

The 2012 BC Summer Games was truly a community event and one of the best ever Games. The City of Surrey hosted the 2012 Summer Games, July 19 - 22 providing a refurbished track and field facility at Bear Creek Park. Extremely unsettled weather throughout the spring and into the early days of summer prevented the track resurfacing completion until days before the competition began. On July 19 the facility was complete and in the days following new BC Games records were set during competition.

By the time registration had closed, Athletics had reached its maximum allowable numbers at 262 athletes plus 18 Special Olympics. The Zone Reps had done a very good job promoting the Games in each of their zones. Some zones did not completely fill their quotas, but because of the Wild Card structure remaining open positions were filled. Earlier during the trials, Zone 3 (Fraser Valley) was overwhelmed with 382 athletes registering to compete for the 30 available positions. The North and East Zones, traditionally have difficulty filling their teams, but were able to increase their athlete participation this year. In Zone 7, coach Peter Cross brought ten athletes from Greenville, which is the remotest community athletes travelled from.

As with every Summer Games, this year witnessed a number of significant changes to the Athletics competition. The 2012 competition schedule included major changes in response to changes in the Events and Technical Specifications for Athletes Midget ages 14-15. Scheduling the Pentathlon to a one day event caused other scheduling conflicts which needed to be resolved. In the end, the competition schedule was a great improvement. Despite the uncooperative weather and hard rain on the first day, competition ran on schedule without any apparent delays. On the remaining days, notwithstanding the number of athletes competing, the competition remained on schedule. Virtually all events were full with the exception of the Walks, Steeplechase, and Pole Vault.

Athletes got new and improved uniforms. This year a suitable supplier, Sports Unlimited of Surrey, was found to provide competition singlets made from dry fit polyester. Each singlet was ordered to size each athlete. The athletes were very pleased not to have cotton t-shirts which have been the haute couture du jour for more than thirty years. The officials, coaches, and technical aids also received new and improved dry fit polyester shirts in an appropriate colour.

The selection of the BC Athletics Officials for these Games was transferred to the BC Officials Committee. Officials were recruited primarily from the lower mainland but in order to prepare for the next 2014 Summer Games in Nanaimo, officials were recruited from Nanaimo and the North Island to provide them with experience and mentoring opportunities. Athletics was allowed 40 registered officials this year because of the proximity of the officials to the Games and number of athletes competing. A number of these officials were mentored, upgrading their skills. Working alongside the Technical Officials was the significant number of local Technical Aids that were recruited by the Host Organization. These volunteers were invaluable to the event and gained much appreciated experience in judging the various track and field events. It is anticipated that many new Officials will be generated from these Games and be a legacy of 2012 Surrey.

Noteworthy for the success of these Games was the significant community effort lead by Jessie Dosanjh and his team from the Universal Athletics Club. Jessie was recruited to the Sport Chair position late in the planning process but proved to be the key to this successful event. Jessie quickly recruited over one hundred volunteers and technical aids to work the Games. At one point the local Surrey Host Volunteer Committee asked Jessie to stop sending volunteers for Athletics and attempted to divert his volunteers to other sports. Jessie and his team were essential to the well run competition by creating a friendly and professional environment on and off the field of play.

Each volunteer and technical aid was dressed in a bright green shirt. They worked quietly and discreetly while setting up, taking down, and moving equipment from event to event. It was like Disneyland. One never saw the workers come and go, they just seemed to appear. Equipment was always at an event ready to go – blocks, hurdles, mats, implements. It made life much easier for the Technical Officials judging the competition. One of Jessie's key organizers was Julie Sillers, medal coordinator for Athletics. Julie did an outstanding job in not only managing and keeping the medal presentations on time, but also in elevating the status of the medal presentations to a new level. Julie believes that honouring the athletes is a key element for achievement in sport. Julie selected her presentation team and outfitted them with formal wear and had them present the medals on red velvet pillows. This looked very smart and it was appreciated by the receiving athletes. Jessie and Julie recruited a number of former Olympians to make presentations. We need to give special thanks to Julie and husband Kent (VESTA PROPERTIES LTD.) for their generous financial support that went into Officials Development. Due mainly to the excellent team of volunteers running this year's event, these Games were outstanding. In a post evaluation survey, almost everyone praised the Universal Athletics Club volunteers for their excellent work as hosts.

