

2008 BRANCH REPORT: BRITISH COLUMBIA

A. Past Year in Review

Actions

The Branch Committee met 6 times since the 2007 Annual Meeting, and worked steadily through the year in sub-committees, providing leadership for BC Athletics Officials. The Assignments Sub-Committee and the Regional contacts organized officials' teams for 61 events, including a few Cross-Country and Road races. The market for our services continues to expand. Some of the Committee's key accomplishments in 2008:

- Published a revised version of the BC Track and Field Meet Directors' Handbook on the BCA Web site
- Developed and distributed an updated recruitment flyer
- Increased the number of participating officials
- Provided support and technical assistance for development of renovated facilities in Maple Ridge, South Surrey
- Provided information for members on Insurance coverage

Accomplishments

BC Officials provided a high level of support for the Canadian Junior Track and Field Championships, all BC Age Class Championships, four international level meets, and all BC Secondary School Championships. The Canadian Juniors Championship was a highly successful meet, and a showcase for our members' abilities. Some highlights of the Year:

- Commencement of Indoor competitions in Kamloops
- Renovation of the Maple Ridge Track and Field Stadium
- Renovation of the Coquitlam Town Centre Stadium
- Announcement of the World Masters Indoor T&F Championships 2010 in Kamloops

Incentives

Funding for the BC Athletics officials' incentive program was restored in 2008. The Program provides each registered member who obtained 12 credits in the year with a recognition item.

- Level 3+ member officials receive a team jacket.
- 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

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This strategy works somewhat differently in each region. Committee members contact Zone 3,4, and 5 Clubs early in the year to discuss training and recruitment. This is not immediately productive (although this is when we have time available). 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. There have been a few new members recruited. 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, and have provided assistance to the Kelowna Club as well. Contact with other Clubs in the region is limited so far. Committee members provided an introductory workshop and leadership at the Seniors Games in Prince George (zone 7,8). This was useful, and resulted in many new contacts and some upgrades. We have had some 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 sign boards 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. Committee members have contacted retired teachers associations in Abbotsford, Langley and Coquitlam. The response to this effort has been disappointing. We have made some attempts to recruit through our membership in Volunteer BC,

B. Branch Statistics

Number of Events	<u>61</u>	Indoor	<u>2</u>	Outdoor	<u>59</u>
Calibre of events	P <u>55</u>	N/NC	<u>6</u>		
Total number of Officials	<u>197</u>	Paid	<u>169</u>	Unpaid (non-Members)	28
Inactive	30				

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Provisional 15 Level 1 59 Level 2 51 Level 3 19
 Level 4 16 Level 5 32
 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 2008

<u>Name of Award</u>	<u>Winner</u>
Mary Temple Award (Novice Official)	Dave Short/ Daryl Palmer
Ian MacNeill Award (Official of the Year)	Diana Hollefreund
Ralph Coates Award (Long Service)	Hugh Morrison
Dave Coupland Award (Inspiration)	Winston Reckord/ Gerard Dumas

Keith Newell was inducted into the National Officials Committee's Wall of Honour in recognition of his outstanding service to Athletics.

D. Clinics

Level 1 and Level 2 workshop materials were revised and updated this year, based on the 2008 IAAF Handbook. Feedback (evaluation) forms were used for all presentations. 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).

Discipline	Level	Location	Clinician	Participants
	Level 1	Surrey	Sue Kydd	16
	Level 1	Langley	Sue Kydd	1
	Level 1	Kamloops	Alwilda van Ryswyk	4
	Level 1	Kamloops	Alwilda van Ryswyk	1
	Level 1	Prince George	John Cull	10
	Level 2	Kamloops	John and Carol Cull	12
	Level 2	Nanaimo	Greg Bush	4
	Level 2	Langley	John and Carol Cull	5
Starters	National	Abbotsford	Dale Loewen	8

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E. Mentorship

Canadian Junior Championships in Abbotsford gave us a substantial training opportunity. BC Mentors provided leadership and evaluations for 12 officials from BC, Alberta, Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec. BC Officials were also mentored in Ontario (Neil Chin-Aleong and Brian Hawksworth). We were well supported by the National Officials Committee, with four members funded for travel to the National Track and Field Championships. 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 2008, but some are still outstanding.

