



Athletics Alberta Officials' Bulletin

September 2023

By Jack Leman

In Memory of Doug Kyle



by
Christine Laverty

I am not originally from Alberta so I only got to meet Doug and Carol Kyle in 1998 when I got back into coaching Track and Field. Both these amazing people impressed me with their generous spirits and love of the sport of Track and Field. By then they were firmly imbedded in the life of Officials but the community was quick to share with me the story of the Kyles. The fact that Doug was an Olympian and that Carol won the Senior Women's high jump at Senior Nationals at the young age of 18. It made sense to me then that Carol was always the top official at the High Jump and Doug was the Track Referee.

But the story did not end there as I was also informed that these two amazing athletes/coaches/officials had also started the Caltaf Club back in 1958. I was a spring chicken back then at the age of 5. I only got into track myself 11 years later. By then Caltaf had already been delivering an excellent track program to old and young alike in Calgary. I was soon to learn that some of the top coaches of other clubs in the City and Province had at one point either been an athlete or coach in this fantastic club. I was in awe of both of these individuals.

I joined the Caltaf Club back in 2000 and have had the pleasure to get to know Doug on a more personal note. I took over running the Caltaf Classic and always depended on Doug to be my Head Official. He was the one I relied on. Of course, when I chaired the 2011 & 2012 Nationals, I reached out to Doug for his expertise and knowledge. I would have to say that we became friends over that project together.

Every year since then I have looked for Doug at every track meet in Calgary. Even this past year, he was my track referee for the indoor Dino series and of course the 2023 Caltaf Classic. I was so happy to see Doug and his family run/walk down the Foothills track for what would be Doug's last stroll. I cried at the finish line and could not get my words out to thank him for all he has done for our sport. I had to rely on Jason Lindsay to help me out with that one.

I will never forget the generosity of the Kyle family, allowing me to get to know Doug at the track. I have to say that I saw him, even this past summer, over at Glenmore Track timing his laps as he pushed his walker around the track. He was an inspiration to the athletes I was there working with, realizing that the gentleman timing his laps was Doug Kyle, Olympian, Builder and #1 Supporter of Athletics in our City.

Goodbye Doug. Until we meet again and can both run laps together...

Christine

2023 Officials' AGM

Our Athletics Alberta Officials' AGM was held May 2, 2023 (as a Zoom meeting). 38 officials participated in this session. Meeting minutes are posted in the Officials' Section of the AA website.

The following items were some of the matters dealt with at this meeting.

Officials' Committee Structure

Changes have been made to the structure of our Athletics Alberta Officials' Committee.

The **Calgary Coordinator** and **Medicine Hat Coordinator** positions have been combined and renamed as the **South Coordinator**.

The **Edmonton Coordinator(s)** position was renamed to the **North Coordinator(s)**.

The **Level 1 & Level 2 Upgrading** position has been combined with the **Level 3 Upgrading** position and redesignated as the **Level 1, 2 & 3 Upgrading Coordinator**.

A new position, **Administrative Coordinator**, has been created on the Committee. This position is responsible for administering the online Officials Management System and assisting (where required) the zone coordinators with the designation of the various meet officials' assignments. They will also (along with the Chair) set up the required Level 3 Clinics for each area. The Administrative Coordinator will also be responsible for recording the minutes of our meetings and preparing a report semi-annually for the Officials' Committee.

Elections

The terms of the officials assigned to the positions of Chair, North Coordinator(s) and Communications had expired and, in addition, the new Administrative Coordinator position had to be filled. The nominations/elections were as follows:

Chair

Irene Gaudet was nominated and elected by acclamation.

North Coordinators

Philippa Fairbairn and Emly Anderson were nominated and elected by acclamation.

Communications

Jack Leman was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Administrative Coordinator

Eric Wittenberg and Ramona Jackson were both nominated for this position. Ramona Jackson was elected.

Athletics Alberta Officials' Award Winners

AA Officials of the Year

Mihaela Cozma and Bruce Suffield

AA Novice Officials of the Year

John Findlay and Pam Medland

Officials' Upgrading – September 2022

Level 4

Graham Overn – Horizontal Jumps
Eric Wittenberg – Horizontal Jumps
Becca Gould – Starter

Alix Steward – Starter's Assistant
Ian Wilson – Throws
Emly Anderson – Umpire

Level 5

Mihaela Cozma – Horizontal Jumps
Bing Chu – Jumps Referee

Irene Gaudet – Throws Referee
Meta deBruijn – Vertical Jumps

Officials' Upgrading – April 2023

Level 1

Brian Banks – Calgary
David Bouferguene - Edmonton
Gabrielle Dyck - Edmonton
Ramona Jackson - Edmonton
Kyle Jenner - Calgary
Zhenzhen Lu - Edmonton
Frank Magdich - Calgary
Khalid Sultan - Edmonton
Karen Wright - Calgary

