

ATHLETICS ALBERTA

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

April 2017
by Linda Blade

ALBERTA MATTERS

After two years of housekeeping (2014-2016) - sorting out many overdue updates on governance, office management and financial status - the year 2016-2017 saw Athletics Alberta board & staff emerge from the clutter to launch a number of initiatives that will enhance training and competition experiences of the membership moving forward. This was the year we began to invest in a future that sparkles with opportunity.

Every journey begins with a roadmap. In keeping with the Olympic cycle, we have a new **STRATEGIC PLAN** (2016-2020) carefully constructed by the board of directors at a weekend retreat in September 2016 (*Please refer to document to be ratified at this April 22, 2017 AGM*). This plan identifies actions to be taken in four areas: (1) building capacity, (2) optimizing events, (3) improving leadership and (4) ensuring the best in performance & development outcomes.

Key steps initiated along this new pathway over the past year (2016-2017) involve the establishment of 'a new way of doing things'. Examples:

- Creating new revenue streams - GPS launched across Alberta (Thank you, Tracy Lockwood!); Road Running package online (Great work, James & Brad!)
- Acquiring the equipment to enhance our involvement in road running community
- Improved partnership and leadership within Edmonton Athletics Legacy Foundation (Thank you, James) in order to attract funding for future projects
- Lobbying intensively for new indoor facilities and/or expanded facility access at the city council level in both Edmonton and Calgary
- Upgrading social media platforms so that our members (and others!) can better follow the sport
- Communicating with members via the online newsletter (Thank you, Brad Babiak!)
- Looking for ways to improve the quality and brevity of the Awards Banquet
- Improved transparency & accountability in our financial reporting (Thanks to Evelyn Burnett)
- Encouraging member-driven initiatives that will enhance awareness -> "The PEAK Inside" podcast with Nathan Lennie and Angela Whyte covering topics of interest to T&F community
- Sending a group of our *Espoir* athletes to Europe as a way of offering more & varied competition experience
- Exploring ways to support and market our top athletes by entering into partnership with the fashion industry -> First attempt: Carline Moore photo shoot with Images Models
- Offering IST support to our athletes via the "TOP" program

- Celebrating our athletes -> Presenting commemorative gift our Alberta Olympians at public ceremonies across the province (Thanks to Christine Laverty for this wonderful idea!)

In summary, our intent is to create such a positive, supportive environment for our members - athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, clubs & leaders - that everyone will want to stay and play in Alberta for as long as possible. And when it is time to move on, we hope that you will continue to support us as interested and concerned alumni.

ATHLETICS CANADA MATTERS

In keeping with the Olympic cycle, Athletics Canada undertook its quadrennial review in Fall 2016. Everyone is happy and proud of the historic medal haul (6 Olympic medals!) delivered by Canadian T&F athletes in Rio - moving Canada's world standing from #34 in 2012 -> #10 in 2016. However, online surveys and telephone interviews with many (300+) stakeholders across Canada indicated distrust with AC board and staff, especially in regards to inconsistencies in policies and confusion in communications. There was also an alarming disconnect in AC relationship with federal funding partners (Sport Canada; Own The Podium) - something AC has been working diligently to correct. A letter from AC Board of Directors to the provinces concludes with the following promise: "We are committed to ensuring that AC is a world-leading, trusted, transparent and athlete-centered organization."

One of the key outcomes of the review was the termination of AC Head Coach, Peter Eriksson (December, 2016). Two new positions are now being created out of this one role (interviews currently on-going): Chief Technical Officer and Head Coach.

To ensure independence re: disputes amongst its members, AC has created the office of Commissioner - Hon. Hugh Fraser being appointed to serve as arbiter.

Hard work has gone into creating the AC 2013-2020 Strategic Plan [Google "Strategic Plan Athletics Canada"]. According to the latest *Strategic Plan Report Card*, AC has had success in its online platforms [AC TV; Social media], but has fallen behind in the areas of developmental programs and coach education.

Re: Programs - Athletics Alberta has come to the conclusion that we must take, to some extent, independent initiative in delivering our own developmental programming (e.g. GPS; Road Race strategy) even as Athletics Canada seeks to upgrade its own approach to such programs.

