

2019 - JD Committee Report to the BC Athletics AGM

The JD Committee asked Darren Willis to inform the Board that the general feeling of the Committee was that the BCA AGM was too early in September and it would be better to hold it later in the month, when people have been back from holidays and back to their normal routine. With track starting up this week and being away till school starts I was unable to get this report in earlier. I apologize.

JD Pentathlon Championships

The JD Pentathlon Championships took place on July 13, 2019 in Maple Ridge hosted by Golden Ears Athletics. The day was sunny with comfortable temperatures which made for great competition. The number of athletes participating mirrored the fact the many athletes are training but not competing. The later date in the season may have had some effect on the drop in numbers. Three sets of high jump mats, shot put circles and long jump pits were used so the meet ran close to time. Thanks are due to the leadership of the BC Athletics Officials who, as always, did a fantastic job. Golden Ears Club is commended for a great meet.

Volunteers from clubs were required. A better way to communicate who is volunteering from clubs needs to be devised. The JD Committee could help with revising the wording of the requirements in the JD Handbook as well as a plan for distribution of information. Small clubs and unattached athletes continue to refuse to volunteer and some large clubs felt that they should not have to take up the slack. Derrick Stevenson has made some recommendations that will be discussed at the next September 15 JD Committee Meeting

Golden Ears found that the amount of time and effort needed to host this meet compared to the Eagles one day meet was considerably more and the return on investment of time and effort they found did not make it worth hosting in the future.

It would be great if awards could be given out as each age group of boys or girls completed all their events instead of having to wait around for all groups to finish. Some athletes went home without their awards.

JD Track and Field Championship

The 2019 BCJD Championships were held July 19 to 21 in White Rock hosted by Ocean Athletics Club. The weather ranged from 22 to 28 degrees. The meet hosted 463 athletes up from 336 in 2018. Holding the meet on the Lower Mainland always brings out more competitors as is to be expected. Both track and field events ran to schedule. Ocean Athletics did not require the help of visiting clubs to run the meet. They had 93 well trained volunteers and 41 BC Athletics officials. The schedule for Friday night and the rest of the weekend worked well. The scheduling of awards ceremonies needs to be discussed as some issues arose. Maureen de St Croix has made suggestions re relays and their scheduling for the JD Committee to discuss. Many thanks to Ocean Athletics for a great meet.

JD Cross Country Championships

The 2019 Championships will be held October 26, 2019 around Beaver Lake in Victoria on Vancouver Island as part of the BC Athletics Cross Country Championships for all ages.

JD Awards Banquet

The JD Awards Banquet has not yet been held. It is scheduled for Oct 27 with the Riverside Banquet Hall in Richmond as the venue for the fourth year in succession. The winners of the 2018 awards will be decided at the JD Committee meeting on September 15. 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 Championship. 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. We need a sponsor for the JD Banquet. Meal prices continue to increase.

Annual Award Winners at BC Athletics Banquet

At the BC Athletics Banquet in January 2018 the JD Committee chose to give Kevin Smith from Royal City Track the JD Coach Award and Judy Armstrong from KamloopsTrack 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

The JD Committee has attempted to put together a list of contacts for school districts in order to encourage better communication. It would be good to offer more training programs as part of Pro D days and more assistance in running meets. Hopefully we could encourage more teachers to encourage promising athletes to get involved in club track. This project has bogged down because of the large number of school districts and the few contacts that we have on the JD Committee who can gather this information.

In conclusion, the JD Committee would like to see the following happen:

- Growth of volunteers in all clubs
- Expansion of clubs across the province
- Encouragement for all athletes to compete not just train
- Adequate facilities

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Copping