Level 2

Carmelle Cooper
Dean Cooper
Ramona Jackson
Zhenzhen Lu
Khalid Sultan
Karen Wright

Level 3

Louise Buskas – Throws
Sheila Chartrand – Umpire

Steven Bosch – Umpire
John Van Der Put – Horizontal Jumps

Officials' Upgrading – August 2023

Level 1

Sharon Evans - Calgary
Loree Irving – Calgary
Doug Ratzlaff – Calgary

Level 2

Brian Banks
David Bouferguene
Jennifer Jacob
Kyle Jenner
Frank Magdich
Doug Ratzlaff
Tim Schlutz

Level 3

Audra Jones – Umpire
David Keenan – Starter
Pamela Medland – Horizontal Jumps

The nominations/upgradings for levels 4 & 5 have been submitted to the National Officials Committee (NOC) for approval and will be announced at a later date.

2023 World Police & Fire Games

The World Police and Fire Games were held in Winnipeg this past summer. Several Alberta Officials were invited to officiate at this event.



Gord Murray, Shirley Leung (Athletics Sask.), Denise Roche, Mark Rowe

Canadian 2023 Track & Field Championships



Nationals in Langley – July 26-30, 2023 - ***Mihaela Cozma***

For the second time in Langley, I had the opportunity to be part of the 100+ team of officials and work with a great team of BC and AB Officials in running the Call Room for the Canadian Track and Field Championship. As a CR Chief, I've seen the "behind the scenes" of a large competition, I've seen all the 1,956 individual entries, 51 being for decathlon and 33 for heptathlon, signed more than 500 heat sheets, spent on average 15 hours at the stadium per day, changed three pairs of shoes, not complained about being in the scorching sun, and watched live about 2 minutes of the entire competition.

I was impressed by how much goes around at every single time during this big competition on all fronts, and how invested everyone was from organizers, to officials, to volunteers to run everything smooth and without hick-ups.

My take always from this experience: work with the team and get the best of everyone in the team, be ready to deal with the unexpected and be flexible in the course of action, communicate clearly with the athletes and be sure the message was understood, know the expectations as communicated in the competition manual (even if that means there are deviations from the norm – i.e., advertising on competition attire, what's allowed or not allowed in the competition area), communicate with the entire system to create the best conditions for the athletes to perform (photo finish, start line, referees for delay in the events, changes in the schedule, changes on the heat sheets), know the rules and apply them when appropriate (for the entire competition, there was only one protest for a DQ decision in the CR), and the most important thing – have some fun!

Mihaela

Safe Sport Training

Officials need to take Safe Sport training. It is **FREE** and is available in the “**Become an Official**” section of the AA website.

As sports in general become aware of Safe Sport principles, it is important to reiterate the importance of understanding what it means for us to have a *safe sport*.

The Coaching Association of Canada, on the FAQ section of its website, has a comprehensive list of those required to take Safe Sport training. That information is provided below.

As of April 1, 2020, anyone in any of the following roles within a Sport Canada-funded organization must be trained on conduct to prevent and address maltreatment:

Decision-makers

- *Senior staff*
- *High-performance directors*
- *Case managers*
- *Adjudicators*
- *Investigators*
- *Operational Board members*