Re: Competitions - Three items to note:

1. The IAAF World Youth will be discontinued in favour of having NACAC Youth Championship by 2018.

2. Inconsistencies amongst Canadian provinces re: competition specifications for Midget age category are currently being addressed (Thank you, Rob Fisher & Brad Babiak for working on Alberta's behalf).

3. Hosting AC National Championships has become a source of confusion, lately. Bids for 2019-2020 AC National Championships are currently being submitted by various cities across Canada even as AC has informed the provinces that IAAF prefers that all countries hold their national championships in the final week of June. Not every bid package complies with this new requirement. Also, there seems to be some confusion surrounding the process/policy of selecting the host city. This has been the foremost topic of discussion amongst the provincial branches since January 2017. A special committee of provincial representatives has been convened - with some urgency - to bring clarity to this matter, as the host city will be selected at the AC AGM in July 2017 (Ottawa). The City of Calgary is in the running and, as it is the only Alberta bid that has included Athletics Alberta in the bid process, we will be lobbying very hard to obtain votes on its behalf.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

In closing, I would like to say that I am highly honoured to serve as President of Athletics Alberta. I am MOST APPRECIATIVE of the Athletics Alberta Office Staff for the impressive amount of work undertaken this year (2016-2017):

Executive Director - James Rosnau
Technical Manager - Brad Babiak
Office Manager - Sheryl Mack

I also give a bow of respect to my colleagues on the Athletics Alberta Board of Directors:

Christine Laverty - VP Personnel
Evelyn Burnett - VP Administration
Rob Fisher - VP Programs
Ed Moore, Robbie Cumming, Nathan Lennie & Daniel Lauzon - Directors-at-Large
Jessica O'Connell - Athlete Representative
Georgette Reed - Business Advisor (Recently added - Welcome to the board, Georgette!!)

These people - along with Louise Buskas & officials, and the countless volunteers - enable this association to thrive and prosper. I cannot say THANK YOU strongly enough to each of you for playing your vital roles!! In the year ahead, I invite you to join me in a spirit of positive expectation as we strive to improve the quality of the experience for every member involved in Track & Field, Road Running & Cross Country in this wonderful province of Alberta.

Submitted with hope and optimism for a better future:

Dr. L.F. Blade - President, Athletics Alberta

NOTE: Please refer to APPENDIX (chart) for summary of President's activities in 2016-2017

APPENDIX - PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES (2016-2017)

The table below lists the various ways in which the president of Athletics Alberta works on behalf of the members. There are two important reasons to post this information:

1. To be accountable for efforts undertaken over the past year; and
2. To provide a list of tasks for the benefit (awareness) of anyone who seeks the office of president in the future [Awareness of the work involved when holding this position]