Discipline	Level	Where	Mentor	Mentee
Umpire	4	Windsor	?	Brian Hawksworth
Starter	4	Windsor / Abbotsford	? Dennis Beerling	Neil Chin Aleong Neil Chin Aleong
Throws	4	Abbotsford	Judy Armstrong	Bert Engelmann
Horizontal Jumps	4	Windsor	Travel only	Aileen Lingwood
Throws	?	Windsor	Peter Fejfar	Requested by Windsor
Vertical Jumps	3	Kamloops	Carol Cull	Michele Peacock
Starter	5	Abbotsford	Dale Loewen	Mike Stenson (ON)
Starters Assist.	5	Abbotsford	Alice Kubek	Richard Winton (MB)
Umpire	5	Abbotsford	Connie Halbert	Cindy Doroshuk (MB)
Umpire	4	Abbotsford	Judy Peddle	Cathy Moncur (ON)
Umpire	4	Abbotsford	Jack Leman	Dave Moncur (ON)
Jumps Referee	5	Abbotsford	Valerie Jerome	Martin Raymond (QC)
Horizontal Jumps	5	Abbotsford	John Cull	Maureen Horlick (AB)
Throws	5	Abbotsford	Al McLeod	Irene Gaudet (AB)
Photo Finish	Nat.	Abbotsford	David Weicker	Brian Beck

F. Junior officials program

We have developed a document describing our Junior Officials program, 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 Junior 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.

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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. We will continue to evaluate the usefulness of general community promotion through means such as Volunteer BC.

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 2008. Senior officials in that zone will provide mentorship. Our most important “training” events in 2009 will be the 2 Provincial Track and Field Championships, and the Canadian Masters Track and Field Championships. The latter will be very useful for preparation for the World Masters Indoor Championships in 2010. The World Police and Fire Games (Vancouver/Burnaby) will also be a large scale “Championships” type event. We will continue to work with Host Organizing Committees and member Clubs to improve safety and technical standards at all sanctioned events

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

- Contact member Clubs early in 2009 to offer training, with an emphasis on Clubs that host events. (Some further discussion of the value of this effort is needed).
- 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

Create 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
- Develop priority lists for disciplines in each region as a guide for “career choices” by new officials

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Officials Membership 2008

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 197 officials in the Province In 2008. This is an increase of 17% over 2007.

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	2
Comox Valley Cougars	2
Coquitlam Cheetahs	2
Golden Ears Athletics	2
Hershey Harriers	2
Kajaks	0
Kamloops Track and Field	33
Kelowna Track and Field	17
Langley Mustangs	4
Nanaimo and District	6
Nor'Westers	8
Ocean Athletics	6
Pacific Athletics	1
Peninsula Track and Field	6
Prairie Inn Harriers	3
Prince George Track and Field	4
Saltspring Track and Field	1
Semiahmoo Sun Runners	0
South Fraser Track and Field	2
Unattached	47
Universal	0
Valley Royals	8
Vancouver Thunderbirds	2
Victoria Track and Field	7
Unknown membership status	29
Total	197

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Upgrades for 2008

Level 1

Cheryl Elke	January	
Wayne Elke	January	
Vera Swaine	January	
James Houlton	April	
Keema Basinger	May	
Jim Proctor	July	
Heather Haskett	July	
Sheila Southern-Lloyd	July	
Beverley Cote	July	
Vince Sequeira	July	
Mike Sapala	July	
Rosemarie Tranfield	July	
Emily Tranfield	July	
Tom Hastie	July	
Ted de St. Croix	September	
William Williams	September	
Judy Gaiesky	September	
Kristopher Gaiesky	September	
Kevin Gaiesky	September	U-18
Sheila Hepburn	September	
Jack Roze	September	
Crystal Bowman	September	

Level 2

David Short	May	
Evelyn Parent	May	
Jessica Jones	June	
Cheryl Elke	July	
Wayne Elke	July	
Randy Stuart	July	
Stephen Barrington	August	
Truman Tremblay	September	
Vera Swain	September	
Jake Madderom	September	

Level 3

Lorna Lundeen	Throws	August
Michel Peacock	Vertical Jumps	August
Helen Newmarch	Umpire	September
Martha Belicka	Horizontal Jumps	September

Level 4

Janice Loewen	Umpire	September '07
David Hopkins	Track Referee	September
Brian Hawksworth	Umpire	September
Bert Engelmann	Throws	September
Howard Brandt	Starter	September

National List

Brian Beck	Photo Finish	September
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BCA Officials Committee Annual Budget April 1, 2008-March 31, 2009

