

N O C N O C

NATIONAL OFFICIALS' COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 8 No. 5

Happy Thanksgiving

October 2011

N.O.C. News

New N.O.C. members

Joining N.O.C. at the spring meeting were two new members, Ian Gordon and Heather Climenhaga. Ian has taken on the Officials Development portfolio and Heather will look after Member Services.

N.O.C. thanks departing members, LeRoy Washburn and Bud McInnes for their dedicated work with the committee.

Officials' Development, Mentoring and Clinics

Eleven National Clinics were conducted this summer at a variety of meets across the country. Clinics covered horizontal and vertical jumps, throws, umpire, starter, walks, starter's assistant, walks and throws and track referee.

Mentorings were done at all of the Championship meets. It is to our officials and mentors credit that fifty-two were completed.

Use of Blocks for Youth

The A.C. Rules for competition now read:

"The use of starting blocks is optional for age class competitions below the Youth age class level."

(An archive of meeting minutes, NOC-NOC Newsletters and other documents are available at <http://www.athletics.ca> Click on the "Officials" tab to get to Officials information.)

Awards

At the April meeting two officials were awarded **Official of the Year:** Judy Armstrong (BC) and Rick Stocker (NB).

Two names were also added to the the A.C. Officials **Wall of Honour:** Marg Stocker (NB) and John Cull (BC).

Upgrading for 2011

Congratulations to the following officials who have completed all the requirements for their new levels.

Level 5:

Cathy Simpson, AB Umpire 5 (Apr. '11)
Jacques Richer, QC Horiz. Jumps 5 (Oct. '11)
Aileen Lingwood, BC Horiz. Jumps 5 (Oct. '11)
Cindy Doroshuk, MB Umpire 5 (Oct. '11)
Bing Chu, AB Vertical Jumps 5 (Oct. '11)
Ian Gordon, AB Track Referee 5 (Oct. '11)
Eric Whittenburg, AB Throws 5 (Oct. '11)

Level 4:

Neil Chin-Aleong, BC Starter 4 (Apr. '11)
Dave Short, BC Throws 4 (Apr. '11)
Roberta Tetlock, BC Horiz. Jumps 4 (Apr. '11)
Darryl Snyder, ON Throws Ref. 4 (Oct. '11)
Cecile Lefebvre, QC Walks Judge 4 (Oct. '11)
Evelyn Parent, BC Horiz. Jumps 4 (Oct. '11)
Raelene Zabolotniuk, BC Horiz. Jumps 4 (Oct. '11)
Wayne Elke, BC Throws 4 (Oct. '11)
Al Brown, SK Throws 4 (Oct. '11)
Brenda O'Connor, SK Field Ref. Jumps 4 (Oct. '11)
Jim Partaker, MB Track Referee 4 (Oct. '11)
Jason Swan, BC P. F. Chief Judge 4 (Oct. '11)
Paul Beauvais, MB Technical Mgr. Prov.(Oct. '11)

2012 Calendar

Can. T & F & Para. Champs.: June 27-30; Calgary, AB
Can. Jr. T & F Champs.: July 27-29; Winnipeg, MB
Olympic Games Athletics: Aug. 3-12, London, GBR
Can. Masters Outdoor T & F: Aug. 9-12; St. John, NB
Legion & Youth T&F Champs.: Aug. 17-19;
Charlottetown, PEI

Sports Officials Week 2012

Sports Officials Canada has applied to have one week designated as "Sports Officials Week". It will be the week of September 16 – 22, 2012.

Re-Certification Mentors and Clinicians

The Mentor and clinician program is now over 10 years old. Both N.O.C. and Branch Chairs agree it is time to bring everyone up to date. A proposal introduced at the April meeting to be finalized in October will train new mentor and clinician "trainers". These trainers will then conduct clinics for their provincial Branches.

The plan is to be in place by the fall of 2012. As of 2013 the current list of National Clinicians and Mentors will be erased and replaced by those who have opted to take the new training program.

