Enhanced Track & Field Meet Planning – Submitted by Maureen De St Croix and Bill Koch

Background information:

Resolution 1: Resolution to enhance the quality of athletes’ experiences at meets through enhanced meet planning.

Whereas track and field meets frequently suffer from two limitations: (a) shortages of volunteers and officials, which shortages result in unfair or delayed competitions; and (b) insufficient or malfunctioning technical equipment and insufficient site preparation (e.g., throws areas where the sector lines have not been laid out in advance, malfunctioning starting blocks or blocks with insufficient pins in the bottom, late set up of hurdles or steeplechase barriers), which result in less than optimal competition conditions, it is important to improve pre-meet planning in order to provide a better competitive experience for athletes.

Be it resolved that the BC Athletics Board and Administration appoint a sub-committee to develop a strategy for post meet evaluation through the development of a Post Meet Evaluation checklist, gather data from such evaluations, and use these data to make recommendations to the BCA Board concerning additional requirements for meet sanctioning. This evaluation checklist’s purpose would be to identify meet characteristics that interfere with a quality competitive experience for athletes (e.g., athletes should not have their events delayed or performance limited by inadequate site/equipment preparation or insufficient volunteers) as well as hinder the ability of officials to execute their duties fully (for example, BCA officials should not arrive on site to find they need to set sector lines, dig pits, find keys to open up cages or coverings, search out implements, set up hurdles and steeplechase barriers, etc.). This sub-committee should be chaired by the Track and Field Technical Manager with membership from relevant subgroups including club meet directors, senior BCA officials as nominated by the Officials Committee, and representatives from the Junior Development and Masters Committees.