



Dear BC Athletics Officials,

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your unwavering commitment to BC Athletics and upholding the values of Athletics in our province and beyond. I am constantly inspired by your willingness to give of your time and energy in support of our sport, and most importantly creating an environment for our athletes to do their best and pursue their dreams. We could not do it without you!

I am sorry that I cannot be there in person with you all today, but trust that your time together will be fruitful and an opportunity for connection with one another. This coming year will be an exciting one for BC Athletics with many enhancements to the BC Athletics Officials program that will support and recognize your contribution and elevate us as an organization.

The anticipated Officials Management System will be launched across the province beginning for the 2024 outdoor track & field season. This will certainly be an all-hands-on deck effort and we look forward to the ease and organization that the system will provide. I want to specifically thank Todd Blumel for his above and beyond effort in learning and educating us on the system. The system proved to be of great benefit on Vancouver Island during the 2023 season, and we look forward to rolling it out to you all in the coming weeks.

Beginning in 2024, the BC Athletics Board of Directors unanimously decided to implement an additional Safe Sport tool to our organizational toolbox, through the CAC Safe Sport course. As an organization, we all have a responsibility to uphold Safe Sport values. From setting and implementing policy, to how we interact with our peers, and how we provide leadership to athletes. We all have a role to play and the more educated we all are on Safe Sport values, the better our sport will be.

You may be wondering why it is important for Officials to participate in this training. As an Official, you act in a leadership role, where you are responsible for ensuring the safety of athletes during competition. This training will give you tools and an awareness of best practices when engaging with athletes and coaches.

Additionally, Safe Sport tools are not only relevant for engaging with athletes, but also for how we interact with others. As an Official, we know that sometimes you are the front line of criticism and feedback from athletes, coaches and/or spectators, and the Safe Sport training will give you tools to know how to handle these sometimes-tense situations, and how to report something that must be addressed.

We all have a responsibility to uphold these values and to create environments that are free from harmful or disrespectful behaviors. My hope is that you find value in participating in the Safe Sport training. We are in this together!

Finally, we are excited to be launching a new Officials recognition program that will recognize your service and time invested. Based on the number of hours of service each year, you will be awarded a corresponding gift card value to be used at the BC Athletics e-store. So, get your record cards updated and get ready to shop for new gear. We look forward to expanding our recognition of BC Athletics Officials in the coming years.

Thank you again for all you do! BC Athletics is grateful for your efforts, and we could not do any of this without you!

With Gratitude,

  
Meghan VanderVliet

CEO, BC Athletics

---

BC Athletics  
2001B 3713 Kensington Ave, Burnaby, BC, Canada V5B 0A7  
Tel: 604.333.3550 Fax: 604.333.3551  
Web: [www.bcathletics.org](http://www.bcathletics.org)



**viaSPORT**  
BRITISH COLUMBIA

