

## C Achieve aims to recruit more officials

At a recent meeting of the National Officials Committee ( NOC ), the discussion centred around the need to get more people into our system as trained officials.

At the N Z Championships in Hamilton last year, the average age of our officials was 62.

In five years time, many of our officials will have retired and there is a distinct possibility that we will have insufficient qualified officials to conduct NZ Championship events – particularly track and field.

One of the functions of the NOC is to assist the Regional Officials Educators (ROE's) to develop and promote courses for officials.

To have sufficient graded officials to conduct our Championships, we require a depth of officials to draw on. This starts with officials joining Athletics New Zealand and passing the C grade assessment.

The Walks community has already issued a challenge to race walks officials to complete their C grade assessment and move through the system to become our future B & A graded officials.

The C paper presentation is to be simplified and easily to use training sheets will be used. Regions will be assisted to have lecturers available when they want to run a course-this might involve bringing in lecturers from outside the region. The NOC is keen to assist Regions to develop budgets to make this and future courses possible.

Discussions will be held with clubs to see how we can encourage club members and parents to consider becoming officials. It is also important to have discussions with the Children's Clubs as these people as competitors and helpers are the future of our sport.

The NOC believes that by promoting **C Achieve**, the numbers in officials will increase. As we get more C graded officials, the enthusiastic ones will move onto B & A grade.

If you are reading this article and have considered becoming a volunteer helper in our sport, please contact your local Regional Educator as follows:

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Additional information available at <http://www.athletics.org.nz/Get-Involved/officials>