Item/Type of Activity	Item	Dates																						
Athletics Alberta Governance meetings... Board of Directors (BOD) Meetings and/or Committee meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *BOD meeting #1 *BOD meeting #2 *BOD retreat - Invermere [Strategic Planning] *Athletics Alberta Calendar Congress *BOD meeting #3 *BOD meeting #4 *BOD meeting #5 *Executive Committee Conf. Call 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 17, 2016 Aug. 22, 2016 Sept. 8-11, 2016 Oct. 1, 2016 Nov. 3, 2016 Feb. 22, 2017 March 22, 2017 April 2, 2017 																						
Meetings with Athletics Alberta office staff (mostly meeting with James Rosnau to sign cheque/documents & discuss latest developments)	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">April 20, 2016</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Oct. 27, 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>April 22, 2016</td> <td>Oct. 31, 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>April 22, 2016</td> <td>Nov. 8, 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 11, 2016</td> <td>Nov. 10, 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>June 16, 2016</td> <td>Nov. 15, 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>July 27, 2016</td> <td>Nov. 18, 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aug. 10, 2016</td> <td>Nov. 21, 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aug. 22, 2016</td> <td>Nov. 23, 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sept. 30, 2016</td> <td>Nov. 25, 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oct. 5, 2016</td> <td>Dec. 2, 2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oct. 12, 2016</td> <td>Dec. 12, 2016</td> </tr> </table>	April 20, 2016	Oct. 27, 2016	April 22, 2016	Oct. 31, 2016	April 22, 2016	Nov. 8, 2016	May 11, 2016	Nov. 10, 2016	June 16, 2016	Nov. 15, 2016	July 27, 2016	Nov. 18, 2016	Aug. 10, 2016	Nov. 21, 2016	Aug. 22, 2016	Nov. 23, 2016	Sept. 30, 2016	Nov. 25, 2016	Oct. 5, 2016	Dec. 2, 2016	Oct. 12, 2016	Dec. 12, 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jan. 4, 2017 Jan. 11, 2017 Jan. 30, 2017 Feb. 10, 2017 Feb. 14, 2017 Feb. 27, 2017 March 1, 2017 March 7, 2017 March 23, 2017 March 29, 2017
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Oct. 12, 2016	Dec. 12, 2016																							
Meetings with Sport/Financial Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *River Valley Health Tour re: TOP strategy *Interview with Dan Barnes, Edmonton Journal *Meeting w/ City of Edmonton re: Rollie Miles *ETFC Meeting *Meeting with Kinsmen director *Meeting with Jerry Bouma - TTC *ETFC Social *Meeting with Ath AB, ETFC and TTC *Meet with Peter Faid (Ath Ab T&F official) re: City of Edmonton insights *Meeting with Angela Whyte & James Rosnau *Meeting with Ingrid Ruys re: info on national team staff selection *Attend Open House re: City of Edmonton re: future of Rexall Place (arguing for indoor track) *Meeting with Edmonton City Counsellors re: T&F ecosystem in Edmonton *Attend Open House re: City of Edmonton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 21, 2016 April 25, 2016 May 14-15, 2016 May 18, 2016 June 13, 2016 Aug. 11, 2016 Sept. 15, 2016 Sept. 23, 2016 Sept. 26, 2016 Oct. 5, 2016 Oct. 31, 2016 Nov. 7, 2016 Nov. 8, 2016 Nov. 16, 2016 																						

	<p>re: future of Rexall Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Meeting with Nathan Lennie re: Podcast idea to raise awareness of T&F *Private Tour of Rexall Place (+James Rosnau) *Meet with Bruce Bentley of Legacy Board *Attend City of Edmonton Sub-committee meeting on social services & special events (James Rosnau serving as special witness re: TTC requesting funding for future events) *Conference call with James & Donovan Bailey *Call with California meet director on future of competitions for Espoir-aged athletes *Meet with Carly - ETFC re: topics for panel discussions *Call with Dan Barnes (Edmonton Journal) about article > TTC dropping NTL *ETFC meeting *Running Room Indoor Games COACHES CORNER *ETFC meeting *ETFC meeting *Running Room Indoor Games FINALE (handing out medals at the podium) *Meeting with Agent from Images Models re: how to promote & market our top Alberta Athletes 	<p>Nov. 17, 2016</p> <p>Nov. 28, 2016</p> <p>Nov. 29, 2016 Dec. 5, 2016</p> <p>Dec. 13, 2016</p> <p>Dec. 16, 2016</p> <p>Dec. 19, 2016</p> <p>Jan. 4, 2017</p> <p>Jan. 12, 2017</p> <p>Feb. 13, 2017</p> <p>Feb. 15, 2017</p> <p>March 15, 2017</p> <p>March 18, 2017</p> <p>March 29, 2017</p>
<p>Attending Championship/Special Events on Behalf of Athletics Alberta</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Meet with members at Calgary Spring Combined Meet *Meet with members at St. Albert Challenge Meet *Meet with members at CALTAF meet *Meet with members at Sherwood Park meet *AC Hall of Fame Dinner *Athletics Canada National Championships *Alberta Summer Games - Leduc *Athletics Alberta Calendar Congress *Edmonton Harriers Annual Banquet *Meet with members at Last Chance meet *Olympic Athlete Ceremony at School in Sherwood Park - Carline Muir accepts necklace from Athletics Alberta (James Rosnau) *Meet with members at GBO meet *Athletics Alberta AWARDS BANQUET *Attend CIS Championships 	<p>May 14-15, 2016</p> <p>May 28, 2016</p> <p>June 17-19, 2016</p> <p>July 3, 2016</p> <p>July 6, 2016</p> <p>July 8-11, 2016</p> <p>July 16, 2016</p> <p>Oct. 1, 2016</p> <p>Nov. 19, 2016</p> <p>Nov. 19, 2016</p> <p>Jan. 13, 2017</p> <p>Jan. 20-21, 2017</p> <p>Feb. 18, 2017</p> <p>March 9-11, 2017</p>

