



Competition Committee Report November 2021

Committee Members:

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Summary

The pandemic halted championship plans during the 2020 – 2021 season. Championships for both the outdoor 2020 and indoor 2021 season was cancelled due to provincial lockdowns. A shift into planning for reopening was carried out with some input by the competitions committee through email and phone calls. In preparation for the reopening in August 2020, the committee assisted with having clubs work together regionally to have competitions that were specifically for groups within their area to prevent the need to travel long distances for competitions. The focus during the winter months was working with facilities to allow High Performance athletes on the Olympic pathway to compete as these were the only athletes allowed to use facilities during the winter lockdown.

Issues

Meeting Issues

- Outdoor championships were cancelled due to provincial gathering restrictions. Indoor championships were cancelled as there were no signs of the Toronto Track and Field Centre opening to non-High-Performance athletes.
- Championship fixtures for 2021 were difficult to decide as there was no guidance on the reopening structure. Championships dedicated to one age division at a time at the Toronto Track and Field Centre was decided on. Kept operations easier on the delivery side for Athletics Ontario staff but no assurances were given by the facility until provincial guidance would be provided.
- Sanctioning requirements.
 - o Sanctioning was relaxed and fees removed during the pandemic.
 - o Many competitions were kept to a specific event discipline at a time for easier crowd control and to ensure gathering limits were maintained during different parts of the lockdowns. Limits ranged from 10, 20, and 100 people at any given time during the different lockdown stages outlined by the provincial government.

Specific Duties

The Competitions Committee shall:

- Establish the annual fixtures list for championships in consultation with the Technical Committee.
- Be responsible for the non-technical aspects of the Bid Application for the hosting of AO Championships.
- Ensure that consistent operating procedures are adhered to with respect to the meet management as outlined in the Policies and Procedures Document.
- Recommend to the Finance Committee, amendments to the Hosting Agreements, as appropriate.
- Ensure that the Hosting Agreements are delivered to the HOC and retained at the AO office.
- Establish and implement regular evaluation of AO Championships, through both committee evaluation tools and membership surveys.
- Evaluate and monitor the effectiveness of sanctioned competitions in meeting the Athletics Ontario Development and High-Performance objectives.
- Review reports and surveys for Championship meets and determine the implications for future planning and coordination of these meets.
- Provide post summary report to HOC's outlining successes and areas for improvement.
- Evaluate, identify, or monitor those activities and areas, which currently (or have the potential to) pose significant risks to the association.
- Recommend measures for the board, as required, on associated policies or procedures that will assist in avoiding or controlling association risks.

Near-Term Plans

Outdoor 2021 championships will need to be delivered one age division at a time with the expectation that restriction limits will be between 100 – 200 individuals in a facility at a time. The committee will also be looking at options for indoor championship schedules Athletics Ontario is given the go ahead to book weekends for competitions in the winter. Creative schedules will need to be used to comply with gathering limitations and service the need for competitions from our members during the indoor season. The committee will also be reviewing and tweaking the new championship co-hosting model in preparation for 2022.

Report submitted October 22, 2021.

Randolph Fajardo
Competitions Committee, Staff