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ON TRACK 2.1:
NATIONAL OFFICIALS' COMMITTEE
THE NEWSLETTER FOR OFFICIALS, ATHLETES, COACHES AND
ADMINISTRATORS

[FRANCAIS](#)

NACAC GAMES

The NACAC Championships(North America, Central America and Caribbean) took place from August 10th to 12th at University Of Toronto's Varsity Stadium. Athletes from 31 countries participated in this International Level Competition.

During this meet, officials from Ontario, Quebec and some Western provinces demonstrated their expertise and professionalism. The weather was pleasant and contributed to the success of the event. Several noteworthy performances were achieved by many athletes.

The National Officials' Committee(NOC) took this opportunity to present a gift to Lisa Ferdinand as an International Starter and to Jane Edstrom as an ITO (International Technical Official) on behalf of the committee and Athletics Canada. Jane and Lisa have served many years as dedicated Officials.

The entire community of Officials extend their sincere congratulations to our two very knowledgeable colleagues for their dedication and passion to the sport.

Also to note, David Weicker, Daniel Michaud and Louise Buskas were presented a gift from NOC at the National Championships in Ottawa in July.

Photos may be found elsewhere in this newsletter. These were just some of the officials there.

Congratulations to all from NOC and Athetics Canada!

ITO RECIPIENTS

All 5 recipients at NACAC.

The 5 Officials that received watches are the officials that are now recognized as ITOs from Canada and NOC wanted to congratulate them for obtaining this elite status.

We have 2 ITOs, Jane Edstrom and Daniel Michaud for IAAF. We have 2 ITOs, David Weicker and Louise Buskas for WPA. and David also for NACAC. And we have an International Starter in Lisa Ferdinand.

Canada is very fortunate to have these knowledgeable officials in our midst.



MANITOBA NEWS



Early this spring, Athletics Manitoba welcomed Alanna Boudreau into the role of Executive Director. Part of Alanna's role at present is the Chair of the Athletics Manitoba Officials Committee.

Kathy Kelly was nominated for the OPIN Official of the Year at the Sports Manitoba Night of Champions on April 21, 2018 for her long service as an official, member of the Athletics Manitoba Officials Committee, and for all of her work as Officials Coordinator for three major meets in Manitoba in 2017; Tri-Province, Canada Summer Games and Legion National Youth Championship.

While we always have a strong competition schedule during the indoor season, the highlight this indoor season for our team of Officials was undoubtedly hosting the Can West Championships. This was a great lead up event, as we will be hosting U-Sports National Championships at the University of Manitoba in 2019.

The outdoor highlight for many of our officials this summer was once again the hosting of Legion National Youth Championships in Brandon, MB. It was certainly a weekend for the record books, as not only did we see some outstanding athlete performances, we also had some incredibly hot temperatures! It's near to impossible to complain about hot days and clear sunny skies but hats off to everyone for managing the heat as well as they did! We had another great turn out and it was a wonderful opportunity for many of our local crews to work with some officials from out of Province.



Finally, it's important to note that Manitoba was also well represented out of Province and Internationally this season, with some of our own attending major events such as the NACAC Championships in Toronto, World Indoor Championships in Birmingham, and the Commonwealth Games in Australia. It's always fun for our athletes (and coaches!) to watch these major championships on TV and see someone they know!

We've certainly had a busy two years with both the Canada Summer Games and the Legion National Championships. Moving forward into 2018-2019, we are planning to run a number of clinics and are hoping to capitalize off of the energy and success of these major events.

We look forward to seeing what the 2018-2019 season has in store!



CONGRATULATIONS KATHY

ATLANTIC NEWS

THE ATLANTIC'S TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS WHERE HELD IN CHARLOTTETOWN PEI ON JULY 28-29.

THE WINNING TEAM WAS FROM PICTOU TRACK AND FIELD FROM NOVA SCOTIA. THERE WAS OVER 800 ATHLETES IN ATTENDANCE OVER THE TWO DAYS. WITH THE TWO TEAMS FROM NEWFOUNDLAND AND ATHLETES FROM ALL THREE MARITIME PROVINCES WE ALSO HAD TEAMS FROM OTTAWA LIONS AND WINDSOR LEGION IN ONTARIO.

A BIG THANKS TO THE OFFICIALS THAT TRAVELED TO CHARLOTTETOWN FROM NOVA SCOTIA AND NEW BRUNSWICK THAT MADE THIS MEET A GREAT SUCCESS.