Referees, Jury and Protests

By Keith Newell, N.O.C.

It appears to me that there is some lack of understanding by officials, athletes, coaches and meet management, of the protest process and the actions required of the Referee, Athlete, Coach and Jury. Who do I talk to? What happens if I don't like the Referee's decision? Do I need to write this? Who do I give it to? ... are some of the questions that I get asked at a meet. I hope this will article explain the process.

Below, I have listed the I.A.A.F. rules that pertain to this area (the underlining and italics are mine). Following this list I have summarized the decision making and protest procedure.

IAAF Rules concerning Referees, Jury and Protests (2010-2011)

60(c) ...any protests or other disputes arising out of the field of play, including, without limitation, protests concerning the result or conduct of an event. Pursuant to Rule 146.3, the decision of the Referee in such cases shall be subject to a right of appeal to the Jury of Appeal. The decision of the Jury of Appeal (or of the Referee in the absence of a Jury of Appeal or if no appeal to the Jury is made) shall be final and there shall be no further right of appeal, including to CAS.

119. The primary functions of the Jury shall be to deal with all appeals under Rule 146, and with any matters arising during the course of the competition which are referred to it for decision.

125.2 ... A Track Referee appointed to oversee the starts is designated the Start Referee.

125.3 ... The relevant Track Referee [see 125.2 above] has the power to decide on any facts related to the starts...

125. 4. ...The appropriate Referee shall rule on any protest or objection regarding the conduct of the competition, ...

125.5 He shall have authority to warn or exclude from competition, any athlete guilty of acting in an unsporting or improper manner.

146.3 Any protest shall, in the first instance, be made orally to the Referee by an athlete, by someone acting on his behalf ... Such person or team must have a bona fide interest in the event(s) in question. ... The Referee may decide on the protest or may refer the matter to the Jury. If the Referee makes a decision, there shall be a right of appeal to the Jury. Where the Referee is not accessible or available, the protest should be made to him through the Technical Information Center.

146.4 a) In a Track Event, if an athlete makes an immediate oral protest against having been charged with a false start, a Track Referee may allow the athlete to compete under protest in order to preserve the rights of all concerned.

146.3 b) In a Field Event, if an athlete makes an immediate oral protest against having a trial Judged as a failure, the Referee of the event may, at his discretion, order that the trial be measured and the result recorded, in order to preserve the rights of all concerned.

146.5 An appeal to the Jury of Appeal must be made within 30 minutes: (a) of the official announcement of the amended result of an event arising from the decision made by the Referee; or (b) of the advice being given to those making the protest, where there is no amendment of any result. It shall be in writing, signed by a responsible official on behalf of the athlete or team, and shall be accompanied by a deposit of USD100, [*\$50 Can. for A.C. events*] or its equivalent, which will be forfeited if the appeal is not allowed. Note: The relevant Referee shall, after his decision on a protest, immediately inform the TIC of the time of the decision. If the Referee was unable to communicate this orally to the relevant team(s) /athlete(s), the official time of the announcement will be that of posting the decision at the TIC.

147.7 The Jury of Appeal may reconsider a decision if new evidence is presented,...

The first point to note is in Rule 60 where a decision by a Referee is final if no appeal to the Jury is made. (Note: the Jury has no work to do until an appeal is filed.) Any decision by a Referee can be appealed to the Jury but it must be in writing and submitted within 30 minutes of the result posting accompanied by the fee.

To answer the question, "Where do I submit it?". The written appeal goes to the T.I.C. or in less formal meets, to the results area.

A Referee's decision can be protested orally (made by coach/athlete to the appropriate Referee) but if the Referee decides to stick to the original decision, then protest may be continued with the written appeal being made to the Jury as outlined.

Any time an athlete refuses to abide by a Referee's decision, the athlete may be warned or excluded for unsporting conduct.