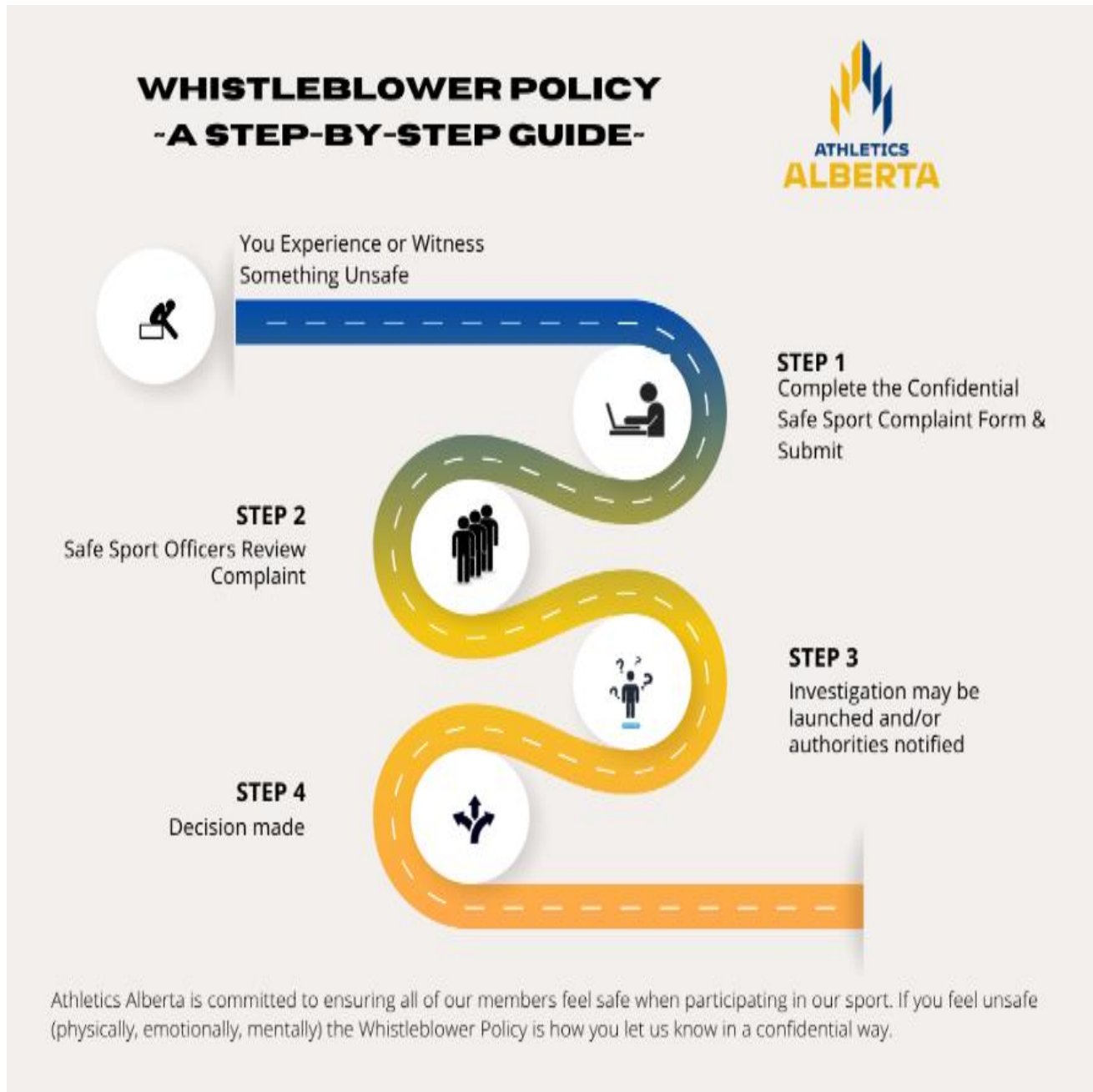
Those with direct athlete contact

- *National team athletes*
- *Parents of junior athletes*
- *Coaches*
- *High-performance staff*
- *National training centre staff*
- *Nationally appointed coach Developers*
- *Integrated support team personnel (mental, strength and conditioning, nutrition, physio, massage, etc.)*
- *Contractors*
- **Officials**

Those with no direct athlete contact

- *Organizing committee members*
- *Administration/finance staff*
- *Governance committee members*
- *Judicial board members*
- *Governance board members (no operational involvement)*
- *Event volunteers*
- *NSO office staff*

The training is the first part in Safe Sport. Putting the training into practice is what's paramount to our Athletes and our sport.



World Athletics Technical Rule Amendments

In May 2023 World Athletics amended Technical Rule **TR20.4.2** which governs the placement of athletes (**after the first round**) in lanes for straight races, 200m, 400m (plus relays up to and including 4X400m) & 800m events. The revised lane assignments are as set out in the chart below.

Preferred Lane Draws Effective May 2023			
Event	First Draw	Second Draw	Third Draw
	<u>Lanes</u>	<u>Lanes</u>	<u>Lanes</u>
TR20.4.3 Straight Races	3, 4, 5, 6	2, 7	1, 8
TR20.4.4 200m	5, 6, 7	3, 4, 8	1, 2
TR20.4.5 400m to 4X400m	4, 5, 6, 7	3, 8	1, 2
TR20.4.6 800m	3, 4, 5, 6	7, 8	1, 2

World Athletics also amended **TR6.4.5** which now reads as follows: **6.4.5 -Viewing by athletes competing in Field Events, of images of previous trial(s), recorded on their behalf by persons not placed in the competition area (see Note to Rule 6.1 of the Technical Rules). The viewing device or images taken from it must not be taken into the competition area *beyond the immediate area in which those providing the recording are placed. To ensure a better view of the images, the athlete may hold the device whilst communicating with the persons who have taken the images.***



Officials' Committee 2023 – 2024

Chair – Irene Gaudet

Past Chair – Louise Buskas

North Co-Coordinator – Philippa Fairbairn & Emly Anderson

South Coordinator – Mihaela Cozma

National Upgrading Coordinator – Ian Gordon

Level 1, 2, and 3 Upgrading Coordinator – Michael Samson

Communication/PR – Jack Leman

Administrative Coordinator – Ramona Jackson