

SASKATCHEWAN OFFICIALS' COUNCIL

The 2021-2022 indoor season was a season of transition. Due to COVID protocols the majority of the meets were an evening session with local athletes. A number of our officials were reluctant to return to officiating, indoors and/or travel from out of town for an evening meet. The long break due to COVID has resulted in some officials still deciding on whether to return to officiating as a volunteer activity.

Three officials, Ron Poetker, Ass't Track Ref, Rhonda Tremblay, Hort Jumps & Beatrice Weigel, Umpire traveled for the CanWest to Winnipeg, March 18 & 19.

Two officials; Lindsay Williamson & Greg Wilson participated in a "Zoom" Level 4 Starter Clinic in February. Instructor Ian Gordon from Alberta.

A National Level Evaluator training session was held in person on April 30th in Saskatoon with ten officials in attendance. Instructors were Jane Edstrom & Jennifer Campbell from Manitoba. The session certified Level 4 & 5 officials approved by NOC as National Level Evaluators.

During the outdoor season, more officials returned. But more officials need to return to have full teams at each event. With the help of Manitoba and Alberta we had teams for Canadian Masters Championships in Regina. The outdoor season allowed for officials to obtain credits and evaluations. Team scenarios are needed to qualify for evaluations.

In May a level 3 exam was held with 4 officials passing: Karen Wharington, Scott Davis, Crystal Fenton & Jared Benson.

Two officials completed their requirements to upgrade to Level 3 – Crystal Fenton – Throws & Karen Wharington - Vert Jumps.

Officials traveled to Manitoba to assist with their Canada Games Trials – Al Brown, Cora Andres, Mark Gilchrist & Val Gordon. Greg Wilson (Starter 4) & Mark Gilchrist (Vert Jumps 5) traveled to Sherwood Park for evaluations.

Saskatchewan officials, Cora Andres, Wally Doepker, Al Brown & Brenda O'Connor evaluated officials from Alberta & Sask; Throws 4 & Hort Jumps 4. Dave Elder completed his first evaluation for Vertical Jumps 4 at Canadian Masters.

Four clinic/educational sessions were held for officials at the Canadian Masters Championships:

Walks: instructor Whelan Stafford Ontario, attendees 3

Umpires: instructor Kathy Kelly Manitoba, attendees 7

Throws: instructor Irene Gaudet Alberta, attendees 10

Horizontal Jumps: instructor Norma Morgan, attendees 5

Provincial Chairs met with the NOC members in person in Toronto from April 22-23. Provincial Chairs met again via "Zoom" on September 27. This was a first for Provincial Chairs. Plans are underway to ensure two "Zoom" meetings happen each year. The National

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Officials committee have updated the upgrading criteria, the evaluators list and the majority of the Level 3 & 4 event clinics. The various National Event Group zoom meetings continued this year for officials Level 3 and higher. NOC arranged for the printing of the 2022 WA and WPA Rule books for distribution by the provinces.

Thanks to Sask Athletics for the Toe Board Video Review Systems for horizontal jumps and to the Bob Adam's Foundation and Saskatchewan Athletics for the EDM system for long throws. More practice will be needed to have our officials comfortable with using the new technology.

Eighty-six officials registered with Sask Athletics in 2022. An increase of 30 from 2021. There are 20 Level 1, 23 Level 2, 17 Level 3, 13 Level 4 and 13 Level 5. Some officials returned to officiating this summer but we missed getting their memberships forms completed. Increased numbers occurred in the Level 2; 3 & 4 categories compared to last year.

Congratulations to the following officials who were acknowledged, presented certificates and NOC pins at the annual Bob Adams Foundation Banquet for "Years of Service." 20 years Rhonda Tremblay; 25 years Selina Coward & Ron Poetker; 40 years Brenda O'Connor and 50 years Ron Boden. Special congratulations to the officials recognized by the Bob Adams Foundation - Greg Wilson and Laura Young. Many thanks for his years of officiating and congratulations go out to Dave Elder as the 2022 Sask Athletics Award recipient.