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ATHLETICS NEW ZEALAND OFFICIALS EDUCATION SCHEME (ANZOES)

The education scheme is approved by the IAAF and is subject to regular review. In order for ANZ to retain approval to run the scheme certain requirements must be met. These include continuing education, four yearly review, participation at National events and being involved across all disciplines of each category. Any breach of these requirements, at any level, could see ANZ stripped of the accreditation necessary to run our own national scheme.

Lecturers must have appropriate grading's and for some courses must be an IAAF qualified Lecturer. Currently New Zealand has seven such approved lecturers.

At a recent meeting of the Regional Officials Coordinators (ROC) the matter of 'C' grade Officials progressing to 'B' at meetings conducted by NZCAA was discussed. Many of the ROC are involved at NZCAA level or have been heavily involved in the past.

The reasons for Officials not being able to progress are several. They include NZCAA not running all events, e.g. Jumps not doing Pole Vault or Triple Jump. Throws not doing Hammer or Javelin. Track not doing Steeplechase, long hurdles, 5,000m, 10,000m where lap scoring is used.

Another reason is that NZCAA does not run full six round competitions or qualifying events. Many Officials sitting 'C' papers have no understanding of the concept even though covered during lectures. In order to assist with 'C' papers the NOC have agreed to rename 'C' papers as Assessments and allow those sitting to discuss a question with either the assessor or with others sitting the paper.

The question was raised of why include questions relating to these in 'C' papers. They are no different in Officiating to other events other than the method of Jumping, Throwing etc. The recording of results is exactly the same. Countback etc. is the same, as is measurement, time available etc. If they are not covered the course, is not, as approved by the IAAF and ANZ could lose its accreditation.

The NOC and ROC are concerned that few "Children's" officials are progressing through to senior levels and have agreed to encourage Centres to try to have combined Children's and Senior meeting so as to allow Children's Volunteers to be able to experience Senior meetings. NZCAA has been, for many years, the breeding ground for Senior Officials and we wish to assist wherever possible, but ANZ have constraints that require the current protocols to remain.

It is hoped that NZCAA and ANZ continue to work together. ANZ employs an Officials Development Manager and are happy for this staff member to assist NZCAA or Clubs at any time. ANZ has developed an eLearning programme to assist in education. Information can be seen at http://www.athletics.org.nz/Get-Involved/officials along with other information and resources.

We trust that NZCAA and ANZ can continue to operate together for the benefit of our sport.

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