

Derbyshire Athletics.

County Officials Up-date 5. February 2016

Well here we are again into yet another year and we thought it time to keep you abreast of what is happening in the world of officiating in the county.

Officials re-grading.

Firstly as many of you will already know, in April yet another re-grading takes place and new licences (for both Endurance and Track & Field) will be issued to reflect the new grades. No one is being downgraded it will simply be a restructuring exercise by British Athletics, if you want a full explanation go to:

<http://www.britishathletics.org.uk/EasysiteWeb/getresource.axd?AssetID=140030&type=full&servicetype=Attachment>

Technology in Officiating.

Many of you will be aware that for some time now the County Committee has been considering obtaining some technology for the County in the form of a basic Photo-finish system to be followed, as soon as funds are available with an E.D.M. machine. To this end a small sub-committee was set up to look into the possibility and source funding. Some funding has been promised by Derbyshire Athletics, Derbyshire Athletics Network, Amber Valley & Erewash AC and Derby AC. Also two grants were applied for - one from East Midlands Airport Community Fund which was granted and finally the Lion's share of £10,000.00 from Sport England. We are happy to report that Sport England agreed the grant and subject to all compliance measures the Photo-finish system will be in use this coming season. We offer our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Karl Ponty of Amber Valley & Erewash AC for his very hard work in putting the bid together - it is mainly his hard work which has won the day. **Thank-you Karl!**

We do now of course require officials, to not only operate the system but also some trusted persons to accompany and set it up if we hire it out. The idea being to do some hire out when we are not using it, so that we can raise funds to purchase an EDM machine and maintain and improve the Photo-finish system, (Wireless Track-side clock and Head on Camera); although wireless is more expensive it is much easier to set up & take down there being no long cables to lay out or wind in. But all this needs technology savvy people.

If you are interested in helping please contact any member of the D.A. Committee.

Annual Record of Experience.

A very big thankyou to all who sent in their 2015 record of experience. From approx. 45 active T&F officials 19 ARE's were returned and of 25 Endurance officials 6 were returned. It is nice to see so much hard work being put in by technical officials, but we are absolutely certain that a great deal more is being done without it being properly recorded or recognised. Please remember that the County does have an Official of the Year Award and if we don't know what you are doing you cannot be nominated or considered for it. It is often said that endeavour and achievement are not recognised, well this our way of doing just that.

Summer 2016 T&F Availability.

The 2016 summer T&F Athletics has recently been sent out please ensure that you complete yours and return it as soon as possible if you have received it. If anyone complains that they have been left off the list please let them have a copy and they can return it to Mike by email. The County T&F Champs are being held at Harvey Hadden stadium this year but we are still obliged to supply Derbyshire officials and there are also plenty of Ancillary posts to be filled (stewards, runners, programme sellers, etc.) we need these positions filled so that the Championship runs smoothly.

Once again thanks to all Technical Officials keep up the good work.

Endurance Officials

The Tri Regions in England are conducting a survey of active Endurance Officials. There are about 800 Officials in England who do not appear to be active in any capacity (there are 26 in Derbyshire). Unless you can prove otherwise your Officials' Licence will be withdrawn this year. This will mean that you will not be

able to Officiate and you will not be covered for Insurance purposes unless working with an already-Licensed Official. If you think you fall in to this category please contact me as soon as possible. All Endurance officials need to have attended a Risk Awareness module if they have not already done so. An Official cannot Referee a Race without having attended the Risk Awareness module. I am a Risk Awareness Tutor and I am prepared to deliver a course in the County – I have 3 interested Officials – the more the merrier.

Mike Heffernan. (Track & Field Officials Secretary)

Barry Parker. (Endurance Officials Secretary)