

MEETING NOTE

UKA TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

Friday, 16th January 2015

- Apologies received from Graham Jessop, John Temperton.
- Malcolm Rogers was elected as Chair for 2015.

From previous minutes:

- Improved quality images still required for IPC flash cards before these can be issued.
- Proposal for maximum length of competition day needs to go Track and Field Advisory Group for consideration and a clear policy proposal.
- Confirmed that the award made to Angus Cameron was “Technical Officer of the Year” from sportscotland Coaching, Officiating and Volunteering Awards 2014.
- Noted that Scottish Athletics had made the Award for Scottish Athletics Officials Commission, “Official of the Year” Award of the Year to Commonwealth Games Technical Team
- Details of officials withdrawing from 2014 outdoor appointments had now been collated from both UKA and England meetings.
- Agreed that a review of the number of timekeepers appointed to level 5 meetings was still required taking into account the advanced technology that is now available.
- Confirmed that Northern Track and Field Leagues and Northern Athletics Cross Country Championships organisers continued to make checks that athletes are officially registered with England Athletics.
- Michael Hunt is contacting Competition Providers including YDL Committee to confirm that new arrangements for track certification did not alter previous responsibilities of Referees in any way.

From agenda:

- Good progress being made with materials for online Level 2 Generic course.
- Education and Training Sub Group still investigating any requirements that other sports might have re: physical fitness of officials and their relevance.
- Moira Gallagher had received a number of suggestions for updates to materials from Competition Management Award tutors; more feedback is required in particular from Level 3 course tutors.
- The England forum meeting scheduled for 6th December had been cancelled because many invitees were already committed to competitions on that date. A new date will be set by England Athletics.
- Numbers of officials required on the busiest weekends within the Fixtures Calendar, as calculated from data of Permits issued, were presented. Reminder given that any analysis of needs should reflect staffing levels that were desirable for the safe conduct of competition in full compliance with UKA Rules for Competition, rather than “getting by”.

- Chair now has nominal list of Competition Providers to whom list of CMA holders should be circulated.
- After the final outdoor appointments have been made, we will be in a position to review numbers on the IMO list, to see if any adjustments are required.
- Conference Working Group had met. A list of potential workshops for the 2015 Officials Conference was considered by TAG and further suggestions made, together with suggestions for whole conference topics.
- TAG received a Case Management update.
- Need for improved systems of Assessment and Reporting was re-iterated. This will be a substantial agenda item when the Education and Training Sub Group meets at the beginning of February. Funding will be available for an increased number of assessors to ensure that officials have the opportunity to be observed and reported upon.
- 2017 IAAF World Championships – a small steering group has been appointed to consider timetabling and processes for the appointment of officials. Cherry Alexander will issue information on the latter to all licensed officials in due course.
- TAG reviewed its current Terms of Reference and made some small alterations.
- TAG received an update from the Endurance Sub-Group. New Level 2 course has been well-received overall.
- Four-Year Officials Strategy Plan will now run from 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2019. Collation of information for the 6 strands, expressed as SMART targets are now well advanced with final revisions being made. First stage of consultation was now beginning through attendance of Home Countries representatives.
- Through enquiries to Home Countries the working group now has a much clearer understanding of the staff resources allocated to officials' development in each Home Country.
- Moira Gallagher had prepared an excellent paper describing processes for managing individuals' progression through officiating Levels, which also allocated clear responsibilities to COFSECS, TRNGs, Peer Groups and others.
- Andrew Clatworthy updated TAG on 2015 outdoor availability returns and the programme for the Peer Group weekend.
- A preliminary discussion took place about the need to plan for succession on the various Advisory Groups and similarly in event management and delivery of major events.
- Dates of future meetings are:

20th March

19th May

11th August (Provisional)