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ON TRACK 1.2:
NATIONAL OFFICIALS' COMMITTEE
THE NEWSLETTER FOR OFFICIALS, ATHLETES, COACHES
AND ADMINISTRATORS

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Welcome to issue #2 of the newsletter of the National Officials' Committee. So, who's who in the National Officials' Committee; and what do they do?

Andrew Walker, PEI NOC Chair

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Gilles Rochette, QC - Directory and Upgrading - sportvision@outlook.com
Upgrade and maintain the Directory and Streamline the Upgrading process

David Weicker, BC - Special Projects - dweicker@shaw.ca
Including revisions to the NOC Mentoring and Evaluation process; updating NOC documents.

Lloyd Howey, SK - Education and Pathways – howeyl@shaw.ca
Simplify the current Pathway and Standardize and upgrade the education materials

Jane Edstrom, MB - Meet Assignments, Mentoring and Clinics - janeedstrom@mymts.net
Maintain list of mentors, Facilitate mentorship pairing and Facilitate major meet assignments

Helen Vasilic, ON - Communication and Awards - vasilich@sympatico.ca
Generate seasonal newsletters and coordinate the awards process

Other Committee members:

Angela White, AB - Athlete Representative and assisting in Communication and Awards

Helen Manning - Athletics Canada Board Liaison

NOTE FROM THE CHAIR OF ATHLETICS CANADA, BILL MACMACKIN

Thank You!

Over the past eight weeks, Rob Guy and I have had the pleasure of visiting all ten of our provinces and provincial branches in my role as Athletics Canada Chair. The purpose was to learn more about their provincial organizations, get to know some of their board members, see their communities, to learn about their goals and most of all, to find ways for Athletics Canada to serve them better. It is the year of Canada's 150th; the trips have reminded me how lucky we are in this country and how lucky we are in this sport to have such great people working in it from coast to coast.

It has been a busy fall with much work completed on our officiating file, coaching development plan, new membership ideas and competition ideas to name just a few files. At our Semi-Annual meeting in Winnipeg on December 1st, we will have reviewed all this work and begin putting these ideas into action in 2018. We want to hit the ground ready to roll in the New Year.

On the official's front, the NOC has done much work this fall in developing new thoughts on the path for officials' development. We applaud their hard work and creativity.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you to all the volunteers who have worked so hard on these initiatives. Thanks in advance to our officials for the many hours you will put in during the busy indoor season which is nearly here.

Best Wishes for the holiday season and a successful 2018.

NEWS FROM THE CHAIR OF NOC, ANDY WALKER

By the time this edition of 'On Track' is published the National Officials' Committee together with the Branch Officials' Chairs and others interested in the future of officiating Athletics in Canada will have met at the Semi-Annual General Meeting in Winnipeg and discussed the Pathways document. The direction and future of officiating will be a collaborative exercise. We are focusing on these three pillars:

1. The quality of officiating in Canada will be enhanced;
2. Recruitment of and entry for new officials will be a priority for all Branches to be supported by the Pathway;
3. Progression through the levels of officiating will be clear and consistent across the country

With these three principles in mind, the Education Sub-committee consisting of John Cull, Bill Koch, Lloyd Hovey and Brian Thomson have done a tremendous amount of work to get the Pathways document to where it is today. The discussion at the SAGM decided to put this project on hold, and the NOC will attempt now to further focus and hone the Pathways to the needs of the Branches.

We are looking forward to further discussion for the future of officiating.

Andy Walker
Chair, NOC

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (DAVID WEICKER)

The results from the IAAF recertification event for International Technical Officials in mid-October have resulted in Jane Edstrom of Manitoba and Daniel Michaud of Quebec being appointed to ITO Panel for the period of January 2018 to December 2021. Jane is also a member of the Technical Officials Education and Certification System committee and Daniel is also a member of the IAAF Race Walk Panel. Congratulations to Jane and Daniel.

While David Weicker was not selected for the ITO Panel for IAAF he remains on the ITO Panel for NACAC as well as maintaining his status on the Race Walk Panel for NACAC. David also remains on the IAAF Technical Committee. Congratulations to David.

Lisa Ferdinand from Ontario continues to be on the IAAF International Starters Panel. Congratulations to Lisa.

After the comprehensive written, oral and video examinations the World Para Athletics has certified their panel of International Technical Officials for the first time. Both Louise Buskas of Alberta and David Weicker of British Columbia have been selected for the Panel. In addition, David Weicker has been selected for the Panel of Technical Delegates for appointment to major Regional and World Championships as well as the Paralympic Games. Congratulations to both Louise and David. David was the lead coordinator for the selection panel process for WPA and is a Certified Educator for them as well.


MENTORING AND MEET ASSIGNMENTS (JANE EDSTROM)

There have been many mentoring opportunities over the Indoor and Outdoor seasons of 2017 and it is now time to start the planning for 2018. Thank you to all of the national mentors who worked with fellow officials and completed the mentorships this past season as well as to Ian Gordon for his assistance with organizing and pairing officials for the mentoring experience.

A reminder to officials who are potential mentors - the criteria:

- must be a level 4 or 5 official
- must be recommended by the Branch Officials Chair (BOC)
- must take part in a mentoring clinic after recommendation from BOC
- must communicate and work well with fellow officials

Over the past year (2017) for major Indoor and Outdoor meets, the assignment of officials was led and directed by the AC Office staff. The list of major officials was given to NOC after the assignments were made. For 2018 the assignment of officials will be returned to the National Officials' Committee to manage.

