

Stuart Paul

Last summer I achieved an ambition to be a chief official at a major championship, out on track. I was proud to lead a team who did a great job. and to be among so many other officials who were volunteering or supporting the event in other ways. Proud because I had been part of their journeys as officials.

I am looking at new ways to enhance what officials do and ways to make our sport better and more sustainable. I have been on the England Athletics National council for almost 5 years, representing the West Midlands, a region that has led the way in innovation and our sports recovery from COVID.

I have worked at all levels of our sport, with officials from all parts of the UK. Primarily a Starter's Assistant, but regularly support my club as a field or track judge, or as a meeting organizer. I have undertaken many roles "behind the scenes", such as call room and TIC.

I've been involved in officials' education for many years, recruiting officials who have since gone on to the highest levels themselves. I'm currently working to ensure there is legacy from the Commonwealth Games. Together with MAFEO colleagues (Midlands Officials group) we have already piloted a new scheme aimed at the 18-24 age group.

Our sport faces some difficult challenges - I am keen to look at ways to build on the excellent reputation UKA officials have and improve competition provision for our athletes to thrive in.