Branch Officials Report

Bill Koch

2014 Initiatives

- Provision of Officials to Competitions
  - BCA officials assisted in 91 meets across BC
    - 42 club meets (3 – 45 officials per meet)
    - 34 school meets (5 – 38 officials per meet)
    - 8 provincial championships (9 – 56 officials per meet)
    - 4 National or National Championship meets (46 – 82 officials per meet)
  - Challenges
    - A very large number of meets, particularly in Zones 3, 4, & 5 stretched our officials quite thin.
  - Recommendations
    - Tighter sanctioning of meets by BCA Administration to reduce the number of conflicting meets and excessive demand on current officials.
  - Highlights
    - Large officials contingents at Provincial and National Championship meets and the International meets.
    - High quality of officiating at championship and international meets.

- Education of Officials
  - 5 Level One Workshops (6 - 18 registrants per course)
  - 2 Level Two Workshops (4-5 registrants per course)
  - 3 National Workshops (Horizontal Jumps WS, Starts WS, Walks Discussion Group)
  - Challenges
    - Too much of load of initiating and scheduling Level One and Level Two Workshops falls to volunteer officials.
    - Many, but not all, clubs show little encouragement to their members for attending officials workshops.
  - Highlights
    - When clubs had a vested interest in hosting Level One workshops or where the Officials Committee heavily promoted same, registration and attendance were high.
  - Recommendations
    - Greater pressure from BCA Board and Administration on member clubs to encourage their members to become officials.

- Recruitment of Officials
Officials Committee participated in the Subcommittee on Officials Recruitment and Retention that is in the process of submitting a set of recommendations.

- Recommendations in report need greater emphasis on duties of BCA members other than officials and the officials committee to recruit officials.

Obstacles

- Insufficient organizational financial/staff support for recruitment and retention of officials – current system relies on energy of volunteer officials whose main interest in officiating is participation in competitions and not administrative duties.

Development of Officials

- New Upgrades
  - 14 Level One Officials
  - 8 Level Two Officials
  - 1 Level 3 Official
  - 4 Level 4 Officials
  - 4 Level 5 Officials

- Challenges
  - Too little follow up on initial Level One Workshop attendees to follow up with meet experience.
  - Insufficient organizational monitoring of trainees to encourage meet officiating and upgrading.
  - Limited energy in over-worked senior officials for recruitment and encouragement of upgrading in junior officials.

- Highlights
  - We continue to have a core of officials upgrading to Levels Four and Five which increases our capacity for hosting National Championship and International meets.

- Recommendations
  - Greater organizational support with respect to tracking workshop attendees and encouraging upgrading.

Planned 2015 Initiatives

- Provision of Officials to Competitions
- Education of Officials
  - Increase number of Level One Workshops and Attendees with assistance of clubs and BCA Administration.
- Recruitment of Officials
  - Will continue to participate in recruitment and retention subcommittee activities.
- Development of Officials
  - Will continue to encourage and arrange provincial and national mentoring opportunities for officials wishing to upgrade their skills and credentials.