The competition was supervised by 40 BC Athletics Officials, 100 Technical Aids and Volunteers, and 45+ Registered Coaches and Adult Supervisors. Eight new records were achieved in track and field events (see new record list). A village exclusively for the athletes comprising of tents for each zone was set up on the far side of the facility at Bear Creek Park. Here the athletes could spend time together to rest and socialize out of the weather. This proved to be a very popular place during the completion. The Special Olympics athletes were entirely integrated into the event with Athletics and had a great positive experience being included as part of one team.

All of our athletes were exceptional. There were no reported problems with athlete behavior or curfew violations. Athletes worked hard to compete. They were respectful of coaches, adult supervisors and the officials and each other. It will be interesting to see the future progress of this generation of athletes.

In addition to those already mentioned, it takes the support of many people to make the BC Summer Games a successful event. When it was determined that Surrey could not supply all the requisite equipment, the Langley Mustangs (Brent Dolfo), Ocean Athletics (Ted & Maureen De St. Croix), and the NorWesters Track and Field Club (Dawn Copping) freely provided equipment that was not available at Bear Creek Park. The BC Athletics staff, specifically Brian McC Calder, Sam Collier, and Ron Bunting provided valuable oversight and direction in bringing the whole package together. Many thanks must go to Shirley Young and Sue Kydd, the Assistant Provincial Advisors, for their invaluable suggestions on continuous improvement and their countless hours of work doing what they do best in meet management and event coordination.

It has been a privilege to serve BC Athletics as Province Sport Advisor. The opportunity has been a very rewarding experience. Seeing a team of diversely gifted people come together over an 18 month period for the common good of our young kids was wonderful.

To top it all off, the final delight was witnessing one of our fine athletes take home the top award of the 2012 BC Summer Games. Chanell Botsis, 14, of Coquitlam was presented with the W.R. Bennett Award for Athletic Excellence at the closing ceremony. Seeing the smile on her face said it all: Priceless.

Dale Loewen
Provincial Sport Advisor

**BC SUMMER GAMES
ATHLETICS RECORDS — MEN**

[Revised August 2012]

EVENT	RECORD	RECORD HOLDER	HOMETOWN	YEAR	ZONE
100 m	11.06	Peter Ogilvie	Burnaby	1987	4
200 m	22.58	Peter Ogilvie	Burnaby	1987	4
300 m	36.09	Jake Hanna	Surrey	2012	3
800 m	1:58.9	Mark Buschewitz	Vancouver	1980	5
1200 m	3:18.08	Reid Muller	Maple Ridge	2012	3
2000 m	5:46.23	Jemal Reta	Burnaby	2012	4
1500 m Racewalk	7:15.63	Evan Dunfee	Richmond	2004	4
1500 m SC (no water)	4:21.21	Jemal Reta	Burnaby	2012	4
100 m Hurdles	13.58	Nick Blackburn	Courtenay	2008	6
200 m Hurdles	24.95	Jake Hanna	Surrey	2012	3
High Jump	1.96 m	Shawn Swartz	Port Coquitlam	2004	3
Long Jump	6.54 m	Aaron Hart	Port Coquitlam	1992	3
Triple Jump	13.07 m	Shane Niemi	Kamloops	1993	2
Pole Vault	3.75 m	Matt Clifford	Abbotsford	1998	3
Discus (1 kg)	58.32 m	Dylan Armstrong	Kamloops	1996	2
Hammer (4 kg)	59.67 m	Nolan Henderson	Richmond	2004	4
Javelin (600 g)	53.68 m	Shawn McIsaac	Chilliwack	2000	3
Shot Put (4 kg)	18.70 m	Delore Lakusta	Delta	1983	4
Pentathlon (one day)	3097	Jasper Schiadel	Vancouver	2012	5
4x100 m Relay	45.07	Taylor-Lewis, Whiteley, Marshall, Gademanns	Fraser Valley	2008	3
4x400 m Relay	3:32.26	Zone 5 Team	Vancouver- Squamish	1986	5

**BC SUMMER GAMES
RETIRED ATHLETICS RECORDS — MEN**

[Revised August 2012]

