

BC Branch Officials Committee Annual Report 2009

A. Past Year in Review

Actions

The Branch Committee and the Regional contacts organized officials' teams for 70 events, including 4 Cross-Country and 2 Road races. The market for our services continues to expand. Some of the Committee's key actions in 2009:

- Published a revised version of the BC Track and Field Meet Directors' Handbook on the BCA Web site.
- Increased the number of participating officials.
- Branch Chair participated in the BC Athletics Annual Fixtures Meeting (November 2008), and delivered a pep talk on officials' development.
- Continued a very successful regional development program in Zone 6 and Zone 7,8.
- Developed an action "timeline" document to guide the Committee
- Developed a Travel Grant program, offering a \$200 travel bursary to 5 Level 1 or 2 officials to enable them to participate in Provincial Championships outside of their region.

Accomplishments

BC Officials provided a high level of support for the Canadian Masters T&F Championships, all BC Age Class Championships, 6 international level meets, and all BC Secondary School Championships. Several long-standing meets were cancelled in 2009 due to extreme weather conditions (Kamloops Spring Throws, Prince George Sub-Zero Meet). The World Police and Fire Games was a highly successful meet, and a showcase for our members' abilities. Some highlights of the Year:

- High level of participation in the World Police and Fire Games (Burnaby)
- Increased support for Schools events (15), and contributed to BC Athletics efforts to strengthen ties to the Schools program. More Schools events applied for sanctioning in 2009. This is a direct result of the initiatives by the Officials.
- Participation in the BC Special Olympics Summer Games

Incentives

The BC Athletics officials' recognition program provides most registered members who obtain 12 credits in the year with a uniform item.

- Level 3+ member officials receive a team jacket, vest or poncho
- New Level 2 officials receive a BCA Officials Golf Shirt

Recruitment strategies

The Recruitment and Education sub-committee focused on building the base level of officiating. Recruitment initiatives fall into three broad categories

- building partnership with Clubs (good)
- promotion in the 'athletics community' (getting better)
- recruitment efforts directed at the broad community (not so much)

Partnership with Clubs

This strategy works somewhat differently in each region. Committee members contact Zone 3,4, and 5 Clubs and Zone 1,2 Clubs early in the year to discuss training and recruitment. This has not been productive (although this is when we have time available), and will be abandoned. Clubs & other hosts suddenly recognize the need to recruit and train officials just before their competition begins. This is not timely for us, but this is when we get the best response. The VIAA has been very successful in recruiting new officials through their member Clubs in Zone 6. The Committee has given financial support to the senior officials providing mentoring in this zone. Committee members in Zone 1,2 have been very successful in building the numbers of officials in the Kamloops Track and Field Club, in preparation for the World Masters Indoor Track and Field Championships. Committee members provided a Level 2 workshop in Prince George (zone 7,8), and gave support to the North Central Zone High School Championships. Prince George Track and Field Club co-hosted, and shared the costs. This regional strategy was useful, and resulted in many new contacts and upgrades. We have had a small amount of success in placing propaganda and links on Club web pages.

Promotion in the 'athletics community'

Many of our new volunteers are "referrals", brought into the net by contact with officials. We support active recruitment by senior officials through supplying them with contact cards and fridge magnets. We can make progress through exploiting the wider "network" of people in the general population with affiliation or interest in Athletics. The strands of connection may be through "relationship" or through experience as former participants in the sport. They will not necessarily be brought in through contacts with the Club leadership. Successful recruitment in this area depends on "strategic" placement of a clear message about the availability of an exciting and worthwhile volunteer opportunity. We have good results from efforts to increase visibility in the athletics community. We ensure that BCA members and others who participate in athletics events are aware of the opportunity to volunteer. We consistently use recruitment signboards at events, and request event organizers to make announcements thanking volunteer officials. We place news items in the BCA Bulletin. There is more to be done in this area (see Goals for the Upcoming Year)

Recruitment from the general population

We have made some efforts in this area, but have seen no results so far. We have made some attempts to recruit through our membership in Volunteer BC, and to recruit using social networking media (Facebook and Craigslist). These initiatives will be abandoned in 2010.

