

Athletics Manitoba Forum  
Monday Dec 3, 2012  
Frank Kennedy Bldg. – Room 193  
University of Manitoba

Attendance:

Clubs: **WOA**

Larry Switzer, Wayne McMahon, Allanna Boudreau, Teresa Logozar [AM Board rep as well]

**Stride Ahead**

Andy Tough, Lauchie Boyd

**Bison Athletics**

Dan Bulloch

**Athletics Manitoba:**

Kevin Booker, Diana Stevens, John Neufeld, Frederick Allen, Jennifer Campbell,  
Chris Belof, Cindy Doroshuk [MTFOA]

- Meeting called to order at 7: 12 pm by the Moderator John Neufeld
- Each person was asked to introduce themselves and say their connection to Athletics.
- Welcoming remarks were given by the Moderator- John Neufeld. John stated three goals for the meeting:
  - Improve communication between Clubs and Athletics Manitoba
  - Improve collaboration between Clubs and Athletics Manitoba
  - Allow equal opportunity for clubs and individuals to speak openly
- The three main areas that the forum will discuss:
  - LTAD
  - Facilities Use
  - Provincial Teams
- Each individual was asked to write down an issue that he/she would like to discuss. These papers were collected by the moderator.

**LTAD**

**Question: What is working well? What is not working well?**

Stride Ahead

- Grades 7 and up work out at the track facilities at the U of M
- Grades 3 to 6 stay at the school to train; only come to the track facilities at the U of M to compete in the meets

WOA

- Train to Train / Learn to Train programs for children between the ages of 10 – 15
- Train at the track facilities at the U of M
- Have workout levels 1, 2 and 3 based on 'Run, Jump, Throw' model
- Two coaches a night are assigned to this group; the norm is 2 -3 times a week this group shows up to train/workout
- Have to work at keeping the interest in these athletes to continue in track and field. Other sports, school activities, family activities play a part in the factor how many times a child shows up to train.
- Have a yearly parents meeting to talk/explain the LTAD program.

**Question: What does LTAD look like after high school?**



## **TRACK & FIELD / ROAD RUNNING / CROSS COUNTRY**

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- AM lets these athletes know about Western Canada Summer Games and Canada Summer Games.
- Need coaches of athletes who decide to train out of province to keep in touch with their athletes and keep them informed of ongoing programs.

### **Question: What are the concerns about Exclusive Use Time and Facilities?**

Discussion points:

- Questions were asked about the payment structure for Exclusive Use Time. CB explained the structure of the payment by the registered clubs. CB and DS explained the money earned, from outside who come during Exclusive Use time, goes towards paying off the 50 m Mondo warm track at the University Stadium. Following the 2014 fiscal when the warm up track is paid the Board of Directors will give direction as to where the money will be allocated from external user groups but one of the areas will include the upkeep / purchasing of major pieces of equipment.
- Groups that have a small number in their membership should be monitored for increase in membership numbers and AM then should adjust this group/clubs fee payment. Suggested every 60 days CB checks membership numbers.
- Issue with triathlon athletes and track etiquette. Asked if signs could be posted and CB talk to triathlon coach
- Issue with the quality of sand in the jumping pits. Safety issue for our athletes. AM needs to talk to Simon and Ken on this matter.
- Need to talk to Max Bell Staff about the curtains, tennis nets + players, and table tennis with regard to set up /take down of equipment for these activities, safety of athletes, and when other groups must leave or coming during AM Exclusive Use Time.

Discussion points:

- Point raised by WM that there should be an online log system for athletes [ages 10–75+] so they can record their workouts/reflection/ comments. Coaches would be allowed to access their athletes and read about their workouts/reflection/ comments.
- Need to develop templates for this site.
- Need to do a proposal to get a Bingo. Money earned would help set this program up.
- Benefit of such a system would provide data for LTAD. Track grass root programs to next level to next level and so on.
- Results from meets can be sent into each athlete's online data base. Provide a record of the current year results and provide a historical record over the years.

### **Question: What clubs have their coaches do Child Abuse and Criminal Record Checks?**

- Discussion about importance of having these documents and the difficulties of obtaining such documents because of length of waiting time to get the documents processed and cost factor
- John Neufeld encouraged all clubs to have their coaches do the Child Abuse and Criminal Record Checks.

### **Question: What about coaching certification levels within the clubs?**

- Discussion on this topic:
  - There is money available for coaches.
  - Need to know from AM dates for clinics. Notice must be sent out in enough time.
  - Club Coach Level has a requirement that a specific number of athletes registered in that event discipline before a clinic can be held.
  - AM to contact Saskatchewan about Club Coach Clinic. See if the 2 provinces can join together.

- Need to check on Sport Coach Level.

**Question: What about the number of meets for our athletes? Are they sufficient?**

- Discussion points:
  - Discussion points about the number of volunteer capacity and official capacity.
  - JN explained the swimming model and how this sport gets parents out to volunteer / officiate. JN to provide more information to on this model.
- Discussion about number of officials:
  - Set introductory officials clinic for January. Send date to all clubs.
  - Concern over the numbers of MTFOA official; only a crew of 20 dedicated who show up to the majority of the meets.
  - Suggestion to train new officials at Exclusive Use time or a “friendly” meets where results do not count.
  - Talk about how difficult it is to get individuals to officiate. Schools do not have leadership / volunteer programs because of the return of physical education for grades 11 and 12. Cost of gasoline, track and field officials do not get paid, volunteerism is not as popular as it was, talked about various things that have been tried to get officials. Only success has been the asking senior athletes directly for help with officiating.

**Question: What is the goal of Funding of Athletes?**

- Discussion:
  - Coaches want input into process. There was a process 8 years ago that coaches felt was a good system. Asked why it was changed?
  - AM surveyed all the other provinces;
    - Wanted to be in line with the other provinces.
    - Felt the old formula was too lengthy and time consuming.
    - Follow Athletics Canada standards.
  - A committee has been established on the AM Board of Directors to look at Provincial teams and funding and once a tentative document has been established it will go to the Coaching Council for feedback prior to final Board approval
- Discussion about the issue of gender races:
  - Athletics Canada is looking at races that have both genders running together for times. AC is looking at sanctions to athletes if submitting times that has an opposite gender in the race.
  - AM contacted AC about this issue and will provide Clubs with an update as soon as they can.
  - IAAF rule book states:
    - Genders cannot run together.
    - An official race must have 3 athletes of the same sex to be counted as a legal race.
    - It is illegal to run a race with less than 3 athletes in the race.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm by John Neufeld. Kevin Booker – President of Athletics Manitoba thanked John Neufeld for being the moderator and also thanked everyone for coming out.