

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP – 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015

### MEETING NOTE

- Members welcomed the attendance of Nigel Holl, in his new role as Head of Strategy.
- Members congratulated Keith Davies on his election to the IAAF Technical Committee on the first round of voting.
- TAG received a letter from the Chair of the UKA Board confirming their role in decision-making procedures and warmly congratulating them on their work.
- TAG received a presentation on the development of electronic starting technology, noting the significant implications for the future with regard to the availability of suitable firearms and ammunition. A request has been made that the CEOs' Forum receives the same presentation.
- The Chair reminded TAG that whilst the Chair of TAG itself was elected annually, the Chairs of the two Sub-Groups were currently not. Agreed that they too should be elected annually.
- TAG noted that progress has been made in securing suitable images for inclusion in IPC technical information.
- It was confirmed that when on-line post-course feedback is introduced, it will be possible to analyse the responses in a readily understandable spreadsheet.
- The Chair will check that provision has been made for Club Connect Relay Team Managers to receive a printed result, including any disqualifications, immediately after the event.
- The Chair will be checking the website and identify any out-of-date documents that should be removed or updated.
- Further consideration needs to be given as to how "development" funding might be used to cover travel costs where officials need to officiate at meetings, including those at Area level, in order to gain appropriate experience or receive formal reports.
- TAG reviewed a number of rule change proposals for which the Rules Revision Advisory Group had requested its opinion.
- Whilst some progress has been made on making Track and Field Level 2 course materials on-line, TAG expressed its concern at the time being taken with both this and the Endurance Risk Assessment module. It was accepted that staff changes outside of the Competitions Department had contributed to delays.
- TAG has previously been advised of a shortage of tutors in the London area. A separate meeting with the England Athletics Volunteer, Young People and Officials Development Officer was taking place to discuss this and other related matters. Feedback from this meeting will be forthcoming.
- TAG welcomed the publication of a flyer by England Athletics on good conduct at events. It was re-emphasised that any concerns reported to UKA were, and always will be, investigated.
- Further to enhanced tutor training in the Spring, the Education and Training Sub-Group will meet on 1<sup>st</sup> October to plan future expansion of training. This will include a review of the current tutor list.
- TAG considered a number of queries raised in relation to assessment.

- Chair of TAG has already contacted TRNG Officials Secretaries with a reminder about Records of Achievement being submitted by 30<sup>th</sup> September. In all cases, work was well underway.
- Endurance Sub-Group has now met with England, Scotland and Wales re Endurance Officials development. A meeting with Northern Ireland is being arranged.
- TAG confirmed that the re-numbering of officials' levels, which has been in the Rules for Competition since April 2014, will apply to all disciplines. It was emphasised that this does not involve re-grading in any way. It is simply a more logical numbering of levels.
- The Chair will facilitate further discussion with appropriate others on issues around Race Adjudicators and Referees.
- TAG received feedback from a recent England Council meeting.
- TAG received the nominations for each new Peer Group member for 2016 and these were agreed. The National Officials Secretary will contact the relevant people and the new Peer Groups will be published shortly on the UKA website.
- A sub-group will meet on 30<sup>th</sup> September to consider procedures for the review of the IMO group.
- The Chair circulated a draft selection policy for 2016 events, with a request that any suggestions for alterations be returned by 28<sup>th</sup> September.
- TAG re-iterated its view that the geographical location of a meeting should not be a primary factor in influencing selections.
- It was confirmed that the 2016 Endurance fixture list has now been completed.
- The Head of Competition for 2017 will shortly be communicating the timeline in relation to the selection of officials for both the IPC and WAC 2017 Championships.
- A draft copy of the Technical Officials Four-Year Strategy Plan was circulated prior to the meeting, with feedback being requested. It was stressed that this was a very early draft which would require a number of amendments.
- TAG was re-assured that readily accessible provision would be made to allow concerns about any venue to be made known to the UKA Facilities Manager. Although the previous inspection scheme had changed, arrangements would still be made for advice to be given, with visits made where appropriate. Three maintenance and facility management courses in Grangemouth, York and Lee Valley in November, were fully subscribed. Following the experience of these courses, further development will follow.
- TAG was advised of any key points arising from NTD reports from the indoor season and those already received from the outdoor season. A meeting will be arranged in November to discuss issues arising with competition providers. This would include consideration of the most effective way of integrating Parallel Success and IAAF specific age-group competitions (U18s) into current provision.
- TAG received a significant number of UK Records set since the last meeting in May. It was recommended that all be ratified.
- The Planning Group for the 2016 National Officials Conference was established.
- TAG received nominations for the 2016 SOUK Awards. The candidate to be submitted in each category was agreed.

- Future dates are as follows;
  - 10<sup>th</sup> October Peer Groups with new members
  - 7<sup>th</sup> November Outdoor NTD Review Meeting
  - 27<sup>th</sup> November TAG
  - 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> November Peer Groups. Applications for Level 3 and Indoor Selections
  - 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016 TAG
  - 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> January Peer Groups. Outdoor Selections.

*Malcolm Rogers*

Chair, Technical Advisory Group 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015