

**Athletics Ontario Officials Annual General Meeting
Saturday, November 21, 2015
Toronto, Ontario**

Minutes

Attendees:

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

Regrets: Cameal Johnson – Secretary
Sherry Purdie – Director of Awards and Incentives

Members:	Mike Barsam	Jan Berneche	John Caulfield
	Michael Chapman	Owen Crane	Wynn Downing
	Mark Dwyer	Rosalind Emmanuel	Randolph Fajardo
	Gary Freedman	Alicia Friday	John Gonos
	Brian Keaveney	Doug Krall	Larry Mayhue
	Susan Mayhue	Lynn McFerran	Vinesh Midha
	Ted Neptune	Katie Ozolins	Sharon Powell
	Shari Read	Alison Rumball	John Stevenson
	Doreen Thompson	Enrico Toscano	Lily Whalen
	Stafford Whalen	Mervin Witter	Richard Zelinka

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Peter Hocking. Peter introduced and welcomed two special attendees, both from Athletics Ontario. Katie Ozolins is the new Executive Director, and Randolph Fajardo is the new Manager Competitions, Technical Specifications and Logistics.
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.

Tim Slocombe, Vice-chair and chair of the election portion of the Agenda, reviewed voting procedures for the election.

3. The **Agenda** was approved as circulated. **Stevenson/Witter**
4. There being no errors or omissions noted, the **Minutes of the 2014 AGM** were accepted as circulated. **Keaveney/S. Mayhue**

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the 2014 minutes.

6. Reports

Chair's report – Peter Hocking

Peter highlighted his report, with a focus on the Pan Ams/Parapan Ams. He expressed pride in our officials at the Games. He also thanked the AO office staff.

Brian Keaveney asked if we have any statistics about officials. Peter replied that Athletics Canada did a survey and found that the average age for officials across Canada is 55.

Enrico Toscano asked about the National Officials' Committee (NOC) of Athletics Canada, and particularly about the status of clinicians at the NOC level. Peter outlined the structure of NOC at this point and expressed his concerns about its future, how it will be structured going forward, and how it will function.

Vice-Chair's report – Tim Slocombe

Tim highlighted his report and noted his intention to continue revising the AOO Comprehensive Clinic.

Director of Seminars and Upgrading – Jacquie Downing

Jacquie highlighted her report and thanked Peter and Tim in particular for being part of all of our clinics, thereby providing consistency. She thanked all those who have mentored other officials over the past year, and congratulated all those who have been upgraded as listed in her report. She also congratulated Dave Moncur (Umpire 5), Dan Philip (Umpire 5), and Mervin Witter (Starter 5), who were not mentioned in her report because the results from NOC were not available at the time of writing, but who have since been upgraded.

Doreen Thompson asked about some way of indicating on the Meet Record card which credits have been used for upgrading, and which ones can be used for subsequent upgrading. *Action: Idea to be explored further.*

Enrico expressed his disagreement with credits allowed per day by NOC and differences for track and for field officials. He asked that we request NOC to revise the policy. Peter responded that having 3 credits as the daily maximum is generally fair. (*note: 1-4 hrs = 1 credit; 4-8 = 2; over 8 hrs = 3*) Depending upon the meet schedule, sometimes it works to the official's benefit and sometimes not. He suggested that it's rarely the case when an official works more than 12 hours per day. Referees should use discretion in assigning number of credits, and may include some prep time.

Director of Availability – Ian Reid

Ian highlighted his report and reiterated that his role relates primarily to AO meets, although he does offer advice for non-AO events when asked. He noted that CIS playing regulations address the matter of having “Athletics Canada certified officials, particularly in key positions ...” and the executive will be offering advice and assistance to York which is hosting the event in March 2016. NOC considers CIS to be an “N” meet for credit purposes.

Mervin Witter asked about any changes to the Availability form and the process for assigning officials to meets. He asked for better communication from meet directors so that officials are advised in a timely manner whether or not they are needed. Ian is working on the process and ways to get hosts to comply.

Discussion followed about how officials are assigned and whether there should be more rotation of officiating opportunities.

Peter pointed out that, with the success of our recruiting and upgrading, there are more officials now, and officials who indicate that they are available may not be invited because of cost considerations.

