

**BC Athletics Junior Development Committee Meeting  
Minutes**

**Sunday, January 19, 2020**

**4pm by Teleconference**

**1) Attendance:**

Dawn Copping (Chair), Birgit Weaver (Vice Chair), Dan Horan, Alwilda Van Ryswyk, Doug Evans, Ross Browne, Tom Dingle (BCA Statistician), Darren Willis (BOD Committee Liaison), Sabrina Nettey (Introductory Programs Coordinator)

Regrets: Christine Dela Cruz, Cristiana Lundman

**2) Acceptance of Agenda**

Sabrina requested that discussion of 2021 Junior Development Track & Field Championships be added to the agenda.

Sabrina requested that review of JD Awards Banquet be added to the agenda.

Dawn requested to add Report for Board of Directors & Committee Chairs Meeting to the agenda

Motion to accept agenda (Alwilda Van Ryswyk/Birgit Weaver). Accepted.

**3) Acceptance of Minutes**

Discussion of the JD Awards Luncheon. Dawn explained that she had made changes to the past menu to help reduce costs. Sabrina explained that the cost of hosting at the current venue will be greater next year as they will begin to charge a rental fee for the venue (currently only charge us for food and servers). She suggested that it would be worthwhile to cost compare with other venues and volunteered to do so.

Dawn noted that she hadn't had an opportunity to ask Sam Collier about whether unattached athletes could use 2<sup>nd</sup> Claim club membership to compete as part of a club relay team. Will find out for next meeting.

Discussion of the entry fee for the JD Pentathlon. Review of (draft) minutes of JD AGM showed that attendees had voted for the price to remain at \$25.

Motion to accept minutes (Dan Horan/Alwilda Van Ryswyk). Accepted.

**4) Election of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary**

Motion to elect Dawn Copping as Chair of the BC Athletics JD Committee (Alwilda Van Ryswyk / Birgit Weaver). Elected by Acclamation.

Motion to elect Birgit Weaver as the Vice Chair of the BC Athletics JD Committee (Alwilda Van Ryswyk/Dawn Copping). Elected by Acclamation.

The secretary position was not filled. Sabrina agreed to take minutes of this meeting. Dawn thanked her for taking on this task.

## 5) Report from Darren

Darren discussed the issues the Junior Development Committee had asked him to bring to the November Board of Directors meeting. Regarding the review of facilities to confirm their ability to safely host Championship events, the Board felt that there was no need for a change in policy and that minor potential safety issues should be handled by Meet Directors in collaboration with Officials. Regarding the decision to run the 2020 JD Track & Field Championships as a two day event, as compared to three in past years, the Board felt it was the prerogative of the meet hosts, particularly as there were no objections at the JD AGM. Darren confirmed that the 11am Championship start rule would still be required.

Darren also discussed the JD Committee Annual Planning Documents he had prepared; all committee members had received prior to the meeting. Explained that it laid out the major events relating to the Committees duties including Board Meetings, Championships, Banquets, etc., and that it is a way to help the Committee design meeting agendas and determine work schedules. A discussion occurred regarding the best date to host the JD AGM. Dan noted that the best options were either to move to coincide with the JD T&F Championships or to continue to coincide it with the JD Awards Banquet. Dawn noted that if the JD AGM were to occur at the JD Track & Field Championships it could require the Committee members to travel to attend the meeting. Dawn also noted that changing the AGM date could require changing when the Chair was elected and that there are a number of responsibilities the Chair must fulfill during the latter part of the year that could be difficult for a new Chair. Decision to discuss planning documents further at a later date.

## 6) Report for Board of Directors & Committee Chairs Meeting

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. She asked the Committee to discuss each issue to collaboratively prepare report.

