

Cleverly, Dale Kutchev, and Doug Kelly were assigned to ensure a fair and safe environment for all. Several other ATOM officials handled the field events. As usual, the FAT timing by Jacob and Ellen of Michiana Timing went off without a hitch. The consensus of the officials is that additional umpires are needed to execute the meet at the highest level, but several individuals stepped in to help in this area. Several questions were raised related to the Men's 100M start, long jump foot fouls, and potential interference on a couple of the races, but after multiple discussions with the various officials no calls were made. The single disqualification occurred in the Women's 300M hurdles due a hurdle be knocked into a fellow competitor's lane. A request to rerun the event was denied due to the potential detriment to most of the competitors outweighing the potential benefit for the impeded athlete.

The men's team event resulted in a tie by Fenton and Rockford. The meet came down to the final event when Rockford's 4x400M relay finished third coming from a slower heat. The meet was extremely close with the top 10 teams separated by a total of 14 points! Oak Park women three-peated for another trophy. Detroit Renaissance was runner-up followed by Ann Arbor Huron. Audrey DaDamio of Birmingham Seaholm finished fourth by winning an impressive triple of the 800M, 1600M, and 3200M. Rockford, and Ann Arbor Pioneer.

Many of the races came down to a tight finish with several of the ultimate winners closing from behind in the final meters. Most of the field events were completed very quickly as some of the numbers of competitors were smaller than usual. The high jump being the only event that had a single facility took much of the day. The event was officiated efficiently under many limitations. All these efforts were noticed by spectators and multiple comments were heard throughout the day expressing appreciation for all that the workers did to make the best situation possible!!

Overall, it was a wonderful day celebrating the fact that we were once again able to come together to host an event that allowed Michigan's Track and Field athletes to reach and exceed their goals. It was obvious that the athletes recognized this and the thank-you's were countless for the officials and host site! Great job by all of those involved!!

Lower Peninsula Division 2 (Lew Clingman)



Lew Clingman and his expert pack of D2 officials