Ian indicated that, to the best of his recollection, no one who confirmed availability for any AO championship indoors or outdoors for 2014-2015 was not invited.

Action: The 2016 Indoor Availability request will be sent out by the end of November.

Director of Awards and Incentives – Sherry Purdie

In Sherry’s absence, Tim read her report.

Treasurer – René Van Andel

René displayed his circulated reports on a screen for everyone to see. Most of the AOO budget comes from AO; only a portion is from the membership fee. René responded to questions about what is included in some line items.

Travel Expense claims may be sent to René or to the AO office, but are processed more quickly if sent directly to René. He is looking into getting an email address specifically for AOO Treasurer. The 2016 Claim Form specifies that forms must be submitted “within 30 calendar days from the meet”. René is looking into making it 2 weeks instead.

Secretary – Cameal Johnson (regrets)

The Secretary does not present a report.

All Reports were accepted together as presented. **Zelinka/Keaveney**

Note: All AGM 2015 Executive Reports are posted on the AO web site with these Minutes.

7. Election

Vice-chair Tim noted the three Executive positions up for election - Chair, Director Seminars and Upgrading, and Director Awards and Incentives in that order. He asked for volunteers to act as scrutineers; Susan Mayhue and Jan Berneche volunteered.

Chair: Peter Hocking had been nominated by Helen Vasilic. Tim asked three times for nominations from the floor, and there were none. **Krall** moved that nominations be closed. Peter was acclaimed.

Director of Seminars and Upgrading: Jacquie Downing had been nominated by Mervin Witter. Tim asked three times for nominations from the floor, and there were none. **Krall** moved that nominations be closed. Jacquie was acclaimed.

Director of Awards and Incentives:

Vinesh Midha had been nominated by Lynn McFerran and Alicia Friday.

Sherry Purdie had been nominated by Helen Vasilic.

Tim asked three times for nominations from the floor, and there were none.

Freedman moved that nominations be closed. Vinesh addressed the gathering and expressed his reasons for running; Tim then read a submission from Sherry. Sherry was elected.

Motion to destroy ballots. **Keaveney/Witter**

8. New Business

Enrico had several items.

- i) He asked that an AOOEC representative always attend the AO Awards Banquet.
- ii) He highlighted a new IAAF rule regarding order of competing in Throws and Horizontal Jumps.
- iii) He noted that he is a member of the Athletics Canada Rules Committee, and that AC rules are undergoing a full review. One revision affecting officials is that the NOC/AC Official of the Year Award will now be decided by the AC Awards Committee rather than by NOC as it was previously.
- iv) He expressed disappointment that there was no token of appreciation for officials from the Pan Am/Parapan Am Games. He has prepared certificates for all Throws officials.

Wynn Downing suggested that AO should express disappointment that the Pan Am surplus apparently went to TO2015 executives rather than to sports and/or youth groups in the province.

Katie Ozolins undertook to raise the matter with the Ministry of Sport. As an employee of TO2015 for 5 years, she is well aware of issues, and spoke about some of her experiences. She also indicated that there were medallions for all officials, and she will look into this matter on behalf of Athletics officials.

Motion: Witter/W. Downing

carried unanimously

That Athletics Ontario be requested to inform the Government of Ontario and relevant parties of the frustrations regarding deficiencies in recognition materials for Athletics Technical Officials at the Pan Am/Parapan Am Games, and that none of the extra funds were, to our knowledge, donated to any sports organizations.

Larry Mayhue expressed thanks on behalf of all officials to Peter and Jacquie for their work on the Pan Am/Parapan Am Games.

9. **Date of the next AGM** – *tentatively* Saturday, November 12, 2016.

10. Awards

Tim presented the *2015 AOO Official of the Year Award* to **Peter Hocking** and **Jacquie Downing**. Both recipients expressed their appreciation for the nomination, and their pride in the work done by officials at the Pan Am/Parapan Am Games.

John Stevenson represented AO Board Chair, Lisa Ferdinand, in acknowledging **Dan Philip** as the *Athletics Canada Official of the Year*, and **Tim Slocombe** for having been named to the *AC/NOC Wall of Honour*.

Peter noted that the actual awards seem to be lost in transit, and that AC is in the process of having them traced.

11. Adjournment – John Stevenson

A catered hot lunch and informal discussions followed.

Minutes prepared by Jacquie Downing