

BC Athletics Masters Committee Report – 2009

a) Summary of Activity

2008 BC Athletics Masters Awards

The following athletes were chosen as the best in their category during 2008. The Masters winners were honoured at the January, 2009 BC Athletics awards banquet:

- Masters Female & Male Track and Field Sandy Anderson (W65) and Tom Dickson (M55)
- Masters Female & Male Road Running Nancy Tinari (W45) and Herb Phillips (M65)
- Masters Female & Male Cross Country Nancy Tinari (W45) and Norm Tinkham (M45)

Masters Events

In addition to all of the usual road running, cross country and T&F events that are open to masters in BC, the following Championships were held:

Road Running

- 5k - Chemainus Legion Twilight Shuffle 5k hosted by Island Runner and Prairie Inn Harriers
- 8k - Saanichton Prairie Inn 8k hosted by the Prairie Inn Harriers
- Half Marathon – Sunshine Coast April Fool's Run April 5 hosted by Sunshine Coast Athletics
- Marathon – Royal Victoria Marathon Oct. 11

Track and Field

Nanaimo BC Masters T&F Championships May 23-24. Hosted by the Nanaimo Track and Field Club.

The Kamloops Track and Field Club hosted an indoor track and field meet. At the meet held February 21-22, 45 BC Masters and 12 Canadian records were set.

Kamloops Track and Field also hosted the Canadian Masters T&F Championships this year July 17-19. There were 262 athletes registered for the meet with more than half (137) from BC.

Cross Country

Vancouver October 25th hosted by the Hershey Harriers and the Vancouver Thunderbirds.

On behalf of the masters participants, I would like to thank all of the hosting clubs for the extra effort required to put on those championships.

b) Improvements, Challenges

Masters Age

Last year there was much discussion concerning the decision of the World Masters Association and the IAAF regarding the changing of the masters age to 35+ for men (it had been 35+ for women for many years). This year the IAAF changed the definition of Masters Men and Women to "Any athlete who has reached his/her 35th birthday for stadia events and his/her 40th birthday for out of stadia events. Credit goes to the chair of our Road Running Committee, Frank Stebner for convincing members of the IAAF to support that change. This does make our BCA membership structure more complicated. For T&F we need to offer a 35+ membership for masters and for cross-country and road running, a 40+ membership.

CMAA

The Kamloops Track and Field club is hosting the World Masters Indoor Track and Field Champions from March 1, 2010 to March 6, 2010. Canadian athletes who wish to participate in

this event must be members of the Canadian Masters Athletic Association. Since there are many athletes currently not members of CMAA, especially outside of Ontario, the CMAA decided in October to provide a Championship Membership for \$10.00.

For the last few years, Danny Daniels, Tom Hastie and others have been attempting to reach an agreement between the CMAA and Athletics Canada to provide a single masters membership within Canada. On November 4th, Athletics Canada presented a Memorandum Of Understanding to the CMAA for approval. That Memorandum calls for the creation of a Masters Division within Athletics Canada. That Division would be administered by the CMAA and the chairs of the Provincial Branch Masters Committees. The Provincial Branches will add \$5.00 to the Masters Membership fees (all athletes over 35 for track and field and over 40 for everything else) and forward that amount to the CMAA for administrative purposes. That fee increase needs to be approved by the BC Athletics membership.

A special meeting of the CMAA has been scheduled for December 30th, 2009 in Toronto to vote on the proposal.

c) Planned Activities

Work with the appropriate people and organizations to ensure that the various BC Athletic Masters Championships are scheduled for 2010.

Maintain the BC Athletics Masters records for T&F and Road Running.

d) Key Indicators

Records

In 2009, BC athletes set 77 new BC T&F records, 38 new Canadian records and 10 new World records (Olga Kotelko). In road running, BC athletes set 13 new records. Much thanks goes to Harold Morioka who spent many hours (probably many days) compiling the track and field records.

Membership

As of November 25, there were 1170 age 35+ athletes registered with BC Athletics.

Athletic: Competitive (358), Adult Rec Runners (190), Training (609), Senior (13)

e) Major Initiatives

Support the Road Running Committee in its efforts to promote and improve the BC Athletics Road Running Championships.

Review the criteria used for selecting our Master of the Year athletes.

f) Urgent Matters

Need some new members to join the Masters Committee. We welcome new members who would like to make a contribution to Masters Athletics in BC.

g) Other

I would like to thank the members of the masters committee (Gerry Dragomir(Secretary), George Gluppe, Tom Hastie, Bill Hooker, Val Jenkinson and Olga Kotelko, for all of their work this year. Also thanks to Jim Hinze as our Board rep for helping with our discussions.

Submitted by Jake Madderom – Chair, Masters Committee