Athletics Canada Branch Presidents Conference Calls	April 20, 2016 May 18, 2016 July 8, 2016 Sept. 21, 2016 Oct. 12, 2016 Nov. 9, 2016 Jan. 18, 2017 Feb. 15, 2017 March 8, 2017 March 14, 2017
Athletics Canada meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *AC AGM - Edmonton *AC Branches "Best Practices" *AC AGM Dinner *AC Competition Partner Session *AC Coaching Partner Session *AC Olympic Team Announcement at Edmonton City Hall *Interview re: AC Quadrennial Review *Conf Call with Gord & Rob re: Donovan Bailey case *AC Branches meeting - Ottawa *AC SAGM - Ottawa *Breakfast meeting with AC President *Conference Call with AC Commissioner (Hugh Fraser) & James Rosnau
Letter of Recommendation (on behalf of a coach or member)	Oct. 10, 2016 Oct. 30, 2016

Report from the Vice-President Administration

2016 – 2017 in Review

In comparison to the previous year where policies, guidelines and financial statement structure was updated, this was a very quiet year. The one important issue regarding governance is a further update to the constitution/bylaws as discussed by James in his report. With better governance in place, the focus of Athletics Alberta has shifted to other initiatives and programs.

I noted last year in my report that Athletics Alberta had received a statement of support from the NDP government that they would continue to support programs. There is no change to this policy during the current year.

Membership and fee revenue increased this year. Included in this year's initiatives is a new fee structure for seasonal athletes. It is hoped that a reduced summer fee will make it more affordable – and attractive for athletes that only wish to compete for part of the year. I'd like to note here that it's extremely important that clubs ensure all their athletes training and competing have Athletics Alberta memberships as this covers them (and the clubs they train with) for insurance purposes.

Athletics Alberta continues to supplement grant funding with casino and bingo revenues. In the 2016 - 2017 year this totaled \$103,000. I'd like to thank Sheryl for her work in coordinating gaming submissions and workers to raise these funds. Bingos are ongoing but casinos are only available every two years. Not only have these funds helped with programs, but they've assisted Athletics Alberta return to a more solid financial footing over the last three years. With a net asset position of \$331,000 and initiatives such as RJT, GPS and the registration system for marathons and other runs in progress to develop a more sustainable revenue stream (outside of grant revenues), I believe Athletics Alberta will have the financial resources to carry out programs that benefit the athletic community in Alberta.

In regards to the yearly requirement of an audit of Athletics Alberta, I note and confirm the following:

Athletics Alberta (the "AA") is a corporation without share capital formed under the Alberta *Societies Act* (the "Act").

Its by-laws address the requirements for financial statements as follows:

Article V: Finances of the Association / Section 3: Audit

The Board shall cause an audit of the financial position of the Association to be done annually, and submitted to both the general meeting and the Registrar of companies as required.

As recommended and implemented, each year, Athletics Alberta shall:

appoint an auditor or auditors of the annual financial statement of the Association. The auditor(s) shall be:

- (i) A public accountant, as defined by the Alberta Chartered Professional Accountants Act, to be engaged to perform the audit; or,*

(ii) Two individuals who are members of the Association, neither of whom are a Board member, officer or employee of the Association.

I confirm that in the current year Athletics Alberta chose option (ii) and the two individuals have completed this task and attested to the financial statements and position of Athletics Alberta.

As I complete my term on the Board and turn it over to a new VP Admin, I would like to say thank you to the Board and staff of Athletics Alberta. I believe there have been significant changes and improvements in the three years I have been a member of the Board and I look forward to a bright future for both Athletics Alberta and the athletes here in Alberta that it serves.

