

athletes for giving us this opportunity. In hindsight I should have tried to recruit her as a future official!

With all of the positives of this meet, we're still looking for ways to make things even better going forward. There was a shortage of field event officials as some were not able to make it to the meet. I had to step in as girls' High Jump official in addition to referee duties. My limited experience made the "five-alive" rather challenging, but the jumpers were patient and I'd like to think I looked like I knew what I was doing!

Some equipment issues to consider for future meets included a lack of bungee cords for High Jump warm-ups, and a steel measuring tape, which would have made measuring the heights of the crossbar easier and quicker.

Field event officials should report before the gates open to competitors, to allow early warm-ups and project an image of professionalism and preparedness. Having more umpires would be nice, as more pairs of eyes would make things easier for all of us. There were kids acting as markers in the field events, and although they did a fine job, it would be good to have adults, preferably registered officials, performing these duties at such a high-level meet.



*Dave McPhail and his all-star crew of D4 officials*

We had 4 referees, none of whom was a field event specialist. Another observation is that among the 12 registered officials working the meet, we had only one female official. Much thanks to Christine Lee for putting up with the rest of us! This is a good indication that in our search for new officials, we are especially in need of female officials, as the sport of track and field has been a leader in equality and inclusion in pretty much all other aspects.

We finished at approximately 4:42 p.m., which was far earlier than our storm delayed event of 2 years ago! Overall, it was a highly competitive and enjoyable meet to be a part of, whether as an athlete, coach, or official!