EVENT	RECORD	RECORD HOLDER	HOMETOWN	YEAR	ZONE
400 m	50.39	Josh Guggenheimer	Prince George	1997	8
1500 m	4:02.2	Mark Buschewitz	Vancouver	1980	5
3000 m	9:01.6	Jason Schultz	Trail	1987	1
1500 m Steeplechase	4:32.66	Jay Gibson	Mission	1992	3
300 m Hurdles	39.04	Nick Blackburn	Courtenay	2008	6
Hammer (12 lb)	56.76	Dylan Armstrong	Kamloops	1996	2
Discus (1.6k)	41.56	Garrett Collier	Richmond	1994	4
Javelin	52.02	Janne Nikula	Port Moody	1996	3
Octathlon	4785	Greg Dingle	Sidney	1996	6
Octathlon [old]	4548	Nick Wilkes	Maple Ridge	1994	3
Pentathlon	4011	Aaron Dixon	Mackenzie	2002	1
Pentathlon 1000m 2 day	2798	Michael Muniak	Surrey	2010	3

**BC SUMMER GAMES
ATHLETICS RECORDS — WOMEN**

[Revised August 2012]

EVENT	RECORD	RECORD HOLDER	HOMETOWN	YEAR	ZONE
100 m	12.14	Christabel Nettey	Surrey	2006	3
200 m	24.99	Shai-Ann Davis	Richmond	2008	3
300 m	39.90	Elisa Joyce	Kelowna	2010	2
800 m	2:13.1	Pat Wellman	Victoria	1979	6
1200 m	3:37.4 h	Tanya Humeniuk	Vancouver	2010	5
2000 m	6:24.91	Tanya Humeniuk	Vancouver	2010	5
1500 RW	7:27.48	Megan Huzzey	Victoria	2000	6
1500 m SC (no water)	4:51.41	Tanya Humeniuk	Vancouver	2010	5
80 m Hurdles	11.67	Yvonne Mensah	Surrey	2000	3
200 m Hurdles	27.94	Stephanie Cho	Vancouver	2012	5
High Jump	1.73 m	Holly Parent	Victoria	2006	6
Long Jump	6.12 m	Christabel Nettey	Surrey	2006	3
Triple Jump	12.33 m	Sabrina Nettey	Surrey	2004	3
Pole Vault	3.10 m	Shawni Hayhurst	Smithers	2008	7
Discus (1 kg)	38.51 m	Caroline Hay	North Vancouver	1998	5
Javelin (600 g)	43.06 m	Chanell Botsis	Coquitlam	2012	3
Shot Put (3 kg)	12.93 m	Eilish MacDonald	Surrey	2008	3
Hammer (3 kg)	55.67 m	Asianna Covington	Surrey	2010	3
Pentathlon	2961	Katie Weaver	North Vancouver	2012	5
4x100 m Relay	49.83	Cater, Bains, Morton, Smiley	Vancouver Island	2012	6
4x400 m Relay	3:55.80	Boylan, Dennis, Hanson-Monnie, Inman	Fraser Valley	1994	3

**BC SUMMER GAMES
RETIRED ATHLETICS RECORDS — WOMEN**

[Revised August 2012]

EVENT	RECORD	RECORD HOLDER	HOMETOWN	YEAR	ZONE
400 m	56.65	Hazel Hanson-Monnie	Port Moody	1994	3
1500 m	4:34.3	Pat Wellman	Victoria	1979	6
3000 m	10:08.3	Juliet Smith	Coquitlam	1980	3
80 m Hurdles	11.77	Trisha Blair	Victoria	1995	6
300 m Hurdles	44.07	Natalie Jackson	Burnaby	1996	4
300 m Hurdles (7)	44.30	Jade Vaughan	Langley	2008	3
1500 Steeplechase	5:07.98	Samantha Lotnick	Langley	2004	3
Javelin (old)	39.58 m	Stephanie Chamberlain	Gabriola Island	1979	6
Shot Put (6 lb)	15.22 m	Nicole Monroe	Powell River	1984	6
Pentathlon: (6 lb) shot	3890	Judith Cook	North Vancouver	1984	5
Pentathlon: (4 kg) shot	3215	Erin Bell	North Vancouver	1989	5
Pentathlon (two day)	3246	Meghan Palesch	Surrey	2010	3