



Athletics Alberta Officials' Bulletin

May 2019

by Jack Leman

As we head into the 2019 outdoor season, it is worthwhile to look back at the challenges presented by the past indoor season and to give thanks to the many officials who worked the 12+ hour days required by some of the sessions. As highlighted by Philippa in her recent Northern Zone Report, ***“very long hours and very overworked officials!”***.

Grateful thanks to our Alberta officials for their countless hours and dedicated commitment to the officiating process.

Starts Seminar

The following is a report received from Ian Gordon pertaining to a Starts Seminar he recently attended.

I attended a 3-day IAAF – NACAC Level 2 Area Starter’s Training Seminar in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on December 14-16, 2018. The lecturers were Alan Bell from Great Britain and Lisa Ferdinand from Canada who are both on the International Panel of Starters.

There were 14 starters attending the seminar and were from a variety of member countries; I was Canada’s representative, there were three starters from the US, and one from many of the Caribbean and Central American countries.

This was a very intensive course. There were 2 simultaneous seminars, with the other seminar for photo finish judges. Both Starters and Photo Finish Judges met for introductions at 9:00 am on December 14, and then broke into our respective groups. Starters finished the

formal portion of the seminar around 6 pm. We were given a homework assignment which many worked on until about 10 pm.

On December 15, we boarded a bus at 5:00 am and traveled to Salcedo, which took us 2 ½ hours to get to. We were divided into 3 groups, and each group started a race or group of races, alternating between groups. Within each group, positions were rotated so that all started, recalled, was a start referee, or was a starter's assistant on the track. At the end of the day, we met for dinner at the restaurant on the way back to Santo Domingo.

We began our final session on December 16 around 10:00 am, and finished about 4:30 pm. This was truly a very beneficial seminar, as not only did we discuss a variety of issues with our lecturers, but we were able to discuss a variety of issues with other starters. I learned a tremendous amount, and hope to disseminate much of my learnings to other start line officials in the future.

NOC Master Trainer Program

The NOC Master Trainers Clinician - Evaluator and Mentor Certification seminars will be conducted in Winnipeg May 3rd to May 5th.

Pat March and Christine Rapp have been selected to attend this program on behalf of Alberta officials.

Upgrading

At the recent Athletics Alberta Officials Sub-Committee annual meeting in Red Deer, the following Alberta officials were identified as being upgraded in their respective positions:

Provincial Upgrading

Level 1

Michelle Chisholm – Okotoks
Emily Cliff – Edmonton
Ivo Kohans – Wetaskawin
Sierra L'Heureux – St. Albert
Megan Lim – Calgary

Ethan Robertson – Fort Saskatchewan
Borysa Struck - Edmonton
Kathryn van Ryswyk - Edmonton
Stewart York -Edmonton
Heng Zhu – Edmonton

Level 2

Sean Freeman
Richard Roberts
Dale Schinkel
Heng Zhu

Level 3

Irene Gaudet - Umpire
Dave Keenan – Starter’s Assistant
Graham Overn – Horizontal Jumps
Doug Wilson – Throws
Ian Wilson - Throws

National Upgrading

Mary Wittenberg – Field Referee - Jumps 4
Karen Kusler-Young – Starter 4
Henry Charrois – Vertical Jumps 4

Athletics Alberta Officiating Awards

The Athletics Alberta Awards Banquet will be held in Calgary on June 15th. At that banquet, awards presentations will be made to Ian Wilson as Novice Official of the Year and to Michael Samson as Official of the Year. Congratulations to these two and thank you for your work over the past year which resulted in these well-deserved awards!

Officials Sub-Committee

Several positions were up for re-election this spring and the composition of your Officials Committee is now as follows:

Chair – Louise Buskas
Vice-Chair – Eric Wittenberg
Calgary Coordinator – Cathy Simpson
Edmonton Coordinator – Philippa Fairbairn
Medicine Hat Coordinator – Brenda Bower
National Upgrading Coordinator – Ian Gordon
Provincial Upgrading Coordinator – Irene Gaudet
Education Coordinator – Ken Phillips
Communications & PR Coordinator – Jack Leman

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