

BC Athletics Officials Committee

Minutes – January 28, 2012

Present: John Cull (Chair), Bob Cowden (Administrative Vice-Chair), Kathy Terlicher (Vice Chair), Carol Cull, Alwilda Van Ryswyk, Bill Koch, April Arsene (recorder)

Regrets: Roberta Tetlock, Alice Kubek, Laurel Wichmann

Approval of Agenda: M/S by Kathy/Bill

Election of Chair: John Cull has agreed to remain as Chair only until the end of his present term. He will be assisted by two Vice Chairs: Bob Cowden (administrative) and Kathy Terlicher. Bill has agreed to do recruit a new Chair for the next term. John will notify NOC and BC Athletics of present Committee positions.

Previous Minutes:

Oct 1, 2011 – posted on web page

Nov 19, 2011 – also posted on web page; discussion re: Pg 8, ‘Mentor and Clinician Recertification Process’, paragraph 1 – please note that the terms “mentor” and “evaluators” are identical, not separate.

Reports

Chair’s Report / Correspondence - John

Re: Remuneration for services rendered by BCA Officials – discussion and identification of problems attendant to this issue, specifically payment for rental (service) of timing equipment, and athlete registration/results processing. Unanimous support was given by committee to investigate details of this issue (provincially), and review the Committee’s policies on Officials’ expenses, to ensure transparency and accountability for all involved. The current policies do not give guidance on direct payment of officials by Host Organizing Committees. April will provide a report for the next meeting.

Budget – John

Budget for fiscal year 2011 / 2012 reviewed. Budget for 2012 / 2013 will remain unchanged. See attached copy.

Assignments - Carol, Upgrading - Kathy, Mentoring and Education – Bill

National assignments – 3 Officials have completed indoor assignments in Alberta, and 3 additional Officials have been confirmed to be travelling to Saskatchewan and Manitoba. There are an additional 11 Officials whom we hope will be selected by

coordinators for National Championships outside of BC – these names have been provided to NOC for provincial distribution and consideration. There are 6 other Officials for whom we hope that mentoring will be done within BC.

Reports (cont'd)

Upgrading: Only one upgrade has been done since last upgrade session in the fall of 2011. Gerald Joe has been upgraded to Level 2. Several other upgrades are expected for Mar 2012. All upgrading certificates have been updated and sent out by Kathy.

Mentoring: Bill has put considerable effort in putting together a strategy for provincial training. This provides a common template for each zone, and the hope is that it will provide useful guidelines for the training and mentoring of Officials up to Level 3. Bill noted that mentoring requests / matches for Level 3 are done by this committee. The Officials' Ethics and Guidelines for Conduct handbook will be added to the workshop content for Levels 1 & 2. Additionally, Bill has made contact with a large number of Officials re: upgrading requests / needs, as well as contact with potential mentors for those Officials needing those services. Present contact results were listed, as well as contacts to be made in the near future. An updated provincial travel / mentoring list will be posted on the website.

<http://www.bcathletics.org/main/pdf/officials/prov-trav-mentoring-list12.pdf>

**Reminder to Level 2 Officials hoping to upgrade to Level 3 – our one time travel bursary program (\$200) is still available. Please see website for application form.

Fact Sheet on Mentoring / Evaluation and Upgrading (John) – this document is a summary of the evaluation process and the requirements for this to occur and is now available on website. <http://www.bcathletics.org/main/pdf/officials/factsonmentoring.pdf>

Regional Development Reports

Zone 1/2 (Okanagan/Kootenays) – Bob/Alwilda: several meets added to this year's schedule of events – see web site for changes. Bob brought along promotional card being used for the Van Ryswyk meet in Feb – this is a well designed, color brochure type of card and possibly a unique template for others to use in the future both for promoting their events, but also athletics in general. Bob reported that the first draft of the joint bid with the City of Kamloops for the 2015 Pan Am Jr Championships has been completed. He brought along a copy for committee perusal.

Zone 3/4/5 (Lower Mainland) – Carol: Indoor meets will start at Richmond Oval early Feb, with several Island Officials attending for indoor experience. For the Langley Pacific (June 13 – 15), accommodation will be provided, as well as workshops and mentoring opportunities. The BC Jamboree will once again be held in Coquitlam (July 13 -15), with the expectation that Officials will have mentoring opportunities here also. Conflicting dates for the

Jerome International and Coquitlam's Jesse Bent meet (June 10) will require bringing in Officials from the Interior and the Island. South Fraser T & F Club will be the HOC for the BC Summer Games (July 19 -22) with Jesse Dosanjh as Chair. The BC Seniors Games will be held in Burnaby (Aug 21- 25) and now have 2 people in charge of Athletics portion. Accommodation and travel will be available at the Langley Pacifics, BC Summer Games, BC Seniors Games and the Jamboree. Invitations will be forthcoming for the officials on the Provincial Training/Mentoring List.

Zone 6 (Vancouver Island) – Alice, Vince – report by email from Alice): Officials who are with the VIAA clubs will be contacted re: meet attendance, upgrades, etc. VIAA meeting on Feb 12 will be attended by both Alice and John – report to follow. Upcoming Level 2 clinic in Nanaimo Mar 4, 2012 will be an opportunity to train new clinicians for this Zone.

Zone 7,8 (Northern BC) – Judy: No report. Bob will contact Judy Gaisky prior to the next meeting

Awards / Recognition – Shirley: no report. motion regarding the recognition program (carried) made at AGM – see New Business for full text.

