

During the past year the Official's Committee took the following actions:

1. Four clinics for new officials were given. Because of the demands of the indoor season in Colorado, these clinics are clustered during the winter with one more being offered during the summer. These clinics are typically held at universities that host the majority of our association meets or ones that have an active summer meet series. The Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs hosted one in December, the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley held one in February, and CU Boulder held two, one each in January and June. In total, approximately fifty individuals attended, some as new people to the program, some for continuing education, and a few that had let their certification lapse and needed a class to fulfill requirements. At the end of the day, we gained about fifteen new certified officials (the numbers are always a little fuzzy as it takes a while for new folks to complete all the requirements). Our total of certified officials currently stands at 108.
2. This year Colorado had the pleasure of hosting the Region X Youth Championships in July. Our normal pool of approximately 20 individuals working the youth and association meets during the outdoor season was augmented by a few folks from out of state. Thanks to all of those folks - both Colorado officials and those from New Mexico and Arizona that helped make the Region X meet a success. While we did have one official injured, thankfully he has recovered and his experience will be used as the focus of safety training during clinics in the upcoming years.
3. A total of nine Colorado officials were competitively selected and worked the USATF Indoor in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the USATF Junior in Bloomington, Indiana or the Senior Championships in Des Moines, Iowa. Five of those folks were selected to work multiple championships, and eight of those individuals are mainstays at our association meets and have been for years. It is nice to see their skill and hard work locally rewarded with selections to major meets around the country, and it is also great to see those same individuals working as mentors to more local officials helping to pass along their skill and knowledge to continue growing the sport in Colorado.
4. Last year, after discussions at multiple association board meetings, we began an initiative to gather together the equipment and supplies needed to work a meet in one place. Having the proper gear helps newer officials be able to officiate any event we ask of them without needing to carry an entire sporting goods store in the trunk of their car. Some of the veteran officials have assembled everything necessary over the course of a multiple decade career, but the new folks don't have everything they need. We started small with the purchase of some special runway tape to take the burden off officials needing multiple take-off boards for youth and masters athletes in the long and triple jumps. Over the fall I will be putting together the second phase (flags, watches, clipboards, cones, etc.) of our official's kit and I will present the receipts to our treasurer for reimbursement.



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