

Cheshire County Athletic Association Committee

Officials' Report November 2010

As I am unable to attend the Committee meeting I have produced a report to update the Committee on a number of matters. I am also preparing a newsletter for Cheshire officials that will include much of the information in this report.

Track & Field Re-alignment

The final stage of the track and field officials' re-alignment process will take place in January 2011 when all officials will be issued with new licences. For most officials the new licence will show them at a different level in accordance with the new structure. The following table summarises the effects of the re-alignment:

Current Level (pre Jan 2011)	Level after re-alignment (post Jan 2011)
Level 5 (having undertaken requirements at new Level 3)	Level 3
Level 5 (not having taken requirements at new Level 3)	Level 2 Regional(2C)
Level 4 & 3 (having fulfilled requirements for new level 3 via accreditation through Peer Groups)	Level 3
Level 4 (not having fulfilled requirements for new level 3)	Level 2 Regional (2C)
Level 3 (not having fulfilled requirements for new level 3)	Level 2 County (2B)
Level 2	Mostly become Level 2 County (2B)

It is important that all officials understand that this is a re-alignment to a new structure and not a "downgrading". The new Level 3 is now the highest technical qualification for officials who are on the national availability list. In effect it is the equivalent of the old Grade 1. Level 2 has now been subdivided into three sections:

- Level 2 Club (2A) is the 'entry level' for new officials. Accreditation at this level is available for officials who have attended a Level 2 course and had experience of officiating at 4 meetings.
- Level 2 County (2B) is the next level requiring the completion of a log book showing experience of officiating at 10 meetings.
- Level 2 Regional (2C) is for officials judging outside their local area or aspiring to become Level 3. This level requires completion of a log book showing experience at a further 10 meetings and a positive report from a regional meeting.

The new Level 4 is for officials wishing to undertake roles such as meeting management, call room, TIC, etc at a national level. Courses are now available for Level 3 officials wishing to qualify at this level and the first Level 4 officials will be accredited later this year. The new Level 5 will be for officials working at international level.

UKA are currently confirming the transfer levels for all officials in consultation with County Officials Secretaries and Tri Regional Secretaries. An appeals process will be available for any officials who believe they have been re-aligned to the wrong level.

Endurance Official Realignment

A similar realignment process will take place for endurance officials to the same timetable. This will involve moving from the current three levels (2, 3 and 5) to a five level system to mirror track and field. The following table summarises the effects of realignment:

Current Level (pre Jan 2011)	Level after re-alignment (post Jan 2011)
Level 5	Level 3
Level 3	Level 2 Regional (2C)
Level 2	Level 2 County (2B) or Club (2A)

As with track & field, the new Level 4 will be for those involved in management of large races and Level 5 will be for international officials. A new Level 2 Endurance Officials course is currently being piloted and will be rolled out over the coming months.

Level 2 Officials Courses

Following discussions with Tina Beresford of England Athletics a Level 2 course is being organised at Macclesfield on Saturday 26 March 2011. There will be modules for Timekeepers, Track Judges and Field Judges. Level 2 courses will also be held in Liverpool and Manchester during March 2011 and one of these will include a Starter / Marksman module.

Cheshire Athletics Network

I have been in contact with Vicky Huyton regarding the possibility of involving the Cheshire Athletics Network in promoting and supporting the recruitment and development of athletics officials. We have agreed to discuss ideas and I will report back to the Committee on any progress.

Trinity Database

On 2nd October I attended a training session on the new Trinity database in Leeds, organised by UKA. Trinity is a single database for all Individuals and organisations involved in athletics together with their contact and qualification information. After many teething problems, the officials section of the database will soon be launched. Individual officials will be able to access and update their own records. County Officials Secretaries and Tri Regional Secretaries will be able to access the records of officials from their respective counties or regions. The database should ensure that UKA, England Athletics, regions and Counties have access to up-to-date information on the qualifications and contact details of all officials.

England Officials Forum

On Sunday 24th October I attended the third England Officials Forum at UKA HQ in Solihull. There were presentations and discussions on realignment, Trinity, and the role of Cofsecs, as well as updates from UKA and EA.

Cheshire County Cross Country Championships

I am about to contact Cheshire officials to establish their availability for the County Cross Country Championships at Birchwood on 8th January 2011.

Alan Morris

County Officials Secretary