



**2024 BC Summer Games Report
Submitted By: Debbie Foote**

OVERVIEW

The 2024 BC Summer Games took place July 17 – 21 in Maple Ridge, BC traditional territories of the Katzie and Kwantlen First Nations. Athletics was held at the Maple Ridge Senior Secondary Track located at 21911 122 Ave, Maple Ridge, BC. The Athletics facility was recently upgraded for the games in 2020-2024.

The games were well received by athletes, coaches and parents. The atmosphere was positive and fell in line with the Games Culture of Positive, respectful and inclusive. The Events were well contained and due to layout, there were a few events that were difficult to get close to, but for the most part, access was close. The Athlete accommodation was right on site at the school which made for easier logistics.

The competition was run exceptionally well due to the efforts of the Golden Ears Track club lead by Doug Evans and Brad Beedveld who took on the roles of Co-Sport Chairs. Golden Ears carried a crew of many local volunteers (over 50). The track was set up very well and in a professional manner. There was significant support in the field of play for the BC Athletics Officials responsible for judging the event.

Three new BC Summer Games records were achieved:

- 1200m 3:16.17 Finn Adamson Zone 6
- Pole Vault 3.76m Tyler Hvidston Zone 2
- Hammer 61.01 Gursher Gabri Zone 4

BC Games Sports are required to compete on each day the Games or conduct workshops on the non- competition day. On Sunday morning, Athletics organized a program for the athletes and coaches of Athletics and Special Olympics. The program was an interactive zoom conference with Evan Dunfee while at training camp awaiting the 2024 Paris Olympics. We played a game of rock paper scissors and several questions and answers for Evan to entertain. Evan provided a very motivating, inspirational and informative presentation. We finished off with some door prizes for the kids celebrating those that showed notable sportsmanship and exhibited the culture of the games – Positive, Respectful and Inclusive.

The 2026 BC Summer Games is scheduled to take place in Kelowna BC, from July 23-26, 2026. No host club or Sport chair has been assigned at this time. This work will be starting soon.

2024 BC SUMMER GAMES EVALUATION

Following is a summary of our 2024 successes:

1. Athlete Development

- Brought athletes from all 8 zones
- Utilized over 90% of athlete allocation
- Athlete workshop conducted at the Games on the non-competition day
- M:F gender ratio was 46:54 (117:136)

2. Coaching Development

- Head Coach exemptions were required for 1 coach.
- All Assistant Coaches were Trained Club Coaches or Trained Sport Coaches
- Lauren Matheson was assigned as Mentor Coach for the new via sport program. It was well received and several coaches took up the opportunity for mentorship

3. Officials' Development

- We had various levels of officials at this event from level 2 to level 5
- Officials were mentored for advancement to higher levels
- Registered Officials were from 5 different zones

4. BC Games Partnership

- Responsive to requests and proactive in addressing issues (assumed - under review)
- A good partner (assumed – under review)
- BC Athletics clearly values their inclusion in the Games

5. Canadian Sport for Life

- CSL plan indicates that the current ages of athletes and current level of Coaches and Officials included in the BC Games are a good fit

Overall Performance (not yet reviewed).

ORGANIZATION CAPACITY

The BC Summer Games relies heavily on having key personnel in place to effectively complete the BC Summer Games process. These positions are all unpaid volunteers who commit hundreds of hours of their time to make the BC Summer Games a success. The key positions are the Provincial Advisor, Assistant Provincial Advisor, Sport Chair, eight Zones Reps and the eight Head Coaches. One of the most difficult tasks is attracting enthusiastic and competent people into these positions. We have been very fortunate to have had excellent volunteers in 2024 and hope to see them all come back for future games. Having a team of key coaches and reps will aid in greater efficiency and process in the coming years.

INITIATIVES FOR 2024-25 RELATING TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

In our last report, we identified key initiatives which are vital for our success:

1. Develop a deeper pool of Certified Club Coaches and Trained Sport Coaches willing to participate in the BC Summer Games.
 - This continues to be a critical challenge for the BC Summer Games. BC Games is a key event to develop coaches.
 - The Via Sport Coach Mentoring process should be a big help
 - BC Athletics laying out criteria and aiding in review of credentials was a huge help.
2. Improve trial selection processes, administrative processes for the games competition
 - We have developed an online declaration process which was a huge success.
 - We were able to streamline the sharing and gathering of critical information

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- required for both BC Games and BC Athletics.
3. Improve athlete, coach, parent, and volunteer awareness of the policies regarding harassment and bullying.
 - The issue of harassment and bullying is a complex social morass which requires an extensive commitment by all to support anti-policies and to be vigilant in reporting cases of both.
 4. Improve athlete, parent and coach knowledge of the rules of the Sport.
 - Ongoing.
 5. Raise awareness of the games on a Zone level to promote greater participation across the province.
 - Working as a team of zone reps to reach out to schools and to advertise the games more to promote participation

MOVING FORWARD TO KELOWNA JULY 23-26 2026

We wish to thank all who made Maple Ridge an overwhelming success.

The BC Games is a developmental program for our U16 aged athletes. It is their first opportunity to travel to a multi-sport Games, represent their region, be coached by zone coaches who they may not know, and stay away from home in Games accommodation.

The BC Games is a developmental program for zone reps, coaches, assistant coaches, managers, adult supervisors and officials. If you are new to coaching or want to become a team manager, this is a well organized, structured and good place for you to start and develop your skills. If you are a level 1- 3 official and need mentoring, this is the place for you. If you who have been faithfully serving and volunteering your time in previous Games, we need you back. To be involved, please contact us at the Provincial Advisor Email address below.

Further Information for the 2026 BC Summer Games will be posted on the BC Athletics website, BC Summer Games page.

BC Summer Games Athletics Email to Provincial Advisor:

bcsummergames@bcathletics.org

Also see the following Link: <https://www.bcathletics.org/Content/bc-summer-games/47/>

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