REPORT OF THE CONTROLLER OF TECHNICAL STANDARDS 2016-2017

In June 2016, Version 17 of the Rules, Appendices, and Guidelines was published. The main change from the previous version was the revision of Guideline G4 to allow the use of software for the forking of relay courses.

A major events conference was held on 8 October 2016 with 22 members attending. Topics included, Leinster Three Day, IOC 2016, controlling IOC Relays, Allocation of Start Times, and Complaints, Protests, Jury, and Appeals. Brian Bullen who was the Planner for the WOC Long Distance event in 2016 gave a very interesting and detailed talk on planning championship courses.

In March 2017, Version 18 of the Rules, Appendices, and Guidelines was published. The main changes were the introduction of a Rule on Fair Play: a revision of the Rules on Age Classes, on Entries, and Start Times and Starting Order, on Complaints, Protests, Jury, and Appeals; a revision of Guideline 2: Irish Middle Distance Championships; and the introduction of Guideline 9 Complaints, Protests, Jury, and Appeals. To support the new procedures a Risk Assessment Form, a Complaint Form, and a Protest Form were made available on the IOA website.

At the time of writing a revised Rule 5 Competition Officials had been submitted to the Executive Committee for approval. It sets out more clearly the responsibilities of the Organiser, introduces the responsibilities of the Event Co-ordinator for multi-day events, and introduces a new category of Senior Certified Event Controller. Also submitted is a revised version of Guideline 1 for C2 Long Distance events.

I would like to thank the members of the Technical Sub-Committee, Ruth Lynam (CNOC), Danny O'Hare (CorkO), Padraig Higgins (MNVO), and Raymond Finlay (FermO) for their assistance; Ruth, Aonghus O'Cleirigh (AJAX), John McCullough (3ROC), and Angus Tyner (SET) for their valuable assistance in the revision of Guideline 1; and Aine Joyce for all her good work in organising our meetings and producing the Rule documentation.

As I am stepping down at the AGM, I have greatly enjoyed looking after and bringing up-to-date the Rule Book, a job that is ongoing, but I feel that it needs some younger and energetic blood to continue with the task.

Harold White

Controller of Technical Standards