

## Celebrating Anne Lansdell's 70+ Years of Officiating in Canada



*Anne Lansdell at 2012 Canadian National T&F Championships, Calgary, AB (Photo Courtesy Ina Wallace)*

One of Canada's longest serving officials, Anne Lansdell (nee Winter), will be receiving her service pin from Athletics Canada—National Officials Committee (AC-NOC) for over 70 years of officiating service. Anne, a retired high school teacher from Chilliwack and Victoria, B.C., started officiating in 1948 as a young teenager, drawn to the sport through her father, Fletcher Winter, who was the long serving Chief Timekeeper for B.C. in both swimming and track and field.

Anne, along with another long-time Kamloops, B.C. official Alwilda Van Ryswyk (65 year service pin recipient), were the only two women technical officials in Track and Field at the 1954 British Empire Games held in Vancouver. Anne was a hand timer for the famous miracle mile race between Dr. Roger Bannister and John Landry.

Anne has continued being an active contributor to officiating in Victoria, B.C., Canada and the World ever since—doing just about everything there is to do in our sport of Athletics. Her two strongest areas of expertise were Combined Events and Photo Finish. Combined events requires a special kind of dedication to Athletics and athletes themselves and Anne has always excelled in this area. Anne was one of the first officials involved in electronic timing, having worked with the "film based" Omega timing system before the more popular Finish Lynx systems came into being.



*Anne using “modern day” Omega timing equipment at the 1978 Commonwealth Games, Edmonton, AB (Photo Courtesy Alice Kubek)*

Anne has travelled across the Province, the Country and North America making friends in the officiating community and helping both athletes and officials to hone their skills. She has both officially and unofficially mentored many of Canada’s officials who attribute and value their knowledge, experience and enjoyment from working with Anne.

Anne was inducted into both the BC Athletics Hall of Fame and NOC Wall of Honour in 1998. She became a National Technical Official (NTO) in 1998; Area Technical Official (ATO) in 1999; and recognized as the NOC Official of the Year in 2004.



*For the first time in Canada, an all women referee team at a national competition—1983 Western Canada Games (Alice Kubek—Photo Finish; Sharon Tkachuk—Track; Anne—Combined Events; Evelyn Nesdole—Field) (Photo Courtesy Alice Kubek)*

While it is unlikely Anne will return to active officiating in the post-COVID-19 world, she will continue to be part of the officiating community and we are extremely grateful for her contribution to officiating over the past 70+ years—along with her smiling, friendly demeanour combined with her trademark becoming outfits, lovely jewelry and hand bags.