Except for decisions made for unsporting behaviour, there are three areas where Referee decisions on disqualifications/failed attempts may result in a protest. Whether or not it goes to the Jury depends on the final decision by the Referee and the follow-up by the coach.

Track Referee (at the finish line): Disqualifications made for anything but a bad start (eg. running out of lane, hurdle infractions etc.) will be made by this Referee. This disqualification is usually not discovered until the coach/athlete sees the posted result. The process is then for the coach to discuss the decision orally with the Referee. If the coach is not satisfied with the explanation, (read this as the Referee did not change his/her decision) then he/she can follow up with a written appeal to the Jury if it is thought to be worthwhile.

Field Referee: An athlete may orally protest a fouled throw or jump and ask the Referee for the attempt to be measured. If the Referee agrees (the Rule states "may" not must), the measurement will be made and noted but the attempt will still be recorded as a foul (unless the Referee has overturned the Judge's decision or awarded a new attempt). Once the results are posted it is the coach's prerogative to appeal this to the Jury, otherwise the decision stands.

Start Referee: The Starter will make the False Start call. The athlete can protest to the Start Referee that it was not a false start and the Start Referee may allow the athlete to run under protest. Should the Referee decide to uphold the false start disqualification, the athlete will be asked to leave the track. If the athlete is allowed to run under

protest, the Referee must notify the Photo Finish Judge and have the time noted but still recorded as a false start, DQ. Once the results are posted it is the coach that may to appeal this to the Start Referee or Jury, otherwise the decision stands.

The Referee is at the meet to make decisions at the time infractions occur. The Jury is the "sober second look" and hopefully will be there when called upon to make best decision for all concerned.

Do You Have A "Pet"?

Do you have a pet form, chart or piece of equipment that you bring to the track to help you do your job? Officials have commented that they sometimes see some handy items or inventions that certain officials have come up with to make their jobs easier at the track. It may be a special form they made up, a small tool they use or even a track "app" on their phone.

For example, one photo official has a few hotel shower caps (those clear plastic ones with the elastic edge) in his bag. He finds these make quick rain covers for the photo cameras and the electronic connections.

If you have a "pet" that you can share with your colleagues please send it or a description of it to Heather (heatherclimenhaga@shaw.ca) so that she can compile a set of "best practices" for our officials.

Top Ten List

Top Ten Reasons You Won't Be Invited To the Next Championship Meet

10. Insist that "Flip-Flops" are part of the official national uniform.
9. Explain that, as a chief official, you can only be hydrated if they serve Evian Water.
8. Dispense with photo finish because your I-phone has an "app" for that.
7. Require that your personal massage therapist be part of the official's team.
6. Declare competition uniforms for athletes will be will be "shirts and skins".
5. Require that box-wine be available for the officials health break.

4. Propose that all tie breaking be based on who is the "hottest athlete".
3. Call a halt to the event while you take an important call on your cell phone.

2. Work on the premise that "my rules" are much better than those long winded ones in the book.

And the #1 reason ...

1. Arrive at the event 2 hours late because "you just don't do mornings! "

I.A.A.F. Rule Changes

Some of the IAAF Rule Changes to Chapter 5 for 2012-2013. See IAAF website

http://www.iaaf.org/mm/Document/06/02/57/60257_PDF_English.pdf

The **major changes** that will affect the most officials are:

1. Referees can now take action based on their own observations.
2. Starter's Assts. now need yellow and red cards with a black half diagonal.
3. Personal devices (e.g. watches, heart monitors) can be carried by runners.
4. Reverse competing order at the end of Round Three only.
5. May not practice with poles during competition.
6. Renumbering of Relay rules

Details of the changes by Rule number are:

112. Revise duties of the Technical Delegate
 120. Added Chief Transponder Timing Judge
 123. Add specific details for the duties of the Technical Manager
 125.2 Referees: adds "The Referee shall not act as a judge or umpire *but may take any action or decision according to the Rules based on his own observations.*
 125.2 Defines the referee's jurisdiction as to include *the Warm-Up Area, Call Room and, after the competition, up to and including the Victory Ceremony*
 125.6 Added: *The Referee may reconsider a decision (whether made in the first instance or in considering a protest) on the basis of any available evidence, provided the new decision is still applicable.*

