

**BC Athletics Junior Development Committee Meeting
Minutes**

Sunday, January 30, 2022

Time 2:04pm by Teleconference.

1. Attendance

Dawn Copping (Chair), Birgit Weaver (Vice Chair), Doug Evans, Tatjana Mece, Lee Hunter, Cristiana Lundman, Ross Browne, Tom Dingle (BCA Statistician), Darren Willis (BOD Committee Liaison), Sabrina Nettey (Introductory Programs Coordinator)

Regrets: Kylie Lakevold, Caitlin Reed, Christine Dela Cruz

2. Acceptance of Agenda

Dawn requested that Cross Country Meeting, JD Banquet, and JD Planning Document be added to the agenda.

Sabrina requested that JD Para Participation be added to the agenda.

Darren requested that Election of Chair & Vice Chair be moved to the end of the agenda.

Motion to accept agenda (Lee Hunter/Tatjana Mece). Accepted.

3. Acceptance of minutes of meeting

Motion to accept minutes (Cristi Lundman/Birgit Weaver). Accepted.

4. Items arising from last meeting

No items arose from the last meeting.

5. Report from Darren

Nothing to report.

6. Review of AGM Minutes

Dawn & Birgit to edit before draft minutes are posted to website.

7. Wording re: volunteering at Championships

Darren reminded the Committee that at the JD AGM a motion was brought forward and passed so that participating clubs would no longer be required to volunteer at JD Championships. Maureen de St. Croix was asked to submit wording to the Committee Chair, Vice Chair, Board Liaison, and Staff Liaison which could be presented to the Board of Directors. General feeling that the wording submitted went too far in limiting volunteer opportunities. Committee agreed that host clubs should still be able to reach out to other clubs but can't require them to volunteer and discussed wording to be presented to Board of Directors.

New wording recommended:

The BC Athletics Junior Development Championships host is responsible for providing all Officials and volunteers required for the successful hosting of the event.

Participating clubs may be contacted by the host club if additional volunteer support is required.

Motion to remove section 3.3 and 3.4 of the JD Manual and replace with the phrasing above (Birgit Weaver/Cristi Lundman). Approved.

8. Report to BC Athletics Board Meeting by Chair

Dawn explained that each January, the Committee Chairs meet with the Board of Directors and provide a report on Initiatives, Challenges, Opportunities, Gaps, and Dreams. There were no questions from the JD Committee about the report she submitted.

9. Zone Challenges

Dawn asked for opinion if Zone Challenges are something that are of interest. General interest across the group, with Zone 6 already making plans for an event. Although interest from Lower Mainland representatives, discussion that an already full calendar may make it difficult to offer an event in the region. Sabrina commented that an alternative may be to have an existing meet double as a Zone Challenge. Dawn noted that there still exists uncertainty regarding COVID and how it will affect the hosting of the JD Championships and so better to discuss a Lower Mainland Zone Challenge closer to the season.

10. Jane Swan & Coach Awards

Dawn shared that the 2021 recipient of the Jane Swan Award will be John May and the 2021 recipient of the Male JD Coaching Award will be Lee Hunter. A female coach recipient is still being investigated. She noted the difficulty in finding recipients as nominations are rarely submitted and there isn't a database of JD coaches. Sabrina noted it may be worthwhile to review some of the award criteria, particularly the minimum years of coaching experience, to help encourage nominations.

11. Cross Country Committee

Dawn reminded the Committee that she also sits on the Cross-Country Committee, as the JD Liaison. At the last meeting, they had expressed a desire to change the 1500m distance for 9 & 10 year old's to 1000m because it would be easier for the event organizers. Committee discussion that the distance chosen should meet the needs of the athletes as compared to what's best for the event organizers. Sabrina asked why the maximum distances on the track differ from the maximum distances for cross country, if they are meant to be developmentally appropriate. Doug noted that JDs don't do track events further than middle-distances, while cross country is intended to be a long-distance race. Therefore, the cross-country distances for JDs should be at least as long as what is offered on the track.

12. JD Banquet

Dawn submitted a booking with Riverside Banquet Halls for Sunday, October 23rd, 2022 for the JD Awards Banquet. The reservation is with the same company as in previous years but at a different location.

Kyndrie shared that she works at a hotel and would be willing to investigate the potential for them to host the event. Agreement that this is a great opportunity.

13. JD Planning Document

Dawn asked Darren to re-share this document as it will help orientate committee members to committee responsibilities and work schedule for the year.

14. JD Para Participation

Sabrina shared that an athlete identifying as para ambulatory would be participating in JD competitions this season. As presently BC Athletics doesn't have para specific competition policies for JD athletes, Para Programs Coordinator (Katie Miyazaki) would be working to develop them. Sabrina asked if the Committee had any thoughts on relevant policies. Discussion that athlete safety must be considered when adapting events. Committee agreement that policy development should refer to expert advice and examples from other provincial branches.

15. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Darren noted that Dawn and Birgit have held leadership roles with the JD Committee for many years and that they had expressed a desire for other to step into those roles. In speaking with committee members, Doug Evans and Cristi Lundman expressed a willingness to serve as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. Darren asked if any other committee members wished to be considered for either of these positions, with no other names being put forward.

Motion to elect Doug Evans as Chair of the BC Athletics JD Committee (Birgit Weaver/Lee Hunter). Elected by Acclamation.

Motion to elect Cristiana Lundman as Vice Chair of the BC Athletics JD Committee (Birgit Weaver/Lee Hunter). Elected by Acclamation.

Darren thanked Dawn & Birgit for their long-time leadership, commitment, patience, and support in these roles.

16. Motion to adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 3:37pm (Dawn Copping/Doug Evans)

Next meeting: April 3rd, 2022