



# TRACK AND FIELD / ROAD RUNNING / CROSS COUNTRY

145 Pacific Ave. Winnipeg, MB. R3B 2Z6 • Tel: 204-925-5744 • Fax: 204-925-5792

www.athleticsmanitoba.com

## September - Office Report

### Staffing

Noelle Merkel has been working hard to get up to speed on our programs and events. Her probationary period will come to an end at the end of October. At that time we'll conduct a performance review and evaluate/adjust her job description for the remainder of the upcoming year.

As noted at the AGM, Shirley Allan Boudreau has returned to the office to assist in a temporary capacity. The plan at this time is to extend her hours through the indoor season (a maximum of 15 hours per week). This is in large part to assist Noelle through her first exposure to our indoor programs and events, but she is also the mastermind behind the membership database and the information transfer that would be required if she were to leave is not something that we can tackle at this time.

Our summer student contracts have ended. As previously noted we hired 4 summer students through the Province of MB Green Team grant program (Clement Sackey, Janine Zajac, Gee-ef Nkwonta, Oyinko Akinola). We also hired 2 summer students through our Bilateral funding (Brooke-Lynn Boyd, Simon Berube), these two also provided support to the MRA throughout the season. One additional student was hired to work primarily in the office, to assist with the Outreach clinic coordination as well as summer event management (Matt VanSchedael). This position, as well as a small contract for specific event support (Megan Wrublowski) were funded through a portion of the budget initially set aside for the Office Manager.

### Programming

In the summer of 2017 the summer staff worked approximately 31 events and clinics over the course of the summer

May	19
June	8
July	3
August	1

In 2018 the staff worked approximately 51 events and clinics over the course of the summer.

April	1
May	22
June	14
July	9
August	4
Sept	1

Some of the highlights include working with the Boys and Girls club CSI program, R.D Parker school in Thompson MB, running a clinic in Brandon MB prior to Legion Nationals (with many of the attendees returning to watch the competition later that weekend!) and then most recently, working with the Manitoba Aboriginal Sport and Rec Council to organize a trip to St Theresa Point MB.

Legion Nationals was a resounding success again this summer. Extremely positive feedback was received from the Legion and it was an important step in rebuilding our relationship with Brandon. Jeff Elliot (City of Brandon) is extremely keen to run more Track and Field events in Brandon. We need to maintain this partnership and



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provide them the resources and support necessary to run events. We have a couple opportunities coming up over the next few years to build this partnership. There is a possibility that we could consider hosting the 2020 Tri Prov event in Brandon MB. The ongoing conversation will include what equipment is needed for events and what training is required for volunteers in order to make future events feasible.

As noted briefly above, we partnered with the Manitoba Aboriginal Sport and Rec Council and sent 3 students + Noelle to St Theresa Point MB. They ran two days of clinics and reached over 140 students. MASRC is planning to run a NAIG qualifier event in Winnipeg in June (with our assistance) and will be targeting a number of fly-in only communities. Many of these athletes will be attending!

A coach we know well in The Pas has also recently requested an RJTW clinic. We're hoping to be able to run this session this fall. It would be another great opportunity to build some energy and enthusiasm prior to the MB Games. We'll have to look at our travel budget prior to finalizing this plan.

Noelle and Ming will be running two Professional Development sessions for teachers in the coming weeks. The first will be in Onanole MB this Friday and then there will be two additional sessions as part of the TUCK teachers conference in Winnipeg, on Oct 18<sup>th</sup>.

We are also in the process of sorting out the logistics for a Club Coach training weekend this fall. WOA has a number of coaches that are interested in the training, so we are trying to coordinate with Wayne to accommodate individual schedules.

Sport MB is hosting an Active Ageing event on October 1<sup>st</sup> at Sport MB. Noelle will be attending and we will have a sign up sheet for all those interested in programs and memberships, we will also be promoting our Intro to Masters Athletics event in November. We have targeted either Saturday Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> as the Introductory to Masters Athletics Event. We will have to reach out to Lou Billinkoff and make sure the date works for him since he is the one that wants to try and break an Indoor record! I would also like to confirm some Board members availability prior to finalizing the details of this event.

Our tentative competition schedule for the indoor season has been published. We don't anticipate many adjustments at this point. The major event to note is the U-Sport National Championships, March 7-9<sup>th</sup>.

The addition of this event has had a minor affect on our Track Attack series competition dates. The science fair that is usually scheduled for the same weekend as U-Sport Championships (when it is out of town) is now forced to move one week later, which affects the scheduling of the U of M High School series, so that has forced us to move our final Track Attack date one week later than usual.

