

BC MASTERS TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

August 13-14, 2022

The 2022 BC Masters Outdoor Track and Field Championships was held on August 13-14 at the South Surrey Athletic Field. A larger turnout was expected but only 130 athletes registered to compete in 370 events and five relays. This was down from the 164 athletes who, despite the difficulties last year with Covid-19, registered for 443 individual events and nine relays.

The track was recently resurfaced but lanes two and three could not be used due to separation of the track surface near the top of the final turn. Ocean Athletics Club offered the use of their hurdles, steeplechase barriers, pole vault and high jump mats and standards. We had ten tents, including three supplied by BC Athletics, set up to give protection from the sun. The weather was excellent, sunny and hot (about 30 degrees both days) with no wind. Christopher Kelsall, managing editor of Athletics Illustrated, provided professional announcing for the meet.

On Saturday, at noon, we had an Opening Ceremony to acknowledge a few people. We recognized the Coast Salish people – of Musqueam and Semiahmoo nations, upon whose unceded territories that the South Surrey Athletic Field is located. Alec Dan welcomed the athletes and spectators, and introduced the Tsatsu Stalqyu (translation Coastal Wolfpack) dancers, who performed a dance that represented their people gathering food for their families. Also acknowledged were three athletes from BC who were selected as 2021 CMA Athletes-of-the-Year. Malindi Elmore was mentioned as the CMA Non-Stadia AOY. Plaques were awarded to Monica Pomietlarz for being selected as the Field AOY and to Cindy O'Brien Hugh who won the Combined-Events AOY award. The CMA Club Trophy, won by the Greyhounds Masters Club for scoring the most team points at the recent 2022 Canadian Outdoor Championships in Regina, was awarded to club president Urith Hayley and head coach Sam Walker.

There were many excellent results at the meet, including 20 BC records, 4 Canadian records and a new world record. Christa Bortignon broke the W85 100m world record with an excellent time of 18.14 seconds. This was the fourth time this year that Christa ran faster than the listed 100m world record. Others to break Canadian records included Joe Giegerich who broke the M90 100m Canadian record (22.86) he had set only two weeks earlier in Regina. Graham Morfitt broke the Canadian M55 Javelin record with a throw of 50.27m. Graham now holds the Canadian javelin record in four age groups, M35, M45, M50 and now M55. Celina Wong broke the Canadian W60 Hammer throw record with her throw of 34.03m.

Joe Giegerich broke his pending BC M90 200m record which he set in Regina. Joe also tied his BC M90 record in the long jump. In addition to her hammer record, Celina Wong broke another BC record in the W60 superweight. Gabriella Moro who turned 75 earlier in the year, broke two BC records in the shot put and discus. Others to break BC records on the track were: Carol Montgomery, W55 3000m (11:19.04), Juliette Christi, W60 3000m (11:52.19), and Reidar Zapf-Gilje, M70 80m hurdles.

Athletes breaking BC throwing records were: Marg Radcliffe W80 javelin, Kathy Brand W80 hammer, Nicole Carlos W45 superweight, Christine Dalgleish W55 superweight and Karin Adande W35 weight.

The relay team of Cindy O'Brien Hugh, Elaine Whidden, Patty Szybunka and Patti Rogers broke the BC W60 4x100m record with an excellent time of 59.60. Two 4x400m relay teams set new BC standards. The team of Karin Adande, Sheila Gelinas, Halimah Beaulieu and Marina Khonina in the W35 age group (5:00.13), and the team of Tom Ukonmaanaho, Terry Riggins, Fred Pawluk and Mark Stewart in the M75 age group (5:22.77). The M45 4x400m relay team of Alex Galo, Win Myint, Marvin Johnson and Sam Walker lowered the BC record to 3:56.54.

The Greyhounds Masters Club thank many people for helping to make the BC Masters Championships a success. Special thanks to Maureen de St. Croix of Ocean Athletics for supervising and advising us for two full days. Thank you to Dr. MacPherson and his son Steve for serving as our First-Aid attendants. Perhaps, most of all, we thank our hard-working officials and volunteers for your dedication and long hours of work. Without all of you, this meet could not have been a success.

Harold Morioka