

Officials Availability 2019 - Report from Kathryn Dertinger – Director of Availability

I took over this year from Ian Reid and he has been very generous with his expertise and time in helping me make the transition. The model has changed a bit for 2019 with Athletics Ontario (AO) being the host (instead of different clubs bidding for hosting rights) and then contracting with a large local club or group for meet logistical support. Therefore I am now also acting as the meet officials coordinator. In addition, as AO has taken over the responsibility for running the OMA Championships those meets were added to my responsibilities. This year was a busy year for us providing excellent officiating at all of the championship meets as well as the Provincial Legion Meet and the NCCWMA meet. We also received 8-10 direct requests for AO officials for other meets. Detailed numbers are in the tables below for the meets that were hosted by Athletics Ontario.

Challenges

- Throws - It was difficult to adequately staff the throws at some meets due to a lack of available, qualified, throws officials.
- Technical Managers - we have only a few technical managers and at some meets this year we had NO tech manager assigned for part of the weekend. If any official would like to get training in this area please let Phil Martin and I know.
- Conflicting Meets - the outdoor track season is especially busy and we are having to compete with minor track meets for AO officials
- Availability - a lack of officials for several meets combined with limits on officials availability made staffing meets difficult. In addition the outdoor meets being back to back made communicating with officials challenging.

Indoor Season 2019 - (Request for availability sent Dec 11, 2018)

The meet fixtures were somewhat different this year. The CE Championship was combined with the U16 Duel Trials. In addition the BMY was changed to BMJ and the Youth added to the Sr./Duel meet. Entries were high especially for AO ICS#2 & #3. However total responses for availability from officials this indoor season was down significantly from 2018 and several officials only available for one day of a weekend. This made it difficult to adequately staff meets. However we were able to add several excellent new AO officials to the team during the winter which helped.

Meet	Date/Location	Available Officials/ Confirmed	Part Day Available
AO ICS#1 - CE Champs & U16 Duel Trials + Prep 1	Jan 19-20 / York	31 / 31 Confirm Date: Dec 29	6
AO ICS#2 - AO Youth (U18) – SR. + ON vs QC midget (U16)	Feb 9-10 / York	41 / 34 Confirm Date: Jan 30	7
OMA Championships	Feb 24 / York	35 / 30 Confirm Date: Feb 11	
AO ICS#3 - BMJs (U14, U16, U20)	Mar 2-3 / York	44 / 37 Confirm Date: Feb 21	9
Unavailable		17 (13 in 2018)	
Total Responses		53 (67 in 2018)	

Outdoor Season 2019 (Request for availability sent April 1, 2019; Reminder April 23rd)

- All officials who gave availability for outdoor meets this season were needed.
- The first big meet was the CE Championships and there was considerable confusion around this event. The Capital Cup and Canadian CE championships previously scheduled for July 6/7 in Ottawa was cancelled. The Canadian CE championships were added to the AO CE championships on June 15/16 in Toronto. This made the meet bigger with higher demands for senior officials. There were also several officials who had to cancel availability for this meet.
- The OMA championships were also difficult to staff due to many officials participating in school meets or only being available 1 day.
- The U20/Open meet was the most frustrating to staff as it conflicted with the Provincial Legion meet. Officials who had given availability for the meet had also given availability to the Legion meet creating a conflict. Lisa Ferdinand assisted me in contacting officials out of province and out of country to adequately staff this meet. Over half of the officials for this meet could only work part of the meet which made creating assignments very complex.

Meet	Date/Location	Available Officials/ Confirmed	Available only 1 day or part
AO OCSM1 – 10K Track Championships	May 10 / London	6 / ?	
AO 10K Race Walk Championships Host: London Runners	June 2 Cancelled	18/18	
AO OCSM2 – U18, U20, Open Combined Events	Jun 15-16 / Varsity	42/41 2 out of province (mentor) Confirm Date: May 18	9
OMA Championships	Jun 22-23 / Varsity	33 / 29 Confirm Date: May 26	11
AO OCSM3 – U20 & Open (Jr/Sr)	Jul 12-14 / TTFC	37 / 45** Confirm Date: July 8	23
AO OCSM4 – U14, U16, U18 Championships	Aug 2-4 / Windsor	37 / 19 Total 62 (43 from Windsor) Confirm date: June 7 (Helen)	?
20km RW champs	Oct 6 / Welland	13 / 12	
AO/OMA/FQA XC Champ Host: Newmarket Huskies	Nov 10 / King City	18 / 8?	
Not Available		20 (6 in 2018)	
Total Responses		96 (73 in 2018)	

**Conflict with Legion meet

Reminders for officials regarding availability:

- Check the [AO Website](#) for Championship fixtures, dates & locations
- The AOO President will send out an initial 'call for availability' before each season begins.
- Please reply to the Director of Availability as soon as possible by completing your availability sheet to the best of your knowledge at the time.
- Notify the Director of Availability of any changes to your availability in a new and separate email.
- The AOOEC are then able to make the officiating assignments based on qualifications, meet needs and desires for mentoring or new experiences (so please make sure the Upgrading Director is up to speed on any mentoring requests).