128. Add: Transponder Timing Judges

141. Defines Age *and Sex Categories*

144.2(g) Add "*Devices carried personally by athletes during a race such as heart rate or speed distance monitors or stride sensors provided that such device cannot be used to communicate with any other person.*"

146. Some minor changes to the protest rules.

149. Clarifies under which circumstances performances made outside traditional athletics facilities can be recognised as valid.

162. False start warning and disqualification cards will now be Yellow and Black (diagonally halved) and Red and Black (diagonally halved). (This is to eliminate possible confusion with yellow and red disciplinary cards and the yellow and red cards shown for false start.)



163.1 Direction of running on an oval track (added). [It now appears that running in the opposite direction on the straight is acceptable]

163.2 "step" outside of lane replaces "run" and "material advantage" is defined. [Makes it clearer that athletes cannot "escape" a boxed position by running on the infield at any point of the race.]

168.7a Hurdle clearance clarified so that (1) touching a hurdle doesn't result in a disqualification; and (2) should the foot or leg be beside the hurdle on either side below the horizontal plane of the top of the hurdle bar at the instant of clearance, it does mean an infringement.

180.2 "Vaulting poles" now cannot be used for practice once the competition has begun.

180.5a Reverse the competing order at the end of Round 3 ONLY.

181.2 Add "*In the case of the High Jump and Pole Vault, if an athlete is not present when all other athletes who are present have completed the competition, the Referee shall deem that such athlete(s) has abandoned the competition, once the period for one further trial has elapsed.*"

183.11 Add "*Any tape at the grip end must be uniform except for incidental overlapping and must not result in any sudden change in diameter, such as the creation of any "ring" on the pole.*"

187.1 Youth Girls new implement sizes: Shot 3.0kg, Discus 1.0kg, Hammer 3.0kg, Javelin 500g

187.4c Add "...Shot Put and Discus Throw, athletes may place on the implement, chalk or a similar substance that is easily removed and does not leave any contamination."

187.14 Clarifies that touching the top inside edge of the rim of the circle or the stop board is a foul.

230.4 Race Walk cautions is now just a "Yellow Paddle" no symbols needed.

Test Yourself

1. A runner touches a hurdle with his hand while hurdling and the hurdle remains in place. Umpire reports it, must the Referee disqualify?
2. A referee may "yellow card" an athlete for swearing in the warm-up area. T / F
3. The pole vault bar can be raised by a minimum of three cm. T / F

Contact NOC Members

This newsletter is published by the National Officials Committee of Athletics Canada. Email any questions, comments or feedback to:

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4. A high jumper is not present for his final trial and the time has elapsed. What will be recorded on the result sheet?

5. Cones may be placed 10 metres apart to replace the missing kerb on a curve. T / F

6. What does the two "A's" in IAAF stand for?

7. What throwing events are in the women's outdoor heptathlon?

A Reminder to Officials

Please be sure you keep your meet record cards up to date and signed. Photocopies or the original cards must accompany your NOC upgrading application request. The next deadline date for upgrade application requests is March 31, 2012. Please forward your submission to your Branch Officials Chair at least two weeks before this deadline date.

If you require a mentoring this summer, contact your Branch Chair to set up the session on your behalf.

David Weicker, A.C. Liaison
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Answers to "Test Yourself"

1. No, 168.7
2. True. Rule 125.2 now adds warm up area
3. 5 cm.
4. pass
5. True.
6. "International Association of Athletic Federations"
7. Javelin and Shot

To All Officials:

Please pass this copy of NOC-NOC along to any officials that you know and may not have received it.

Canadian Sr. & Jr. Championships 2011 Photos