Allocation		Expended	Remaining
Competition Expenses and Training	9,500	6438.46	3,061.54
Committee Meetings	1,500	920.79	579.21
Equipment	1,200	378.49	821.51
Recognition and benefits	2,500	2,322.55	177.45
Other	1,200	100	1,100
Total	15,900	10,160.29	5,706.55

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
Total		1,977.50
Minus (expended)		-143.90
Available		1,833.60

Summary of competition expenses (mileage) in current budget year

National Championships		\$2,155.43
Canadian Junior Championship	\$2,155.43	
Provincial Championships		\$1,250.83
BCJD (Nanaimo)	\$598.72	
BC Juvenile/Junior/Senior (Kamloops)	\$652.11	
Local Competitions		\$1,340.96
Zone 1,2	\$443.33	
Zone 3,4,5	\$235.23	
Zone 6	\$662.40	
Total		\$4747.22

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Travel Guidelines: BCA Officials Expenses

BCA provides the Officials Committee with an Annual Core Budget' of \$12,900. 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 100 officials servicing 50 plus competitions. It is important to work from clear rules.

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.

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

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

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Liability and Accident Insurance for Officials

BC Athletics officials frequently volunteer at athletics events which are not sanctioned by BC Athletics. These may be organized by Schools, or by other formal or informal organizations. The liability and accident insurance provided to BC Athletics members through AllSport may not provide coverage in these situations. Alternative sources of insurance coverage are sometimes available, and officials should determine the coverage offered in each situation before agreeing to participate. Here are some examples of alternative coverage. It should be noted that these policies offer only liability insurance. They do not offer accident or medical coverage. Each volunteer situation is unique, so please talk to your broker about your coverage needs.

School Districts may provide liability insurance to volunteers.

For example, Surrey School District advises us:

If they are volunteering, they are covered by the SD just as coaches are.

3.0 INSURANCE

3.1 Comprehensive general liability insurance covers volunteers for noncriminal acts while participating in any school district or school authorized and supervised activities. Volunteers may have some personal legal liability exposures, which may be insured under the liability section of homeowners, tenants or motor vehicle insurance policies.

3.2 No medical or disability insurance coverage is provided for volunteers.

Homeowner Insurance policies

often provide liability insurance for activities outside the home. Here is an example, from a policy offered by Sovereign General.

Are you a volunteer?

Our thanks and congratulations for your volunteer activities, regardless of what they are. If, during your work as a volunteer, you become responsible for injuries to another person or damage to their property, the liability coverage under your home insurance policy will protect you, including the costs to defend you if you are sued. You are covered even if you are reimbursed for expenses incurred while doing volunteer work (eg. meals, office supplies). Your policy does have limitations and exclusions so please review your policy wording and contact your broker if you have any questions.

Here are just a few examples of volunteer activities that would be covered by the liability section of your home insurance policy:

- *hockey coach*
- *Board of Directors for soccer team*
- *Strata Council membership*
- *Girl Guide leader*
- *server at a children's breakfast club*
- *stocking shelves for the Food Bank*

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BC Athletics U – 18 Officials Program

Being a part of the BC Athletics and volunteering athletic events as an official builds a better community. BC Athletics officials are an enthusiastic and positive group of individuals. They support the development of athletes and enable them to pursue their athletic goals.

As officials, we enjoy the camaraderie within our group of volunteers.

We work hard to assist in organizing quality events and we take pride in our achievements.

As officials, we wholeheartedly support the U – 18 Program and we know that the youth involved in this program will make a positive contribution to the BC Athletics program.

The BC Athletics U- 18 Program is consistent with the Canadian National Junior Officials Program.

Who are the members of the U – 18 Program:

- Officials ages 13 – 17
- They are registered with BCA and will wear BCA name badges, use the BCA Meet Cards, will receive other benefits as determined by BCA and are covered by the BCA insurance policy
- They will wear the same uniform as Senior Officials
- They will work as Level 1 and Level 2 Officials
- Certification (level) will be retained when they become adult officials at age 18
- All U – 18 Officials will be supervised by Senior Officials

Important U – 18 Officials' Attributes:

- Enjoys a challenge
- Likes to work as a team member
- Likes to make new friendships
- Likes meeting volunteers from other provincial divisions and regions of Canada
- Likes the spirit of volunteerism and community building
- Has an interest in athletics

Your membership in BCA U – 18 Program is important to us!

- Upgrading and certification will be the same as other officials
- Information is available on BCA web page