

Minutes of the BCA Officials Committee Meeting - April 5, 2009

Chair – John Cull

Recorder – Jackie Barrington

Members Present: Bob Cowden, Kathy Terlicher, Carol Cull, John Cull, Anne Lansdell, Laurel Wichmann, Jackie Barrington, Alwilda van Ryswyk, Shirley Young

Regrets: Sue Kydd, April Arsene, Alice Kubek

Minutes posted and approved

Business Arising from Minutes:

Recognition program for 2009-2010 (Shirley)

- Inventory sent to BCA staff, and copied to John
- Recognition items will be given as follows: –
 - Level 1 officials, a lapel pin
 - Level 2 officials, a lapel pin
 - New Level 2 Officials will automatically get a golf shirt
 - Level 3 Officials, a vest
 - Level 4 officials, a jacket
 - Level 5 Officials, whatever the incentive is for that year

Each item is intended to identify officials by their level.

Shirley researched a number of items for this year's incentive. She will preview a durable looking poncho, if she likes it, she will place an order. Spratt-Shaw Community College will probably continue as a sponsor

Incentives will be handed out at the Annual General Meeting. Any member who is absent can ask his/her Zone representative to pick up the incentive item. Old items will continue to be sold.

Timelines (John)

John has drafted a list of dates which show when regular repeated tasks must be completed. This is a growing document that will be useful to incoming committee members. It will be posted on the web page

- Items added to the list – NOC Directory Listing must be submitted by April 15
- Fox 40 Award nomination must be submitted by March 31

- September's BCA committee meeting will be the date to have reports ready for the AGM.
 - March 31, and September 30; Upgrade applications to NOC
- Note:** Anne sent in Fox 40 nominations for Ken Porter (Longevity) and Keith Newell (work accomplished in athletics).

Travel Grant Program - 4th Draft (Bob)

Minor changes made to the fourth draft

- Dates were added and a list of eligible meets will be attached to the document
- Timing was changed to Photo finish
- Competition Secretary was added
- Person who should receive the application was also added
- Title was changed to *Level 2 Official Bursary Grant Application -\$200*
- Bob, Anne and Kathy will form a committee to select appropriate candidates for the travel grants

Quick Reference Cards – (Diana, not at meeting)

- Edited cards for disciplines were sent to Diana
- Cards are posted on Victoria track webpage
- Diana will send an electronic version to John
- Diana is checking into the cost of laminating the cards
- Bob suggested that the BCA and VIAA Logos should be added to the cards
- Anne noted that the concept of the cards was mostly developed by VIAA
- John suggested that the cards should be edited to make them more useful at a Provincial level.
- John will be taking a set of cards to NOC meeting
- A sponsor to help with the cost of producing the cards for sale will be a parking lot item

Chair's Report/Correspondence – (John)

- John presented the 2009-2010 draft budget for \$17,900
- The increase is justifiable because competition expenses have increased
- More workshops have been scheduled
- More officials are being certified

Schedule

- Same as posted in February
- New meet, Franco-Columbie games, not much information available despite Carol's attempts to contact the organizers
- Date might conflict with Junior Olympics

Other Information:

- Committee list, rules, roles and responsibilities have been updated and posted on the webpage
- U-18 program – 2 new high school students recruited using *Craigs List*
- Bob suggested that at the end of the season they should be sent a letter signed by the CEO of BCA and the Chair of the Officials committee to acknowledge the service provided
- At 18, U-18 officials will become full fledged officials with all benefits

Action: Bob will draft a letter which can be given to U-18 officials and present it at the next BCA committee meeting.

Equipment: Wind gauges cannot be repaired. they will have to be replaced

Sub-committee Reports:

Assignments/Upgrading Committee (Carol, Kathy, Bob, April, Anne, Alice)

Update on World Masters Games – (Carol) No information from key personnel for games to date

- A local athlete may be available for Spanish announcing
- Dates for World Masters conflict with a meet in Alberta,
- Some officials from BC still need to be contacted

Travel/Mentoring Priorities

Discussion and updates on progress with evaluations. NOC Travel list was updated

Travel to BC Championships – No invitations sent to date

Action:

John will contact Ron Bunting to see how many rooms are available for Canadian Masters Championships.

Education/Recruitment:

Subcommittee (Sue, Jackie, Laurel, Alwilda)

- Laurel and Jackie will contact their respective Clubs to give Level 1 workshops

Update on Level 2 Workshops

- Workshops will be held in Kamloops on April 15 & 22
- Bob needs to get workshop information forms from BCA
- Nanaimo Level 2 workshop completed, 8 people attended
- Workshop in South Surrey is posted, 7 people have registered to date
- John and Carol will be conducting a Level 2 workshop in Prince George on May 21. Dale/Janice Loewen and Iain Fisher will also be attending the PG meet to coach new officials.
- Prairie Inn Harriers have 3 registered officials who are not certified
- Kamloops Track and Field Club has officials ready and available to present Level 1 workshops in Zone 1,2. Bob and Alwilda will contact Clubs in the Zones to arrange for dates.