Retention / Recruitment – Laurel (report by email): Clarification of travel for mentoring reports These on-line reports go automatically to Kathy, and the information is shared with the Committee. Laurel updates the Workshops Attendance Database as information is received from clinicians, and then forwarded to Kathy and John – last update was Dec 17, 2011. Information from a workshop for Zone 7/8 was received and forwarded to BCA office. Laurel will mail out the Senior Officials' Recruitment Kit packages in the next few weeks. A positive reception was received at the Member Survey Action Plan presented at the recent AGM. Discussion of the recommendations issuing from this survey, e.g. a Communication plan, held over until the next meeting.

Web Updates – April: Information / updates are posted as received - ongoing. Various changes to Committee Members list, Regional Contact Lists, Awards, and Upgrading sections will be made. Outdated info will also be removed. The Officials Ethics and Guidelines for Conduct was posted on the website in Nov 2011.

BCA Board Update: 1) Discussion and decision by committee to request availability of plans/details of all various track sites within province on the BCA web page (future project?)
2) Criminal Records Checks – these are now mandatory in order to complete BCA registration for 2012. A sample letter to take to local police / RCMP offices is available from Sam at BC Athletics for all club registrars. In most cases, there is a charge for this process. Receipts should be given to club registrars for reimbursement by BCA. Copies of the reports are held by club registrars. For full info, please visit: <http://www.bcathletics.org/main/membership.htm>

New Business

Future BOC meetings: Bob noted date additions/ changes - March 25, April 29, August 26, Nov 4. AGM – October 13 (Langley Legion).

Items Arising from the AGM:

1) Motion regarding the recognition program (carried) made at AGM: “ **Whereas** we wish to develop a more equitable Recognition Program for member Officials. **Be it resolved** that the Recognition Program for 2012 be equally available to all member Officials from Level 2 and above, who have earned a minimum of 20 credits in the year.” Discussion of choice of the specific item will take place at the next Committee meeting.

2) Motion regarding Committee Membership (carried) made at AGM “ Be it resolved that Officials standing for election to the BCA Officials Branch Committee must be present at the AGM unless prohibited from attending for a medical reason. Be it resolved that Officials standing for re-election to the BCA Branch Committee may not be considered for re-election if the Official has missed 4 meetings of the current term of 2 years. Many thanks to Bill for his insightful summary of the committee discussion regarding this issue.....see following text.

“ The purpose behind this motion was to ensure that committee members were prepared to commit the time and energy to board tasks, including discussions in committee meetings but also administrative or project duties arising for the committee – i.e, the motion was intended to ensure that all the committee work did not fall onto the shoulders of a minority of the members. John produced a table of attendance that showed that a number of committee members through this past year (2011) were in danger of reaching that magic number of 4 missed meetings. Because the motion as passed by the AGM theoretically becomes a rule of BC Athletics, this could result in a number of committee members being ineligible for terms beginning in 2013.

This stimulated a discussion on several fronts. First, it brought up the issue that many committee duties are performed outside actual meetings (e.g., dealing with upgrading officials, dealing with the website) that are important activities and which take up more time than does meeting attendance, per se. The committee is uncomfortable with limiting otherwise productive members of the committee from running for another term based merely on number of missed meetings. Second, it brought up a discussion of the specific cutoff for missed meetings. Is 40% too stringent or insufficiently stringent?

Third, it brought up a discussion of the underlying reason for concern about meeting attendance. It seemed from discussion in the meeting that the underlying issue was unequal contributions by different committee members. It is clear that some committee members have extensive duties and fulfill them fully. Other committee members are there more in name than in person both with respect to attendance, but more importantly, in committee-specific activities outside the meetings (e.g., between meeting administrative tasks). Meeting attendance is important in two ways: (a) it allows for discussion and equitable allocation of tasks outside the meetings, and (b) promotes cohesiveness. Fourth, it brought up a discussion of the inevitable attendance problems that can arise from the combination of the volunteer nature of the committee and other responsibilities to family, career, etc.

Finally, members recognized that very few people put their names forward to serve on the committee. Although the motion passed at the officials AGM may have been well-intended, and there was a substantive issue motivating the motion; as passed, the motion may have a negative result, and undermine the effectiveness of the Committee.

3) Motion regarding Standards for Competitions (carried) made at AGM Recommendation to BCA that Meet Directors be required to provide clear instructions to officials regarding the implement weights to be used at the meet.

Additional recommendation by Branch Officials Committee: *At events hosted by BCA Clubs, and sanctioned by BCA, implement weights must be those approved by the BCA..*

Education: The following workshops have been confirmed:

1) Zone 1 / 2	Level 2	Kamloops	Feb 12	Bob/Alwilda/Cliff
2) Zone 6	Level 2	Nanaimo	Mar 4	John/Carol/Anne
3) Zone 3/4/5	Level 2	Langley	Mar 3	John/Carol *(tentative)
4) Zone 3/4/5	Level 1	Langley	June 16	for Special O volunteers
5) National Starters Workshop		Langley	June 15	Dale Loewen

Changes to Committee Handbook: Several changes have been made in the following areas of the handbook: 1) Two new committee positions: a) another Vice Chair (Administration) and b) Mentoring and Training Coordinator

2) Changes to On-going projects

Bob will update the handbook, sent to April for posting. Bob will also prepare a 2012 work plan.

Rule Books: Criteria for receiving a copy (Officials' membership benefit):

1) Official must be member of BC Athletics

2) Official must be graded Level 2 or higher

Carol will post notice in her newsletter reminding Officials to register with BCA in order to receive rule book. Once again, Carol will undertake to mastermind the labeling and distribution of these books to zone representatives. There will be a 2nd distribution later in the year.

Presently, the following representatives will ensure book circulation:

Zone 1 / 2 Bob Cowden, Alwilda van Ryswyk

Zone 3 / 4 / 5 John Cull, Carol Cull, Bill Koch

Zone 6 Vince Sequeira, Alice Kubek

Zone 7 / 8 books will be mailed individually by Bill Koch