

2018 - JD Committee Report to the BC Athletics AGM

At the Junior Development Annual General Meeting in 2017 the question was asked as to what were the responsibilities of the Junior Development Committee. These are spelled out in the rules and regulations of BC Athletics.

JD Pentathlon Championships

The JD Pentathlon Championships took place on June 23, 2018 in White Rock hosted by Ocean Athletics. The day was sunny with comfortable temperatures which made for great competition. A record number of athletes were registered. Registration had to be closed two days before the deadline. All boys and girls groups registered just over or just under 20 athletes with the 11 year old girls scoring 37 competitors. Five sets of high jump mats were required to keep the meet running smoothly. The meet ran close to time. Thanks are due to the leadership of the BC Athletics Officials who, as always, did a fantastic job. Ocean Athletics did a great job dealing with a difficult situation of large numbers.

Volunteers from clubs were required. A better way to communicate who is volunteering from clubs needs to be devised.

JD Track and Field Championship

The 2018 BCJD Championships were held July 27-29 in Kelowna hosted by Okanagan Athletics Club. The weather was hot and the smoke levels were reasonable. The meet hosted 336 athletes which was less than the 2017 meet held by Ocean Athletics.

Both track and field events ran to schedule. Okanagan Athletics found that they required the help of visiting clubs to run the meet. However, this was not always forthcoming, especially from the larger clubs. Most clubs did not commit ahead of time. The message sent out through trackie did not reach the correct club people and a later message sent out with Sabrina's help came too late for clubs to organize volunteer helpers. Many athletes were already on holiday in the Okanagan. This made it stressful for organizers. The JD Committee could help by setting some rules about numbers of volunteers needed from clubs according to the size of the team attending. Thank you Okanagan Athletics for a great job well done!

JD Cross Country Championships

The 2018 championships will be held October 27, 2018 in Abbotsford as part of the BC Athletics Championships for all ages.

JD Awards Banquet

The JD Awards Banquet has not yet been held. It is scheduled for Oct 28 with the Riverside Banquet Hall in Richmond as the venue for the third year in succession. The winners of the

2018 awards will be decided at the JD Committee meeting on September 9. Each competitive athlete is required to meet a set standard at an approved meet in order to be a winner as well as do a run a jump, a throw and attend a championships. The JD Committee is responsible for listing the criteria for the selection of meets and using these criteria to approve meets making up the list posted on the BC Athletics web site along with the standards. Many thanks to Tom Dingle for the huge amount of work that he undertakes to collate results and select winners. The committee continues to pursue the idea that JD Award winners should be given a free Banquet ticket.

Athlete and Parent Handbook

The JD Committee undertook the creation of an athlete and parent handbook which this year was approved by the Board and posted on the JD page. Clubs are encouraged to take this information and adapt it to their needs. Hopefully parents will come to practices and meets better prepared.

Annual Award Winners at BC Athletics Banquet

At the BC Athletics Banquet in January 2018 the JD Committee chose to give Ted de St Croix the JD Coach Award and Ron Wichmann the Jane Swan Award. Both are for long term service. The Jane Swan award is given to a volunteer who has served track and field in BC as inspired by Jane's contribution.

Crests

Many thanks are due to Tom Dingle for producing the crest standards. Clubs continue to order the BC Athletics crests and honour athletes at their Club Banquets. Unattached athletes may order as individuals.

School Members

As many thousands of athletes attend meets during the school season the JD Committee would like to be more involved in recommending methods to get more school athletes involved and signed up with BC Athletics. As our sport operates differently from school district to school district it is important to address the issues in each district. There is a lot of work to be done in this regard.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Copping