Retention of Officials

Bob questioned what is being done to retain officials. He noted that his association with other organizations has resulted in thank you letters after events as well as other means of appreciation. Jackie noted that many Clubs provide gifts and thank you notes to officials at the meets and messages are sent to Carol to thank officials for attending meets. Nor'westers T & F club sent letters and a gas gift card after the Trevor Craven last year.

Anne mentioned that conditions at some Island meets were not always favorable for officials travel. Accommodation was not always provided and it is difficult travelling home for long distances after many hours at the track. John pointed out that transportation is always paid when officials apply. It is the responsibility of the Zone coordinators to ensure that meet directors provide food every four hours, which is standard policy. Zone coordinators need to let meet directors know what the standards are for accommodating officials at meets. Standards are clearly laid out in the Meet Directors Handbook, and on the BCA Web Page

Anne noted that if there were more officials at meets, work could be done in 4 hour shifts.

Action – Laurel will contact officials who are no longer active to find out why they have left the sport.

Recruitment – Laurel has posted the Langley and Cheetah meets on *Vol web*. Position description done, 700 names came up. She invited 10 names to consider our position for training and mentorship.

- Laurel also posted on *Craigslist*. Posting is good for 45 days
- Posting can be edited and reposted after 45 days
- Clubs needs to be inviting relatives of athletes to become involved with officiating
- Laurel is currently using her own accounts to post volunteer opportunities
- In future a BCA account needs to be created

WANTED – An official who will create an account on *Facebook* to post volunteer opportunities for officiating in track and field

WANTED – An official to go on CBC radio *Help Wanted* segment to promote volunteer opportunities for track and field

Note: For the past two meets, athletes have been coming to events late because they read an incorrect schedule.

Action

Jackie will send a note to the BCA bulletin to remind coaches and athletes that they should check the webpage of the club hosting the meet to make sure they have the most up to date schedule.

Jackie will also send information on potential changes to the False Start rule, similar to NCAA rule, which is currently being discussed for adoption by the IAAF. The rule won't be in affect this season.

No new handbooks will be given out this year. John has photocopied the minor changes to the rules. These, and a summary of AC Rules were given to Zone coordinators for distribution to officials.

Note for all Officials, The Competition Secretary at each event must be informed whether throwing implements have been certified.

New Business:

Rules from “What’s Your Call” in NOC newsletter were discussed

Goals – Every Club will be encouraged to use the “Union Label” and Announcer’s text at meets. This text recognizes the contribution of officials to the meet and encourages others to become involved with officiating.

Action:

John will send the “Union Label” text and Announcer’s text to Committee members.

Anne – Display board not convenient for transport on the Island. She wondered if a banner might be more appropriate.

Jackie noted that BC Blind Sports has a banner that neatly folds in a small carrying container.

Action:

Jackie will find out from Blind Sports who made their banner.

Regional Development Plans

Trainers for Level 1 workshops are available in all Zones. Zone coordinators will identify candidates and situations for Level 1 workshops.

Strategic Plan

There is a need for Track and Field Referees in all Zones
At present, no one in the Lower Mainland meets criteria for upgrading to Track Referee. Candidates for Field referee upgrading were discussed

Priority List for Disciplines

- Starters needed in Zones 3, 4, 5 and 6
- Field Referees all Zones
- Umpires all zones, especially in Zones 3, 4 and 5
- Photos, Zones 3, 4 and 5
- Vertical Jumps, Zones 6, Level 2 officials being trained
- Announcers, especially bilingual, in all Zones
- Race walk, all Zones

Action

John will survey all officials to get information for an inventory of non-English language speakers.

Location for Level 3 Workshops

- Quick reference cards when completed will be used for officials moving to a specific discipline. They are not intended as a substitute for Rule Books.
- Workshop should be no more than an hour, held prior to start of the meet
- Workshop will have to be content specific since Level 3 officials can chief events.
- Cards can be used at the venue at meets
- Possible locations for meets – Canadian Masters; Jamboree in Abbotsford
- Criteria for workshop; a meet where there are more than 8 Umpires or officials teams in field events.

Other

Jackie will temporarily take over Social duties for the Committee.

Action – Jackie will send committee members the volunteer message sent to Clubs. Committee members are asked to phone the Clubs on their list to ensure they received the message.

News from the Junior Development Committee (Alwilda)

- The JD committee recommends combining the JD Championships with the BC 15/Youth/Junior/Senior Championships
Discussion: The Officials Committee does not support this idea.
- Next JD committee meeting, September 13, 2009
- Rule 7: 6B – reminder that starting blocks are optional for 14 and 15 year old athletes
- Cross Country Championship, October 31, 2009. JD banquet November 1; JD AGM not yet scheduled

Meeting Adjourned at 2:35 P.M.