

Three Championships were held in 2012 for Junior Development age athletes (9 to 14 year olds.)

**The BC JD Pentathlon Championships** were very successfully hosted by Ocean Athletics in White Rock on Saturday, June 23rd. Sixty three boys and ninety five girls for a total of one hundred and fifty four athletes competed in this very well run but stormy event. It is interesting to note the disparity in numbers between boys and girls which seems to be apparent also at track and field meets. However, the increase of over 50 athletes taking part was a 33% increase over 2011.

**The BCJD Track and Field Championships** were this year awarded to Kajaks and held on the July 27 to 29<sup>th</sup> weekend. This late date was felt to be the reason for a considerable drop in numbers over 2011. On Summer Games years the season for JD's is extended but athletes often complete their training early in July. The suggestion to hold the Championships earlier in the year is a good one but on alternate years when the Games are held it is not possible. Kajaks made a few suggestions for the better running of the JD Track and Field Championships which were discussed at the JD AGM. In 2013 it was decided that the profile of the JD Committee needs to be raised by having the BC Athletics tent manned by committee members at all JD championships.

**The BCJD Cross Country Championships** were held in Matsqui hosted by Valley Royals on Saturday October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The meet was well organized and the weather was thankfully drier there than in other parts of the lower mainland.

Many thanks to everyone who worked to make the JD Championship meets such a success, especially the Kajaks, Ocean Athletics and Valley Royals clubs.

**The BCJD Annual General Meeting** followed the Cross Country Championships in Matsqui at 4pm so that those from out of town were able to attend before heading home. The JD Committee added three new members for a total committee strength of 12 members. Only two zones do not have representation on the committee, zones 7 and 8. Zone 7 does not have any JD program so has declined membership. Though invited, Zone 8 has not put a name forward to date. All meetings except the JD AGM this year were held by teleconference. This has proved very successful and cost saving. It has also encouraged participation of more distant zones. Three meetings were held this year plus the Annual General Meeting and the Awards Banquet.

**The Junior Development Championships** were awarded as follows: Nanaimo for the JD Track and Field Championships and Valley Royals in Matsqui for the Cross Country Championships. No bid has yet been received for the JD Midget Pentathlon Championships.

**The BCJD Awards of Excellence Banquet** was held at the Croatian Cultural Centre on Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The majority of athletes attended the luncheon with some attending for just the awards presentation. Ninety three athletes received awards, an increase of 23 athletes over last year. On looking over the award winners we found that the increase was in the area of events where it was more difficult to achieve standards eg. sprints, jumps and distance. This shows that we have a very strong group of athletes moving through the JD program at present. Also we had many athletes achieving standard in several events which is unusual.

Greg White, BC Athletics Chair attended and Peter Maryschuk announced the names of the winners. Graduation certificates for the 14 year olds were handed out to the Clubs present. Ruki Adulai and Jessica Smith both gave very inspiring short talks and were the highlight of the day. They handed out plaques and

congratulated all the award winners. The members of the JD Committee present were all busy on the day with their assigned tasks. Tom Dingle continues to produce all the stats and standards that allow the Committee to choose the award winners, crest recipients and Top 10 lists.

For 2011 the **Jane Swan Award** was presented to Tom Masich, an outstanding volunteer who has given long time service to the young Junior Development athletes of our province and the Prince George Track and Field Club. The **JD Coach Award** was presented to Maureen de St Croix from Ocean Athletics. These awards were presented at the BC Athletics AGM Awards Banquet.

The **JD web page** information was updated during the year. However, the actual web page remains several years out of date. The committee has been told that the whole site will be receiving a make over so information will not be updated till this happens.

**The Athletics Canada proposal for changes to the weights** for boys 12 and 13 year old javelin to 500gm has been discussed and recommendations are ready to be presented. These have been distributed to other committees and the Board of Directors before being sent for vote to the BC Athletics Annual General Meeting. Also the JD Committee is recommending that the **running of 14 and 15 year olds events be done separately** as the present idea of running together and awarding separately is causing great confusion for athletes, clubs and officials.

Other items discussed this year were the possible implementation of the 2k hammer for 12 and 13 year olds, relay awards for club and composite teams, and the recommended distances for JD athletes to run on the road. Though competition is not recommended on hard surfaces for JD's and awards are not sanctioned, some athletes enjoy road running for fun.. Following the acceptance of these distances by BC Athletics Board they were referred to the Athletics Canada Committee who will be setting national policy.

The newly elected JD Committee looks forward to a successful, productive track and field season for all 9 to 14 year old athletes in 2013

Respectfully submitted,

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Chair,  
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