COMMONWEALTH GAMES GOLD COAST 2018

SUBMITTED BY JANE EDSTROM

The XXI Commonwealth Games were held this year in Australia. The Games were hosted in Gold Coast during the month of April. It was a bit odd to be at an outdoor competition in April when Canadians are still hosting indoor competitions. It was a prime time for the southern hemisphere athletes. Australian athletes fared very well in most sports, especially swimming and athletics. Canada had a number of good performances from both the sprint and pole vault athletes. The weather was very hot, even though it was supposed to be the beginning of winter!! Most days it was in the 30's, which is not winter-like for any Canadian.

Canada had three international officials attending the Athletics competition. Lisa Ferdinand was the International Starter. Daniel Michaud was one of the International Race walk judges. Jane Edstrom was one of the ITO team. During this competition, the ITOs worked as the referees of the events with the exception of the Call room and the Combined events. There was an ITO referee assigned to the Starts, Track, Video and each of the field events.

The Australian national officials were well-trained and good to work with. There were a multitude of officials available for each team. There was no concern for limiting the number of officials on the field of play. Most tasks at the event sites were handled by trained officials, not volunteers. One example of this is; the task of raking at horizontal jumps, which is handled by the officials who are called "pit judges".

Technology played a leading role at the Games. The throws were measured by EDM and the horizontal

jumps were measured by EDM. There was a Video Room which was staffed by two technicians, a Video Referee (ITO) and a national official who worked in collaboration with the ITO. The start line was wired with a Start Information System. There were electronic field display boards, electronic clocks on each bend and of course a large video screen for spectator review.

The Gold Coast offered a beautiful backdrop for the competition. Both the Walks and Marathon courses were hosted off site at locations along the ocean. The view is definitely worth the 14+hour plane trip from Vancouver!!!

2018 CANADIAN TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS - OTTAWA

The 2018 Canadian Senior, Junior and Para Championships were held from July 3-8 in Ottawa, in conjunction with the Pan Am Cup Combined Events Championships.

On balance it was a very good championship event with some unique presentation aspects this year. For the "Ottawa Distance Night" spectators were invited onto the track to watch the 5,000 m events. They were allowed to stand on the track as far as Lane 5 but no closer than 25 m from the finish line. It was very successful for both fans and athletes but presented a small issue for lap recorders who were sitting in lane 8.

There were a few officiating issues, as there always are, but fortunately in only one case did the officiating adversely affect an athlete.

Most of the issues revolved around the Para events which is also logical since there are not a lot of Para events in Canada, therefore little experience opportunities for officials. There will be a Webinar in September to provide an overview of the new rules (2018 version) for officials and coaches.

In addition, Ontario officials have asked for some supportive training on Para events in the Spring of 2019.





Future officials !!!

NOC NOC EXPLANATION

FROM JACQUIE DOWNING

Can't recall the year, but many, many years ago, we (NOC) held a competition to name the newsletter we planned.

Don't recall how many entries there were, but the winning entry was **NOC NOC**.

The name was submitted by Alberta official Doug Kyle, and his prize was a Timex watch.

Our new name now has become ON TRACK.

NOC CHAIR

The National Officials Committee has had a busy 2018 so far. There have been numerous mentorships assigned and spring upgrades were approved.. Our International Officials (Dave Weicker, Jane Edstrom, Daniel Michaud, Lisa Ferdinand and Louise Buskas) were recognized by the presentation of watches at the Nationals and NACAC meets.

All Branch Official Chairs are reminded of the September 30th deadline to request upgrades for their officials. We are preparing the Agenda for the joint BOC/NOC meeting at the Athletics Canada Semi Annual General Meeting in late November. Wall of Honor recipients will be recognized. These include Helen Vasilic, Peter Hocking and Ian Gordon – three senior and respected officials in our country.

Athletics Officiating in Canada is a community. We need to welcome new officials coming in to the sport from volunteers or spectator ranks. We need senior officials to assist the new members of our community to learn their functions and responsibilities and we need a system in place that encourages both to happen. The National Officials Committee is committed to developing the infrastructure around our community to promote the quality of officiating and the encouragement of new members. Recruiting and retention of new officials is a significant challenge and we welcome new ideas from all provinces that we can share across the country.

Andy Walker
Chair NOC

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