

One of the responsibilities of the Vice Chairperson is to assist the Chairperson where required. This past year, with a new chairperson I have been working to assist Brian Keaveney in becoming aware of what his role and responsibilities are as the incoming chairperson. I thank Peter Hocking, the past chairperson for his patience with all my questions.

This been another busy year for Athletics here in Ontario. Covid continued to be a factor during the indoor season. It delayed and compacted the indoor season. There were indoor track meets almost every weekend from mid February til the end of April. Often there was a scrabble to have enough officials for the meets. Some officials were still not comfortable come to meets indoor and others just had not registered for 2022.

A review of AO officials by discipline identified some weakness in officials qualified to officiate certain events. In conjunction with the Director of Upgrading and Seminars, Phil Martin and AO staff a mentorship program was developed to encourage Level 1, Level 2 officials to work with a mentor to develop the skills and experience to be ready for an evaluation for Level 3. There were 16 Level 2 officials who were interested in working towards upgrading. They were paired with a more experienced official. There were a number of officials who were successful and upgraded to Level 3. The mentorship program will continue in 2022 /2023 for new officials and those looking to upgrade.

The information on the AO officials web site has been reviewed and updated in collaboration with the Director of Upgrading and Seminars. This is an ongoing process

There were Track and Field 101 virtual sessions held over the indoor season to provide and introduction for those considering becoming an official. The monthly sessions were well attended and there a number of individuals that came out to meets to officiate. This was done with the support of AO staff and hopefully will continue this fall and winter. Thank you to the officials who added their colour commentary and insight, John Stevenson, Phil Martin, Sharon Powell.

The Canada Summer Games were held in Niagara in August 2022 and the recruitment of qualified officials, was one of my responsibilities. The requirements from CSG were minimum Level 3. So, the upgrading mentorships were strategic in getting some of the Ontario officials ready for CSG.

The task of coordinating the officials started last fall and was quite time consuming. There were over 50 Ontario officials able to officiate at the games in August. There were a few challenges, a brand-new facility, last minute cancellations due to illness or family situation and Covid added to the fun. Thank you to all the officials who worked long and hard at the meet. CSG was also an opportunity for some long-awaited evaluations for Level 4 and Level 5 officials. There were 11 Ontario officials evaluated.

I worked with Quebec to ensure that Legion Nationals in Sherbrooke had the officials that were needed to be a successful meet. There were evaluations there too.

I continued to represent the AOOEC on the AO Strategic Planning group. There will be a draft of the new Strategic Plan available soon.

The Officials newsletter has been a means of sharing information. It came out regularly until the outdoor season, but hopefully will be sent out monthly.

The training of NOC evaluators (under the new upgrading program) happened this spring here in Toronto and again in Windsor. Ontario is fortunate to have a number of trained evaluators, for level 3 and Level 4 and 5.

The NOC /BOC spring meetings were held here in Toronto and I attended with Ontario's chair person Brian Keaveney. It was interesting to meet the branch representatives from across the country and share concerns and updates.

The World Para rule books were printed by Athletics Alberta and available to Ontario officials. The original order was for 22. There has been a second printing requested as there were a significant number of AO officials who wanted a Para rule book. These will come at the end of October. Thank you to Athletics Alberta for taking on this task. I will be sending the rule books out or bring them to meets for those who indicated an interest in a copy.

The World Athletics Rule books were also printed by Athletics Alberta. A thank you to AO for funding the current rule books for all AO registered officials.

The Travel Expense Guidelines have been reviewed and updated with input from the council members. Thank you to the treasurer Rene VanAndel and the secretary Barb Mero for their support in getting these documents ready for the website and officials use. The Mileage rate was increased by \$.10 in early 2022.

The AOOEC Terms of Reference were developed in 2012. An update and review were required. The secretary Barb Mero was instrumental in simplifying this document. The AO board is presently reviewing all committees and councils Terms of Reference. The AOOEC Terms of Reference will be then written to meet the 2022 template.

My thanks to all the officials who have supported the meets across the province and to the AOOEC for their work this year.