B. Branch Statistics

Number of Events	<u>70</u>	Indoor	<u>1</u>	Outdoor	<u>59</u>
Calibre of events	P <u>62</u>	N/NC	<u>8</u>		

Total number of Officials 204 Paid 146 Unpaid (non-Members) 58
 Inactive 32
 Provisional 15 Level 1 43 Level 2 58 Level 3 29
 Level 4 19 Level 5 34
 NTO 4 ATO 1 ITO 1
 Number of Mentors 21 Number of Clinicians 12
 Number of Junior Officials 4
 Level 1 4 Level 2 0 Level 3 0

C. Award Winners

Awards presented in January 2009

<u>Name of Award</u>	<u>Winner</u>
Mary Temple Award (Novice Official)	Helen Newmarch
Ian McNeill Award (Official of the Year)	Jackie Barrington/Wally Smeaton
Ralph Coates Award (Long Service)	Alice Kubek
Dave Coupland Award (Inspiration)	Maureen de St. Croix

Ken Porter Sr. received the Sports Officials of Canada Builder Award in recognition of his outstanding service to Athletics.

D. Clinics

The principal weakness in our training program occurs at the Provincial level. We would have more success in training officials for upgrading to Level 3 if we developed a formalized mentoring program to follow from our Level 1 and Level 2 workshops. We depend on National Level officials to provide informal training and guidance during events. This is not universally successful, and some new officials do not receive the leadership they require. We are recommending development of Level 3 technical workshops (see Upcoming Year Goals). We made a small step in this direction in 2009, producing a series of "Quick Reference Cards" giving instructions, technical information and tips for all disciplines.

Discipline	Level	Location	Clinician	Participants
	Level 1	Surrey	John and Carol Cull	5
	Level 1	Vancouver	John and Carol Cull	4
	Level 1	Chilliwack	Laurel Wichmann	5
	Level 2	Prince George	John and Carol Cull	16
	Level 2	Kamloops	van Ryswyk, Smeaton, Cowden	7
	Level 2	Nanaimo	Greg Bush	8
	Level 2	Surrey	John and Carol Cull	9

E. Mentorship

Canadian Masters Championships in Kamloops, and the World Police and Fire Games, gave us substantial training opportunities. BC Mentors provided leadership and evaluations for 12 officials from BC, Alberta, Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec. BC Officials were also mentored in Ontario (Penny Roze, Roberta Tetlock, Laurel Wichmann).. We have made it easy for members to communicate with the Committee regarding their training and upgrading needs through an interactive web-based form. The Committee responded to most mentoring requests received in 2009, but some are still outstanding.

Discipline	Level	Where	Mentor	Mentee
Horizontal Jumps	3	Kamloops	Alwilda van Ryswyk	Carol Cull
Horizontal Jumps	3	Kamloops	John Cull	Sandra Dever
Horizontal Jumps	3	Abbotsford	John Cull	Evelyn Parent
Throws	3	?	Peter Fejfar	Dave Short
Throws	3	?	Peter Fejfar	Wayne Elke
Track Referee	3	Burnaby	Alice Kubek	Wally Smeaton
Vertical Jumps	3	?	Carol Cull	Bob Cowden
Walks Judge	3	?	Peter Fejfar	Helen Jaques
Starters Assistant	4	Kamloops	Iain Fisher	Heather Climenhaga (AB)
Track Referee	4	Burnaby	Alice Kubek	Kathy Terlicher
Umpire	4	Toronto	Helen Vasilic	Penny Roze
Throws	4	Abbotsford	Judy Armstrong	Bert Engelmann
Horizontal Jumps	4	Kamloops	John Cull	Raelene Zabolotniuk
Horizontal Jumps	4	Burnaby	John Cull	Sandra Herd
Horizontal Jumps	4	Toronto	Enrico Toscano	Roberta Tetlock
Vertical Jumps	4	Kamloops	Carol Cull	Laurel Wichmann
Vertical Jumps	4	Toronto	Tim Slocombe	Laurel Wichmann

F. Junior officials program

We have developed a document describing our Junior Officials program (renamed the U-18 program in this Province), and expect to continue building membership slowly. The program is primarily of interest to young people who are already affiliated with BC Athletics or member Clubs. Four U-18 officials have become certified at Level 1 through participation in the adult training program. Several others are active as volunteer officials, but have not yet applied for upgrading. All active U-18 officials in BC will receive a letter of commendation from the Branch Chair.