- Initiatives
  - Dawn noted that Darren's development of Annual Planning Documents were a new initiative
- Challenges
  - Increasing JD membership
  - Increasing JD membership who compete
    - Discussion of athletes training but not competing. Noted that it was a challenge all clubs are facing.
  - Content available in NCCP courses; specifically Sport Coach
    - Darren noted that when clubs lose coaches they are also losing much of the coaching knowledge that exists within a club. Dawn commented that she sends all of the new coaches at her club to courses but finds they are coming back knowing the basics of how to do the event, but not how to sequence a practice or evaluate technical flaws. Dan noted that mentorship is key as part of the follow up to the Sport Coach course. Doug noted that there's also difficulty in retention given the breadth of the course (nearly all JD events) and the pace of the course (2 days). Sabrina explained that as NCCP workshops are created by

Athletics Canada, and as they've just revised their courses in 2019, BC Athletics has very limited ability to alter their formats.

- Opportunities
  - Additional opportunities for learning, such as event specific clinics, pro-d workshops, and mentorship
  - Clubs to collaborate to arrange travel for out of town meets to encourage athletes to attend and participate
- Gaps
  - Sabrina asked if twilight meets may be a gap, as it could potentially cater to those parents who want to limit their participation to a couple hours on a weeknight. Committee felt that parents were not likely to want to travel to meets on weeknights and that weeknight meets would take away from practice opportunities where athletes develop skills. Parents who don't want to spend all day at a track can pick events that occur within the same general time period.
- What external or internal factors could influence the committees duties for 2020
  - Board decisions
    - Birgit pointed out the example of the Board overruling the JD Committees rules on club and unattached relays; better communication is desired with the Board
  - Budget
    - Sabrina noted that it relates to the hosting of the JD Awards Banquet
  - Recruitment
    - Darren pointed out the importance of recruiting new committee members and prepping the next generation of leaders
    - Doug suggested actively reaching out to clubs to ask for volunteers
- If budget wasn't a factor what one initiative would have appositve impact on development, performances, and services?
  - Coach Mentorship
    - Birgit commented that it would be great if BC Athletics could host pro-d workshops and clinics, as well as one-on-one mentorship during practices
  - Club Development
    - Dawn commented that the 2019 response had been that it would be great to have someone who could travel to cities throughout the province and help them develop clubs

## **7) JD Graduation Certificates**

Dawn explained that at the JD AGM it had been decided for the certificates to be prepared in time to be distributed at the JD Track & Field Championships. It wouldn't be a problem for her to prepare them for this date.

### **8) Door Prizes at JD Awards Banquet**

Dawn reiterated that at the JD AGM it had been decided that clubs would no longer be providing door prizes for the awards banquet. Birgit noted that the door prizes could likely still continue, just not to the scale as in the past, in which every attendee received a prize.

### **9) JD Track & Field Championships**

Sabrina confirmed that the Cross Country Championships are scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup>. Dawn noted that the Awards Banquet should then be scheduled for October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Sabrina explained that BC Athletics had received a bid from the Prince George Track & Field Club to host either the JD T&F Championships or the Jamboree Championships in 2021 as part of their preparation to host the 2022 BC Summer Games. Ross explained that the club was still discussing options but were reluctant to take on a two year bid for the Jamboree as that would involve hosting two major events in 2022. Dawn and Alwilda commented that when Prince George had hosted the JD T&F Championships a number of years ago and it had been very poorly attended. Darren noted the tension between wanting to build sport and create opportunities for communities around the province to host while recognizing that travel can limit interest in attending. Doug suggested encouraging an acceptance for Prince George to host the Jamboree for a 1 year bid, as athletes in that age group are more committed and therefore more willing to travel for the Championships.

### **10) JD Coach & Jane Swan Award**

Dawn reminded the Committee that Dan Horan would be receiving the Jane Swan Award and that Graeme Fell would be receiving the Junior Developing Coaching Excellence Award.

### **11) Athletes training & not competing**

Discussed as part of agenda item 6 (i.e. Report for Board of Directors & Committee Chairs Meeting)

### **12) Document stating JD differences in rules from IAAF rules**

Dawn is still working on this document. She is needing the official wording from the Board to complete it.

### **13) Motion to Adjourn:**

Meeting Adjourned at 6:03PM (Alwilda Van Ryswyk/ Birgit Weaver).

Next meetings: March 1<sup>st</sup> & April 5<sup>th</sup>