

Who said the youth of today were all *!*!!!**

During the summer (2007) I had the privilege of officiating my first English Schools meeting held at the Alex Stadium in Birmingham.

The weather, during the two days was a real mixture, Friday was appalling, however we were luckier on Saturday, Sky had ordered good weather and it arrived on time, but what stood out for me was the behaviour of the school competitors.

All were very polite & well mannered and in these days of reading about hooligans and abuse to referees etc in other sports it was indeed refreshing to witness the attitude of the children to the officials.

I look forward to officiating again.

Dave Berrington



Congratulations go to

Cherie D'Silva

Ray Lloyd

Kate Nash

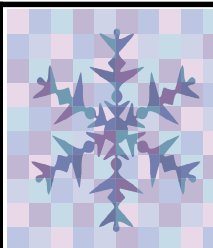
Paul Nash

- on reaching the dizzy heights (no pun intended!) of Level 5

And to **Cameron Lindsay** who has been assessed as being competent to Chief Televised meetings

Edited by Andrew Hulse - all contributions gratefully received

MAFEG
Newsletter



Jan 2008

ENCLOSURES

IAAF Handbook.

The committee decided last year that all members who renewed their membership for 2007 would receive a copy of this book. Unfortunately my intention to send it to you before Christmas met with a few hold-ups when the IAAF held back on the production. We have always obtained the book for members who requested it because they were involved in meetings under IAAF Rules. Many of you will not use this at meetings, but may find the differences between UKA Rules and International Rules interesting, particularly with Beijing ahead of us. I have ordered a few extra copies for anyone who wishes to purchase them although at the moment I do not know the cost due to the fluctuating pound as we pay in Euros.

You will still receive the UKA Rules of Competition when it is available, maybe April.

Membership Cards.

All members whose renewal for 2008 I have received will find their Membership Card included. New member should have received their cards when they joined.

Kate Michell. Hon. Sec.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO
EVERYONE**

The Indoor season is now in full swing, and isn't it nice to be able to concentrate on the athletics and not having to worry about trying to keep warm and dry as we seem to do most of last year!

What do I do now?

So, you are the proud possessor of a UKA Technical Officials' Licence, you are Level 2 or you have transferred from the old Grade 4 and you want to progress. What next?

You will need to work through the Level 3 programme and attend a Level 3 course.....

New Level 3

This is a totally new course and a qualification best described as equating to the old Grade 1 when completed, but in some ways is more complex.

It is expected that this qualification will take a minimum of 2 years to complete and is the only way now for Level 2, Level 3 and Level 4 officials to progress.

The course is made up of Generic, Discipline Specific, and Technology modules.

The content of the Generic covers:

Overview of managing a meeting
Reporting – observation & evaluation of your own & others performance
Protests & Appeals
Health & Safety Risk Assessment
Clerk of Course
Call Room
Seeding
Anti-Doping

Level 2 and Level 3 officials have to complete a log book, but Level 4 officials can still complete a Form 10. In either case there has to be evidence of working at a minimum of 30 competitions and 6 positive reports have to be obtained (all from different Level 5 officials) and they comprise:

Two as a member of a team
One from a reporter outside the Region
One as Chief/Referee
One as Clerk of Course
One using relevant technology.

As can be seen this is not an easy option and will be extremely difficult to complete without the co-operation of Level 5 officials in writing reports and mentoring.

Current Level 5 officials are also being recommended to attend a Level 3 course, as the syllabus is now greatly enlarged, this will enable them to update their knowledge and skills.

All officials will need to attend a Health & Safety Course.

Forthcoming Courses in the West Midlands

Level 1 - 26th April 2008, Alexander Stadium, Birmingham (NB this course is being hosted by Birchfield Harriers so priority will be given to Birchfield applicants) £10 per applicant.

Level 2- 12th April 2008, Alexander Stadium, Birmingham, All disciplines, £10 per applicant

Level 3- 26th April 2008, Alexander Stadium, Birmingham
The course will give the option to attend field, track, timekeeping, EDM, photofinish. Priority booking will be given to West Midlands Officials providing an application form is received before 5th April 2008. £30 per applicant.

New Level 4

This is still being developed and there will be pilot courses this year. This course will cover

Operating at International Level
Chief Official at major meeting
Mentoring
Competition management
Multidisciplinary approach

This article is a distillation of the information provided by Chris Cohen at the Midlands Official's Conference, Margaret Afford and from the England Athletics West Midlands 'Official Matters' bulletin. 'We live in interesting times' seems to be the most apt comment.

Andrew Hulse