G. Upcoming Year/Goals/Events

The Committee will continue its efforts to recruit and train officials in all areas of the Province. The goal for the coming year is to match the expansion of the Provinces competition program, and increase the number of active officials to 250. We will focus on Member Clubs, Individual BCA Members, and the wider “affiliation network” that links people to athletics.

Training and mentoring for the large numbers of new level 1 and Level 2 officials in the Province will be an important task for the Committee in the coming year. The Regional strategy developed by the Vancouver Island Athletic Association will move on to a higher level, building on the Level 2 workshop presented in Nanaimo in February 2009. It will also be a logistical and financial challenge to provide support for the new squad of officials in Prince George. We will continue to work with Host Organizing Committees and member Clubs to improve safety and technical standards at all sanctioned events. The recognition program will continue. All level 2+ member officials will also be provided with a 2010-2011 IAAF Rule Book as a membership benefit.

Promote officiating through effective partnerships with member Clubs, and individual BCA members.

- Ensure that BCA members are aware of the opportunity to volunteer.
- Create a promotional power point show and use it

Provide leadership at ALL athletics events in the Province. Use every event as an opportunity to promote officiating

- Respond to all requests...send a team or at least an ambassador
- Provide announcer with a text for public recognition of officials services
- Place acknowledgement text in all programs and advertising for events
- Display the sign

Create basic self-sufficiency in each region

Maintain a Flexible and effective training program for Levels 1-3 throughout the Province

- Recruit Level 1 trainers in every region
- Ensure a quick response to Level 1 training opportunities
- Develop event specific Level 3 workshops, starting with Umpires
- Create a training plan for South Okanagan, Prince George, and Zone 6

Create strategic plans to develop key disciplines in each Region

- Recruit and train Track Referees and Field Referees in each region
- Maintain priority lists for disciplines in each region as a guide for “career choices” by new officials (see Page 10).

Officials Membership 2009

The table below shows Club affiliation of BC Athletics members who indicate on their registration form that they are Officials. The “Unknown membership status” category represents certified Officials who are known to participate in sanctioned events, but are either:

- Not current members of BC Athletics **or**
- BCA members in some other category (who have not ticked the right box)

There were 204 officials in the Province In 2009, a small increase over the previous year

Club affiliation	Officials members
Achilles	1
Alberni Valley	0
Burnaby Striders	1
Campbell River Comets	1
Capilano Eagles Running Club	0
Chilliwack Track and Field	1
Comox Valley Cougars	0
Coquitlam Cheetahs	2
Golden Ears Athletics	2
Hershey Harriers	2
Kajaks	3
Kamloops Track and Field	32
Kelowna Track and Field	11
Langley Mustangs	3
Nanaimo and District	5
Nor'Westers	7
Ocean Athletics	6
Pacific Athletics	0
Pacific Road Runners	1
Peninsula Track and Field	4
Prairie Inn Harriers	3
Prince George Track and Field	12
Saltspring Track and Field	1
Semiahmoo Sun Runners	0
South Fraser Track and Field	1
Unattached	41
Universal	1
Valley Royals	8
Vancouver Thunderbirds	2
Victoria Track and Field	7
Unknown membership status	46
Total	204

Upgrades for 2009

Level 1

George Reilly	April
Michael Butler	May
Pam Jamieson	June
Robert Jamieson	June
Eric Wolf	June
Heather Elliot	June
Kirk Elliot	June
Scott Back	June
Kyle O'Meara	June
Nancy Fitzpatrick	September
Serena Graf (U-18)	September

Level 2

Ruth Economou	February
Jim Richardson	February
Jeannie Isbister	February
Rose Anne Prokopetz	February
Allain McCallum	February
Crystal Bowman	June
Tami O'Meara	June
Judy Gaiesky	June
Mel Zabolotniuk	July
Jeff Byington	September
Jack Braaksma	September
Gail Harris	September
Mark Graf	September
Darby Turner	September

Level 3

Laurel Wichmann	April	Horizontal Jumps
Wayne Elke	July	Throws
Penny Roze	July	Racewalk
Wally Smeaton	August	Track Referee
David Short	August	Throws
Sandra Dever	August	Horizontal Jumps
Helen Jaques	August	Racewalk
Sue Kydd	August	Starters Assistant
Evelyn Parent	August	Horizontal Jumps
Carol Cull	September	Horizontal Jumps