Evelyn Burnett
VP Administration

VP Personnel Report

AGM

April, 2017

The Athletics Alberta Awards Banquet occurred on Saturday, February 18, 2017. Once again it was well attended but a lot of the participants were our younger athletes and their parents. The format was a bit better with coaches' awards for each category were handed out at the same time as the athlete awards. This way the athletes had the chance to see their coach get an award. The next thing we are working on is a new way of determining our nominees for the Awards ceremonies. Often a deserving candidate has been overlooked as no one took the time to nominate them. We also have athletes who compete out of their age group and cannot understand that they are not award winners. The new award system will be placed upon the web site, once completed, so that all can understand how they get to be nominees and winners for the various age group awards.

Last year we created a formal year end procedure for the office staff. Staff members were asked to once again do a self-evaluation which was followed up with an interview to go over the annual year's performance. The staff self-evaluation form allowed each of the staff members to critique on their roles and what they have accomplished in the past year. There was also a section where they can indicate what they would like to improve on for themselves in the upcoming year. I did the interview for James Rosnau. I then sat in on the interviews, led by James, of Brad and Sheryl. Based upon these reviews and interviews, monetary rewards have been recommended. These rewards are completely separate from the Christmas bonuses that the staff received in December 2016. There is also going to be a change in job descriptions so as to alleviate the discrepancies in work load. This will result in the hiring of another staff member to potentially cover Special Events and other recommendation by James.

At this time, I would also like to commend Louise Buskas and all the Alberta Officials. Last year was particularly taxing on our officials as they once again took on a heavy year of competitions both indoors and outside last summer. Without our dedicated officials, it would be impossible to run a competition. With the large increase in our numbers over the past year, their services are requested more and more. Our officials have outdone themselves. They attended every meet from the smallest twilight meet to the National Championships... from the Peewee events to our Olympians trials, our officials put on their professional hats and did so with a smile on their faces. Louise and her team have created a new Officials Policy which had not been revamped in years. They have taken this opportunity to define roles and spread the workload out to many officials. I would like at this time to congratulate our hard working officials on an outstanding year.

Last year we tried to give as many coaches as possible opportunities to be on a team and represent Alberta. We took a very large coaching staff to Tri-Prov with both coaches and apprentice coaches in attendance. With Brad's assistance we were also able to get an apprentice coach to Legion Nationals. Our hope is to repeat this experience for 2017 and the application period has just closed on April 16th. Congratulations to all coaches and athletes who represented Alberta in 2017. I would also be remiss if I did not also extend a special congratulation to our 9 Olympians from Alberta. Each of them have been given a diamond pendant or a watch from Athletics Alberta to commend their efforts and performances.

I would like to recommend to the Athletics Alberta that we make this a regular occurrence and to perhaps budget to do an award for the personal coach of these athletes as well. Congrats to all.

At this time I would like to once again thank the members of the Personnel Committee. This group of individuals assisted me throughout the year with major decision making situations. The Committee for 2016 – 17 were Karl Meisner, Sean Freeman, Ritch Braun, Louise Buskas and Reg Green. Reg had to step down half way through the year for family reasons but I would like to thank him for all his years of service to Athletics Alberta. Another honorary member of the Committee is Gord Lindsay. Gord probably knows each of the athletes in this province better than anyone. Before each meet he studies the stats on everyone so he can make announcements about them at the start and during each race. Gord is always a great resource at Awards time as he knows who may not have been nominated and can determine who should be added to the list for consideration. Thank you to all....

I am sorry that I could not be in attendance for this AGM. Unfortunately, I have missed a lot of work for Coaching in the last few weeks and will miss even more in the upcoming weeks and summer. There was a trade show happening this week that I could not miss at the request of my employer. I have enjoyed my two years a VP Personnel and would be willing to stay on for another term. I am therefore letting my name stand for another term.

2016-17 Programs Committee Report

Committee Members – Rob Fisher (Chair), Louise Buskas, Jan Lips, Matt Norminton, Robbie Cumming, Christine Laverty, Jason Lindsay, and Donna Dixon.

AA Staff Representatives – Brad Babiak

Thank you to the entire office staff for their hard work and support of our provincial programming this past year, without their hard work and support, our programs and initiatives would not happen especially during a year of transition and transformation of the athletics Alberta office.