BRANCH CHAIRS AND OFFICIALS ARE REMINDED TO SUBMIT IN DEC/JAN THEIR LIST OF OFFICIALS WISHING TO TRAVEL WITH REFERENCE TO MENTORING/CLINICS FOR THE SUMMER SEASON. CLICK HERE TO EMAIL JANE. 

NEWS ABOUT UPGRADING (GILLES ROCHETTE)

The following upgrades have been approved by the National Officials' Committee effective October 1, 2017:

Sandy Allen MB, SA4
Cora Andreas SK, T5
Dierdre Choate AB, VJ4
Mihaela Cozma AB, HJ4
Meta deBruijn AB, T5
Tracey King AB, SA4
Ed Moore AB, PFCJ5
Gord Murray AB, T5
Doug Weber AB, S4
Chrystal Bowman BC, HJ4
John Cull BC, Jury National
Sandra Dever BC, VJ5
Wayne Elke BC, FRT4
John Gonos ON, SA4
Joan Jakubo ON, SA4
Ian Reid ON, SA5
Alison Rumball ON, U4
Janet Slocombe ON, FRJ5
John Stevenson ON, S4
Liliana Whalen ON, WJ5
Etienne Dalpe QC, FRT5
Nicole Guilpin QC, FRJ5
Mandy Roberge QC, SA4
Gilles Rochette QC, TR5
Serge Turgeon QC, VJ5
Andrew Walker PEI, SA4
Congratulations to all!

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BRANCH CHAIRS AND OFFICIALS ARE REMINDED TO HAVE THEIR UPGRADING REQUESTS SUBMITTED BY MARCH 31 (FOR SPRING) AND SEPTEMBER 30 (FOR FALL) EACH YEAR. ALSO ANY CHANGES OF PHONE NUMBERS, E-MAIL AND ADDRESS ETC. OF OFFICIALS ARE TO BE SENT ALONG SO WE CAN KEEP THE DIRECTORY UP TO DATE. CLICK HERE TO EMAIL GILLES.

AWARDS AND BRANCH NEWS

Congratulations Daniel Rouleau, Official of the Year for Quebec!

He is qualified as level 3 in both horizontal jumps and as umpire. He is much appreciated by all.

CONGRATULATIONS DANIEL!



CONGRATULATIONS BEATRICE WEIGEL OF QUILL LAKE, OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR FOR SASKATCHEWAN!

BEATRICE RESIDES AND WORKS AS A LIBRARIAN IN QUILL LAKE. BEATRICE HAS BEEN OFFICIATING SINCE 2011 AND IS VERY CLOSE TO BECOMING A LEVEL 4 UMPIRE. SHE BEGAN OFFICIATING DUE TO HER DAUGHTER'S INVOLVEMENT IN TRACK & FIELD. BEATRICE ALWAYS HAS A SMILE ON HER FACE IS A PLEASURE TO WORK WITH. SHE VOLUNTEERED AS A MANAGER FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS AT THE 2009 CANADA SUMMER GAMES AND 2011 WESTERN CANADA SUMMER GAMES. BEATRICE OFFICIATED AT VARIOUS INDOOR AND OUTDOOR MEETS THIS PAST SEASON INCLUDING CANADA WEST IN REGINA AND LEGION NATIONALS IN BRANDON, MB.

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BC

Activities in 2017

223 officials registered

Supported 107 track and field meets—an average of 10.5 days per official

Upgraded 40 officials—10 new Level 1 officials

Plans for 2018

Recruit 17 new level 1 officials

Acquire staff support for recruitment activities

Maintain an average of 10 officials in Level 4/5 upgrading pathway

In Memoriam

Lila Griffith—1932-2017

Jack Rowe—1925-2017

Hans Young—1941-2017

Shirley Young—1949-2017

Nova Scotia

The official of the Year for 2017 for Nova Scotia is Daniel Arsenault, a Level 2 Photo Finish official who was at all 10 meets in NS in 2017

BRANCH OFFICIALS CHAIRS

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NEWS ABOUT EDUCATION AND PATHWAYS (LLOYD HOWEY, JOHN CULL AND BRIAN THOMSON)

For the past year, a NOC Subcommittee has been working on revision of the officials' pathway. The proposed new pathway is designed to address the following objectives and benefits:

- Simplify the pathway model, yet ensure the same high standard at events
- Reduce the number of evaluations required to progress from the "new" Provincial to National level...and depend more heavily on formal mentoring and enhanced training options with the ultimate goal to produce excellent National quality officials
- Address regional issues/inequalities of access to required credits, evaluations and training
- Recognize and maintain each individual's experience, training and certification in transition
- Preserve the status of Senior Officials
- Preserve the status of Canada's ability to continue to manage the IAAF Level 3 TOECS certification status (NTO designation)

Several models were developed by the committee and a survey was initiated as to which direction we needed to go. Respondents included Branch Chairs, several senior officials as well as NOC members. Overwhelmingly the proposed pathway selected consists of four levels: Community Official (old Level 1, 2), Provincial Officials (old Level 3), National

Official (old Level 4, 5), Master Official (specialist leaders, clinicians, mentors). The key elements of the proposed pathway include a streamlined entrance, expanded mentoring and on-going, on-line support.

Next steps for the Pathway Subcommittee is to prepare a final draft following the presentation at the NOC/Branch SGAM meetings in December for broader discussion and subsequent implementation.



The next newsletter will be sent in early April. If anyone has any stories, news or photos of officials, please send to Helen Vasilic. Branch chairs should send their list of officials with years of service to **John Lofranco at AC**.

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