

Triathlon Manitoba Officials Report

By Deb Hnatiw

2018 was another busy year for the Triathlon Manitoba officials. We welcomed five new officials. Julie Whelan, Brendan Friesen, Erin Rafferty, Ainsley Brand and Brian Culligan, who are now Level 1 Provincial Technical Officials. That brought the TriMB total to 26 local officials who volunteered at all 18 of our races. To better balance the number of races between officials, we could use another 3-5 people to take the training for the coming season. There is a level 1 course being planned in the New Year so if that is something that appeals to you, please let us know. On a personal note - I highly recommend officiating as it opens the door to a whole new understanding of triathlon. It also allowed me to stay in contact with the triathlon community when I was no longer able to compete.

Two local officials advanced their training this year, Dina Drabek is now an ITU Level 2 - Continental Technical Official and Bonnie McKissock is an ITU Level 1 - National Technical Official. Congratulations to both of them. Our own Kelly Mahoney travelled to Bermuda to take on the role of Technical Delegate at the ITU World Triathlon series event. Kelly also officiated at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. The awesome David Markham travelled to Peru for the Pan Am games test event, also as the Technical Delegate, and was the Head Referee at the ITU World Triathlon in Edmonton. For those of you who do not know the duties of a Technical Delegate...they pretty much run the show, ensuring the race is setup and proceeding as planned, and coordinating the numerous officials! Way to go Kelly and David. Kelly, Chris, Dina and Bonnie officiated at the ITU World Triathlon event in Edmonton and all with the exception of Chris, who was serving as Head Referee in Riding Mountain, headed to the Canadian Triathlon National Championships in Kelowna. Unfortunately, that race was cancelled due to air quality. Lastly, Dina and I officiated in Montreal at another ITU World Triathlon competition, Dina as Chief Registration.

Currently, the sanctioning committee is made up entirely of officials. A different POV from an event organizer would be very beneficial. Please contact Cindy Unger, the Sanctioning Committee Chair if you are able to join the team. It is not a huge commitment and communication is usually done via email....So no meetings to attend.

Kelly made many of our lives easier this year by creating a more user friendly, online fillable version of the Sanctioning Application, as well as the Head Referee reports. All are currently available on the TriMB website. Kudos to Kelly!

Together, Kelly and I reduced the lengthy and somewhat cumbersome ITU Competition Rules book to create the TriMB Age Group/KOS Competition Rules book, which will be more pertinent to our officials at the local Age Group and KOS events.

This was my first year as co-chair of the officials committee along with Kelly. It has been a great year working with her as she is a fantastic mentor and I have learned so much through her. Thanks Kelly!

I would like to thank all the 2018 officials for their dedication and commitment to making the sport of triathlon in Manitoba as fair and as safe as possible. Also, thank you to Jared Spier of Triathlon Manitoba and the Board of Directors for your continued support.

We are here to answer any questions you may have.....

Please think about joining our team of officials. Thank you