Level 4

Linda Hopkins	October	Photo Finish Chief Judge
Laurel Wichmann	October	Vertical Jumps

BCA Officials Committee Annual Budget
April 1, 2009-March 31, 2010

Allocation		Expended	Remaining
Competition Expenses and Training	10,700	6307.64	4,392.36
Committee Meetings	2,000	367.16	1,632.84
Equipment	1,500	89.15	1,410.85
Recognition and benefits	3,000	1,344.60	1,655.40
Other	500	-	500
Total	17,700	8108.55	9,591.45

Additional Funds (Donations)

M.Crowley	(2006)	283.50
CCPTSF	(2008)	194.00
VOC	(2008)	300.00
BC SS Sports	(2008)	500.00
Kajaks	(2008)	400.00
Chip's Race	(2008)	300.00
Sprott-Shaw	(2008)	500.00
Adjustment per auditor		67.00
Sprott Shaw	(2009)	500.00
VOC	(2009)	300.00
New West Spartans	(2009)	200.00
Ocean Athletics	(2009)	200.00
Chips Not Dead Yet	(2009)	300.00
Total		4,044.50
Minus (expended)		-843.90
Available		3,200.60

Summary of competition expenses (mileage) in current budget year

National Championships		2,145.79
Canadian Masters Championships	\$ 660.39	
National Track and Field Championships	\$1,485.40	
Provincial Championships		\$ 917.00
BCJD (Surrey)	\$156.00	
BC Juvenile/Junior/Senior (Abbotsford)	\$761.00	
Local Competitions		\$2020.73

Zone 1,2	\$0	
Zone 3,4,5	\$1,370.66	
Zone 6	\$ 650.07	
Total		\$5,083.52

Travel Guidelines: BCA Officials Expenses

BCA provides the Officials Committee with an Annual Core Budget' of \$17,700. This amount is supplemented by voluntary donations from Member Clubs. The budget available for competition is approximately \$6,000. These funds are used to cover expenses of more than 200 officials servicing 70 plus competitions. It is important to work from clear rules. The Regions to which we refer are based on the BC Games Regions, e.g.

Zone 1,2 (Okanagan/Kootenays)

Zone 3,4,5 (Lower Mainland)

Zone 6 (Vancouver Island, Central Coast)

Zone 7,8 (Central and Northern BC)

WE DO FUND

- authorized travel to **sanctioned events by BCA member officials, when working in their own region.**@ \$.30 per kilometre (\$.43 for a carpool.)
- authorized travel to **National And Provincial Championships In BC by BCA member officials @** .\$.30 per kilometre (\$.43) for a carpool.
In both these situations, additional travel expenses such as ferry fares and tolls may be claimed.

WE DO NOT FUND

- Meals or Accommodation
- Travel to events with an International component
- Travel to **sanctioned non-championship events outside the BCA member official's own region.** (Unless the official is designated for training).
- Travel to BC GAMES events

Members who agree to participate in events **not funded by BC Athletics** (see above in this section) **MAY** be compensated for travel by the Local Organizing Committee. This compensation may take the form of repayment for specific expenses (e.g. gas bills) or in some other form, as decided by the LOC.

Priority List for Disciplines

- Starters needed in Zones 3, 4, 5 and 6
- Field Referees all Zones
- Umpires all zones, especially in Zones 3, 4 and 5
- Photos, Zones 3, 4 and 5
- Vertical Jumps, Zones 6, Level 2 officials being trained
- Announcers, especially bilingual, in all Zones
- Race walk, all Zones

Acknowledgement Text for Programs, Advertising

BC Athletics member officials provide volunteer leadership at this event. The IAAF and Athletics Canada certify BCA Officials for all events held under their authority: Track and Field, Road Race, Race Walk, Cross Country and Mountain Running. For further information and certification, visit:

www.bcathletics.org/officials

Parking Lot (where good ideas wait for owners)

- Develop an interactive review (web based) for technical rules
- Develop a Meet Director's Course
- Collect video footage for training in critical decisions in Throws officiating
- Figure out how to use social media to promote officiating