

## **Zone 6 Report**

2020-11-17

### **General**

- Island clubs have had reduced contact and interaction during 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Informal talks have begun regarding the 2021 competition schedule on Vancouver Island though dates and format have yet to be clarified.
- VIAA is set to meet formally in February 2021 to discuss the upcoming season.
- VIAA is still finding it challenging to build a more consistent, stronger relationship with the club in Powell River. That said, the Comox Solstice event on the VIAA Island Series schedule could not be run without the support of the Powell River club. They bring their competition hurdles to Comox each year for the event.

### **Officiating**

- Normally a strength on Vancouver Island for both club and school events, there are some areas of concern.
  - Photo timing. We only have one trained person to run the timing for club events. The situation presents a high level of risk and no new candidates for training have been identified.
  - Imbalances exist regarding the geographic distribution of key event officials. In a year where modified competition formats are likely to be introduced this could result in restricted opportunities to run events which yield Rankings eligible results both on the track and in the field.

### **Training**

- There has been a mixture of responses to COVID-19 during 2020 with some clubs simply shutting down their JD programs for the year. Others have seen an expansion of training opportunities for JD Track & Field programs further into the year (late Summer and Fall) than is normal for them.
- Access to training facilities varies depending on the circumstances in each community. Victoria in particular has found access to facilities challenging this year. It remains a black eye for the sport and should be a priority for support at a Provincial level. The city has arguably the best year-round weather conditions in the country but sits on one of the most under-utilized Track & Field facilities in the nation.