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**ONTRACK 4.4:
NATIONAL OFFICIALS COMMITTEE
NEWSLETTER FOR OFFICIALS.**

FRANCAIS

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR BY JANE EDSTROM

Season's Greetings
Happy New Year
Happy Valentine's Day

I hope that this newsletter finds you and your families well and safe. Who would have predicted that the

coronavirus would continue to affect our way of life for such an extended period of time. We are fortunate to have technology that allows us to maintain some kind of contact with family and friends. I never dreamed I would celebrate Christmas over Zoom and Skype with family and friends who reside in the same city as I do or that Christmas dinner would have to be delivered at curbside and shared in individual households!! It was definitely a unique year.

It seems that the Indoor Season for Athletics will be only a thought or a dream, unfortunately. During this time of lockdown or limited activity outside our residences, it is an opportune time to become acquainted with the new layout of the World Athletics (formerly IAAF) Rulebook. The format has changed to include two sections of rules, namely, Competition and Technical Rules. This change in format has also caused a change in rule numbers. For those of you who had certain rule numbers etched into your memory, you will now have to “reboot” your memory banks with new numbers, either CR# or TR#, depending on whether it is a Competition Rule or Technical Rule. At first it is a challenge attempting to locate rules in the rulebook. Once again, be advised that there is a new format for the WA Rules as of 2020, so everyone should orient themselves to the new look. The rulebook can be found on the World Athletics website for a digital version or for a hard copy, Canada has printed a coil-bound version as well.

We remain hopeful that the warm weather and vaccine distribution will allow for an Outdoor Season to be planned and scheduled for. The look and feel of our duties will change significantly with the safety and health mandates of the pandemic. To that end, NOC formulated a strategy for officials to return to competition safely with the “Back on Track” document. With each province under varying health protocols, the Back on Track guidelines had to be massaged to meet the fluid mandates. Check with your Branch to find out the status of your Back on Track protocols to prepare yourself for the potential resumption of competition in the Outdoor Season.

The National Officials Committee continues to meet monthly by conference call for business and reports from its members. In November NOC hosted a Zoom meeting with the Branch Officials Chairs from across Canada. NOC shared information and solicited information on the status of provincial activities from the Chairs.

It is my hope that our lives return to some kind of normal in the very near future, so we can resume officiating and meet around the track or field soon. Until that day arrives, I wish you health and safety.

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.

ALBERTA REPORT

AA Report for On Track:

2020 is the year that we hope to soon forget soon. In Alberta, it started okay as our indoor season was completed before any restrictions were imposed. But the summer never happened except for a few club meets in the fall and a few cross country events. We were hopeful of an indoor season for 2020-21, but it was not to be.

The Alberta Officials' Committee met numerous times through the fall and early winter to work on upcoming policy changes and how we will incorporate our mentoring program into the upgrading process. We have also looked at ways of engaging our officials during this time as well. We are hopeful that the 2021 indoor season.

BC REPORT

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AS AN OFFICIAL



Thank you for your continued commitment and efforts as an Official, particularly during the difficult 2020 season.

For developing and delivering 4 national webinars on officiating as part of the NOC, leadership organizing officials for road races, para events and photo finish training on Vancouver Island, & participation on team developing guidelines for officiating under COVID, BC Athletics is pleased to recognize you as providing

Outstanding Service as an Official.

Congratulation to David

IMPORTANT ITEMS TO REMEMBER.....

1. If there are any changes/corrections in the National Directory listing, please notify Gilles Rochette.
2. If there are any upgrading applications, please send them to Gilles Rochette.
3. If there are any officials that are no longer officiating, please notify Gilles Rochette
4. The deadline for nominations for the **WALL of HONOUR** is March 31st. Please see the proper documents that must be submitted in the NOC Handbook. The forms are all there. Complete all that is required and then send to Helen Vasilic
5. Any 50+ year officials in your province or territory, please send their names and complete addresses to Helen Vasilic. (who have not been given their 50+ yr. gift already)
6. Any Branch Chairs requesting “Years of Service “ pins, please let Serge Thibaudeau know.

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