

**Athletics Ontario Officials Annual General Meeting  
Saturday, November 15, 2014  
Toronto, Ontario**

**Minutes**

Attendees:

Executive: Peter Hocking – Chair  
Tim Slocombe – Vice-Chair  
René Van Andel – Treasurer  
Ian Reid – Director of Availability  
Sherry Purdie – Director of Awards and Incentives  
Jacquie Downing – Director of Seminars and Upgrading

Regrets: Sandy Repko – Secretary

Members:	Mike Barsam	Jan Berneche	Andy Burgess
	John Caulfield	Michael Chapman	Owen Crane
	Wynn Downing	Lisa Ferdinand	Carla Freedman
	Gary Freedman	Alicia Friday	John Gonos
	Cameal Johnson	Brian Keaveney	Doug Krall
	Suzanne Leroux	Lynn McFerran	Barb Mero
	Vinesh Midha	Patricia Miyashiro	Roman Olszewski
	Dan Philip	Sharon Powell	Janine Robinson
	Janet Slocombe	John Stevenson	Keith Stokes
	Bill Thompson	Enrico Toscano	Helen Vasilic
	Lily Whalen	Stafford Whalen	Mervin Witter
	Richard Zelinka		

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Peter Hocking. Peter introduced officials who might not be known to the group – Janine Robinson and Barb Mero from Windsor, Keith Stokes from London, and long-time official (now a World Masters champion), Bill Thompson from Hamilton.

Suzanne Leroux read the citation for Enrico Toscano’s induction into the Athletics Ontario Hall of Fame in the Builder category at the AO Awards Banquet in September.

Enrico advised the meeting of Helen Vasilic’s induction into the University of Windsor Alumni Sports Hall of Fame in the Builder category in October.

2. Peter asked all attendees to sign the List of Attendees being circulated through the room. He then reviewed voting procedures and noted that one must be registered with Athletics Ontario to vote. It was confirmed that all members presented were registered.
3. The **Agenda** was approved as circulated. **Burgess/Stevenson**

4. The **Minutes of the 2013 AGM** were reviewed for errors or omissions and the following correction was made.

*Page 2: Last line of the page should read, "... meet directors and/or officials' coordinators..."*

The Minutes of the 2013 AGM were then accepted as corrected. **Stevenson/Keaveney**

## 5. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

Page 3: Under the Reports, Helen inquired about the meaning of the reference to effective date of the government rule relating to membership fee, and the post-meeting note in the Minutes. Agreed that, since officials now pay a membership fee, the matter is moot, and no further discussion was required.

Page 4: Under 'Director of Availability', Helen asked if it is reasonable for officials to expect advance information about number of athletes and volunteers. Ian Reid responded that the number of athletes appears on the final schedule for AO meets, but that it's likely not realistic to expect advance info about number and qualifications of volunteers.

Page 5/6: Under 'New Business', Enrico asked for clarification regarding provincial and national lists versus disciplines that use levels one to five. Peter noted that only a few disciplines use provincial/national – announcer, competition secretary, jury of appeal, and technical manager. In addition, there is still a photo finish provincial list from the past, but photo now has levels for photo finish chief judge. Peter mentioned that NOC is considering changes to the upgrading and level system but that changes are likely a long way down the road.

Helen noted that NOC has not yet addressed the matter of some national championships using announcers not listed in the NOC Directory, but does intend to develop a recommendation or policy.

## 6. **Reports**

### Chair's report – Peter Hocking

Brian Keaveney asked about funding for officials' travel. Peter noted that travel is covered by AO for our provincial championships and by Athletics Canada for national championships and international events in Canada, such as Pan Am Combined Events in Ottawa.

Peter gave a brief update on the Pan Am Games and indicated that we hope to send out invitations and tentative assignments soon.

This led to a discussion about the Ontario outdoor schedule and how it will fit with Pan Ams. Roman Olszewski indicated that it is still under discussion at the AO level.

### Vice-Chair's report – Tim Slocombe

There were no questions from the membership.

Director of Seminars and Upgrading – Jacquie Downing

There were no questions from the membership.

Peter asked how many in attendance had looked at the AO web site in the past year. About half indicated they had.

Director of Availability – Ian Reid

Ian stressed the importance of prompt responses to Availability request and to meet invitations. Local coordinators need to coordinate their own availability lists with Ian so that he is able to send complete lists of available officials to meet directors for AO meets.

Ian intends to send the 2015 Indoor Availability the week of November 17. He will try to facilitate clearer communications between officials and meet directors or officials' coordinators so that officials know when they have, in fact, been selected.

Director of Awards and Incentives – Sherry Purdie

Sherry reported that IPC rule books are available, but that she was unable to obtain a copy in French.

Treasurer – René Van Andel

There was considerable discussion relating to the reports presented by René. Lisa Ferdinand, as current chair of the AO Board, provided some further explanation. Suzanne raised the matter of the impact of the new co-hosting agreements between clubs and AO. Agreed that is more a matter for the AO Board, not officials.

René noted that Travel Expense Reports should be sent directly to him rather than to the AO office.

Secretary – Sandy Repko (regrets)

The Secretary is not expected to present a report.

All Reports were accepted together as presented. **Carla Freedman/Zelinka**

*Note: All AGM 2014 Executive Reports are posted on the AO web site.*

## 7. Election

Peter asked for volunteers to act as scrutineers; Gary Freedman, John Stevenson and Jan Berneche volunteered.

Peter noted that the Call for Nominations had been sent out in advance of the meeting, and five nominations were received

Vice-chair: Tim Slocombe was nominated by Gary Freedman. Peter asked three times for nominations from the floor, and there were none. Tim was acclaimed.

Director of Availability: Ian Reid was nominated by Mervin Witter. Peter asked three times for nominations from the floor, and there were none. Ian was acclaimed.

Treasurer: René Van Andel was nominated by John Gonos. Peter asked three times for nominations from the floor, and there were none. René was acclaimed.

Secretary: Cameal Johnson was nominated by Sharon Powell.

Barb Mero was nominated by Helen Vasilic.

Peter asked three times if there were any further nominations from the floor, and there were none. Nominations were closed.

Each candidate briefly outlined her qualifications and reasons for running.

Before the vote, the question was asked whether or not scrutineers are entitled to vote. Since no one knew the answer definitively, a straw vote was conducted, and the result was YES, they should be able to vote.

Cameal Johnson was elected Secretary.

Motion to destroy ballots. **Barsam/Vasilic**

#### 8. **New Business**

Vinesh Midha raised the questions of what to do when meet schedule does not allow break for officials, particularly field officials. Consensus was that official should not just stop the event. Referee or chief could tell meet director that next event is postponed for 30 minutes (or 45?) and change should be announced. Meet directors and those developing meet schedules need to be educated to pay more attention to number and ages of competitors, and to factor in allowed warm-up times.

**Motion: Powell/Midha**

**Carried unanimously**

Whereas field events also include warm-up time prior to the scheduled start of the competition, be it resolved that, when developing meet schedules, meet directors for AO-sanctioned meets and Minor Track Association meets include the warm-up time, and at least a half-hour break for officials between events, and that this motion go to the AO AGM November 23, 2014.

9. **Date of the next AGM** - Saturday, November 14, 2015. To be posted on the AO web site.

#### 10. **Awards**

Peter presented the *2014 AOO Official of the Year Award* to **Dan Philp** and quoted excerpts from the nomination.

#### 11. **Adjournment – Carla Freedman**

*Minutes prepared by Jacquie Downing*

After a catered hot lunch, presentations/round-table discussions followed:

- travel rates/options and recruitment strategies