### **Equipment**

The throws cage came back after Legions and is being stored outdoors at the University for the winter. It will be installed in the spring.

Scot Dressler has been extremely helpful in his role as Equipment Manager. He has been managing some ongoing repairs for various items around the track. We have started developing a master inventory list. The first step this season is to determine what needs to be purchased this fiscal year in preparation for the indoor season. This master inventory list is necessary for insurance purposes and will need to be updated on a regular



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basis to determine upcoming replacement expenses. Scot, myself and Simon will be meeting in October once we are moving our equipment indoors for the season to start flushing out the details of this process.

No specific organization or building work was completed on the Butler Hut this summer. A more thorough assessment will need to occur to determine an effective storage plan for both our everyday training equipment and our competition equipment. The early spring break-in that occurred under the grandstands did cause some minor issues over the course of the summer but the University has dealt with the repairs. We'll need to finalize a storage plan prior to next summer.

The University is currently undertaking the project of painting the interior walls of the Jim Daly Fieldhouse. They are also working on enlarging the window on the third-floor hallway that is used by our photo timers. No specific work is required by Athletics MB, but we are THRILLED with the projects.

Simon and I have been working together on the capital contingency fund project of building the accessible washroom facilities at the outdoor stadium. We have recently applied for additional funding from the Government of MB (a specific accessibility grant) and have been granted an extension by Sport Manitoba for the spending of the designated CSG funds. For the moment we are in a holding pattern, and I will get further updates from Simon at our next meeting.

The University of MB has also been working with Playtek to coordinate the repairs necessary at the outdoor track. Work is scheduled to begin shortly on the horizontal jumps runway.

### Officials

We had a strong turnout of officials at the Legion Nationals Championships. A sincere thank you to Kathy Kelly for taking on the challenge of coordinating that event!

We have recently scheduled the fall Level 3 Clinic, for Monday, Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. This information has been sent out to our current officials and will be posted on our website shortly. This is a required clinic for any officials moving from Level 2 to 3, but it is also a great refresher opportunity for any other officials as we head into the indoor season.

At our next AMOC meeting we will be reviewing the meet record cards submitted by our officials and starting to plan for the next round of mentorships.

Over the next two months we also need to schedule our weights and measures clinic. This event was initially intended to be held in conjunction with the Legion National Championships but the logistics of that simply didn't work out. We hope that by bringing in a clinician now, at the outset of the competition season, we will secure more local attendees. This will be an important clinic to complete prior to the hosting of U-Sport Championships in March.

This past fiscal year, we made an effort to maintain an Officials specific project budget. As a result, we have deferred revenue that will be targeted toward their development. This also allows us to continue with the procedure of providing name tags and upgrading gifts to officials as they progress through the pathway. We are still in the process of sourcing out the best options, however we sincerely hope that this will help build the relationship within our community.



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### **Miscellaneous**

Unfortunately for us, our host for the last two years of our Awards Banquet, the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada has to move out of their current location by October 31<sup>st</sup> and are therefore unable to host our Awards Banquet this year. We have been searching for alternative locations and plans are firming up to host the event at the Sturgeon Heights Community Centre. While this isn't our preferred option long term, it will likely provide us with a budget friendly option for now. We have already tentatively booked the Park Theatre for the 2019 version of the event.

Preliminary discussions have begun regarding the strategic planning process that we must undertake this fall. These will be reviewed and discussed in further detail at the meeting.

We intend to once again organize a planning meeting for early October. In the past this has served as an opportunity for coaches and club administrators to discuss the upcoming season, plans, and get clarification on any issues. Depending on what is put in place for the Strategic Planning process we could potentially use this meeting to kick start the process (possibly as a survey opportunity).

The competition committee will also need to schedule a meeting in the next month or so in order to prepare for the Last Chance event, as well as to look ahead at the 2019 outdoor calendar of events (and beyond).

Respectfully submitted by,

*Alanna Boudreau*  
*Executive Director*  
*Sept 17, 2018*

### **Competition Calendar Notes**

Next summer (2019) Tri Province will be held in SK.

Junior & Senior National Championships will be held in Montreal QC, in 2019 and 2020.

The next Manitoba Games are being held in Dauphin, MB in 2020.

Manitoba is also scheduled to host Tri Province in 2020.

The next North American and Indigenous Games will be held in Halifax NS, in 2020.

The next Canada Summer Games are being held in Niagara, ON in 2021.

Junior & Senior National Championship are scheduled to be held in Langley BC in 2021 and 2022.

Winnipeg (and the Manitoba Marathon) will play host to the Canadian Half Marathon Championships from 2019 through 2022.

The Canadian Marathon Championships will be held as part of the Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon from 2019 through 2022.