Many of the updates I usually report on are included in the Programs and Technical Review as put together by the office staff. I encourage you to reference that document along with this report for a complete picture of Alberta programming.

Track & Field – This past year was another great success for Track & Field in Alberta. This was highlighted by Tri Prov victories by both the Midget and Youth teams and a very successful Olympic Games for Alberta based and/or developed athletes.

Specifically, we'd like to highlight the role Alberta development programs played in helping so many of our Team Alberta grads make the Rio Olympic Games this past year. We are proud of your successes and appreciate you returning to Alberta to help support and inspire the next generation of Alberta athletes.

Event alignment continues to improve as we updated again the current outdoor specs to further align with the long-term athlete development plan and recent changes to the Athletics Canada outdoor specs. Currently we are engaged with other provinces through an Athletics Canada Committee working on standardizing the Midget events across the country.

2017 will be another exciting year for track in Alberta highlighted by Alberta's top program, the Canada Games Team, which will be competing in Winnipeg this August. We will be supporting as many athletes as we can to follow their dreams and goals of making a national team with this summer having many teams our athletes can attempt to make. Good luck to all those athletes who will be competing in Alberta meets and championships, for Team Alberta, and for our nation abroad.

Cross Country & Road Racing – This subcommittee was headed up by Matt Norminton this past year and was very busy. Our highlights from our membership this year included numerous athletes winning medals at key significant races across the country including national championships both on the road and in cross country where Alberta did produce a national champion on the road. We also had a large representation on national teams for cross country, congratulations to all those athletes. Alberta is in the process of considering a bid for the National XC Championships as well. Congrats as well to Melissa's Road Race for being selected the 2016 Road Race of the year for Alberta.

Athlete Funding

The 2016 funding model was maintained from previous funding years. In total for 2016 we distributed 51 AADP cards and over 30 athletes received Championship Funding. In total \$64'000 was distributed in direct support to Alberta's athletes. We are now into the final stages of development for the new funding system for our Alberta athletes. More information will be released soon so that our

membership will know before the main part of the summer season, what kind of support they can expect moving forward. This process has many facets to it and stakeholders to include, thus the time it has taken to lay down all the ground work for a successful system.

Coaching Clinics – Annual Spring and Fall Sport Coach and Club coach clinics will continue this year with plans to engage teachers in becoming certified as well as the school system is our front line to exposing new athletes to our sport.

Current Projects and New Initiatives

Currently the programs committee is working on the following projects and initiatives:

- **Athletics Alberta talent ID and recruitment.**
We are now in the final stages of identification for this year's Canada Games team. We have supported many of those potential team members compete in meets which will help them prepare for the Canada Games competition both locally and in the US. We look forward to the trials for the Canada Games team as it will showcase the best of the best for the next generation of Alberta high performance.
- **European Tour for senior athletes.**
After the success of the 2016 tour, we will be holding another in 2018. Initial qualifications for this tour will take place late 2017 so keep an eye out for more information.
- **Athlete Funding**
Final stages of the new Athlete Support model are currently being finalized.
- **Coaching Development**
We will be hosting one or two Performance Coach courses in Alberta in 2017. This is on top of the Club coach and Sport coach course we continue to offer on an annual basis. A provincial mentorship and coach identification system is being looked at. All coaches are encouraged to consider their own certifications and professional development as it will now be required to have continuing education and development to maintain current coaching certifications and old course/certifications will no longer be grandfathered through.

In conclusion, athletics is a sport which relies heavily on volunteers at all levels. Coaches, administrators, officials, are all key to our sports success and future. Thank you to all who put in endless hours to make this sport a success for our athletes. I encourage all parties to find ways to show appreciation for those who give up their time and also find new and creative ways to help grow the base of volunteers in all aspects of our sport. If our sport is to continue to grow, it will only be at the capacity of our volunteer base.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Fisher
Vice President Programs
Chair, Programs Committee

Report of the Athletics Alberta Masters Sub-Committee 2016/2017

The Masters Sub-Committee is a sub-committee of the Programs Committee. The mandate of the Masters Sub-Committee is to review and evaluate the needs of Masters (35+) athletes and to provide input to promote Masters participation and proficiency in road running, track & field, cross-country running and race walking. Current members of the Masters Sub-Committee are: Donna Dixon, Loretta Amerongen, Susanne Lauridsen & Louise Nesterenko.

