
Anita Grof (Edmonton)  
Walter Kehl (Edmonton)  
Praxdene Lepine (Edmonton)  
Irene Ostrowercha (Edmonton)  
Don Preston (Sherwood Park)  
Veronica Rodriguez (Edmonton)

Joanne Sargeant (Mannville)  
Donna Scharf (Medicine Hat)  
Bryan Starner (Sherwood Park)  
Darwyn Starner (Sherwood Park)  
Beth Tupala (Edmonton)  
Brenda Tupala (Edmonton)  
David Williams (Edmonton)

For level 2:

Mary Beth Meeuwisse  
Eddy Tse

Jeanne Tse  
Jennifer Welchman

For level 3:

John Butler (Vertical Jumps)  
Bell Crosson (Umpire)  
Ray Deere (Throws Referee)  
Denise DuPlessis (Starter)  
Garret Haubrich (Horizontal Jumps)

Pat Marsh (Umpire)  
Victor Rodriguez (Horizontal Jumps)  
Michael Samson (Throws)  
Maxine Scringier-Wilkes (Starter)  
John Victor (Umpire)

Simon MacKintosh (Umpire)

Eric Wittenberg (Throws Referee)

Eric Wittenberg (Jumps Referee)

In order to minimize confusion, please submit complete packages – cards and mentoring forms. For Level 3 and above, try to keep separate cards for each discipline – lots less confusion. Also as Level 4 and above are national and have to be submitted there, we will not see the cards and credits unless you submit a copy of those cards!

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