Masters athletics is active in Alberta. Alberta masters athletes set many Canadian masters records in 2016 in age groups from 35 to 80. The current masters age groups for meets in Alberta are: 35-49, 50-64, 65 and over.

In 2016 there were 125 masters members of Athletics Alberta, down from 2015 numbers of 153. Masters memberships are generally up in other provinces so we should consider ways to promote masters membership in Alberta. In 2016, there were 2011 masters members of AC branches across Canada compared with 1786 in 2015.

Athletics Canada and Canadian Masters Athletics ("CMA") have a coordinated membership agreement whereby all Athletics Canada branch masters members are also members of CMA. \$10 from each masters membership is provided to the CMA to fund its programs. Under this agreement, Athletics Alberta is entitled to appoint a representative to the CMA Board and I have been named as this representative. I participate in regular CMA meetings via teleconference.

The CMA website is www.canadianmasters.ca

Some upcoming major master competitions may spur Alberta masters memberships & participation:

Canadian Masters Outdoor Championships will likely be held in Vancouver in 2018.

US Masters Outdoor Championships in Spokane, Washington August 2-5, 2018 (Canadians can compete at US Masters Championships.)

Toronto will host the World Masters Athletics Championships July 20-August 1, 2020
www.wmatoronto2020.com

The Canadian Open & Masters Half Marathon Championships will be held at the Calgary Marathon weekend on May 28, 2017.

Jovette Jolicoeur continues to maintain the Alberta Masters Track & Road Racing website which includes a listing of provincial masters records:

<http://www3.telus.net/public/jovejoli/MastersRecords/main.html>

Other Masters Sub-Committee's activities in 2016/2017 included:

Selected masters athletes of the year in two categories:

1. Track & Field and 2. Road Racing & Cross Country.

Liaised with meet organizers regarding masters events, results, including age-grading, and masters specification equipment at provincial championships and other meets. Responded to enquiries sent to Athletics Alberta about masters competition.

Thanks to the AA staff for their assistance over the past year. Thank you to the clubs and coaches who work with masters athletes. The Masters Sub-Committee will continue to work for the benefit of masters athletes and the promotion of athletics as a sport for life. Please contact any sub-committee member if you have questions regarding masters matters.

Donna Dixon
Member, Masters Sub-Committee
CMA Alberta Director
dixondm1@shaw.ca
April 7, 2017

**Alberta Officials Committee
Chair Report, 21 March 2017**

In the 2016/17 year Alberta Officials were involved in 35 meets, 21 outdoor and 16 indoor. Of those meets, there were 11 provincial-level, 5 national-level meets, and 2 National Championships – U-Sport Championships this past month and our nation's premier event, the Olympic Trials.

There was a total of 56 mentoring completed. 36 national level, and 20 provincial level. We have benefited greatly from having the opportunities created by having so many large meets in our province the past few years.

We hosted 16 clinics this past calendar year, the majority in conjunction with the two National Championships. We had a grand total of 194 attendees at these clinics. There were 5 Introductory clinics with 121 attendees, plus a range of National level clinics. We are thrilled to see the numbers that are coming to our intro clinics, and we are making a more concentrated effort to turn those attendees into officials. We thank the University of Alberta for supplying the majority of the rooms where these clinics were held. Cooperation is a wonderful thing.

We now have 31 level 5, 22 level 4, 37 level 3, 37 level 2, and 20 level 1 officials. Last year we recognized officials that have been volunteering their time for a minimum of 15 years – there were 32. We are working on recognizing those with 20 years or more by installing plaques in Edmonton and Calgary.

Last year's Official of the Year was John Takahashi, and the Novice Official was Alix Steward. In addition Philippa Fairbairn was recognized as Canada's Official of the Year.

I am personally very proud of the officials that we have in this province. We support grass roots meets, we do a great job of recruiting and attracting new officials, and when we host meets such as the Olympic Trials we rise to the occasion and do our province proud. There is great cooperation between cities, and we are especially thrilled at the opportunities to support our athletes.

Submitted by,
Louise Buskas
Officials Committee Chair