

Dear Athletics New Brunswick Members,

My name is Oliver Arnfast. I am a senior combined events athlete from the Saint John Reds Track & Field Club and the University of New Brunswick REDS. I have been a member of Athletics New Brunswick for two years; prior to that I was a member of Athletics Nova Scotia since 2017. As an athlete, I have competed at multiple national competitions including Hershey's Indoor Nationals (2019), Legion Nationals (2018, 2019), Canadian Outdoor Championships (2022) and the Canada Summer Games (2022). I have volunteered at the past two Athletics Canada Indoor Championships hosted in Saint John, the U SPORTS Championships in 2022, and the NB XC Championships in Fredericton.



Outside of my own competition, I worked as a summer student for Athletics New Brunswick in 2022. I am a trained level two official and will be working towards my level three this summer. In my role as a summer student, I acted as a program coordinator for the Saint John area, coaching, officiating, and facilitating events at the elementary, middle school, high school and club level. This experience gave me a great insight into how the sport works in the province.

At the University of New Brunswick, I am studying Mechanical engineering. I am also one of the Track and Field Team's representative on the REDS Athlete Council. The council consists of representatives from each varsity sport team and organizes many events, such as the Think Pink fundraiser, Read with the Reds, Bell Lets Talk day, athlete socials, etc.

In the role of Athlete Representative, I have several goals I hope to achieve. The first is the formation of an athlete committee. This committee would consist of representatives from each club if possible and would help to give a voice to more athletes that may be overlooked otherwise. This group would meet prior to ANB board meetings where each representative would be able to voice any issues or concerns that they or members of their club may have. These concerns would then be brought to attention to ANB staff by the Athlete Representative. This would ensure that all clubs and athletes are represented by the Athlete Representative rather than just the club which the athlete is a part of.

In addition to the athlete committee, I believe an online drop box available to members would also be very beneficial in giving a voice to all athletes. This drop box would be facilitated by google forms and would be regulated by the Athlete Representative. The box would be an anonymous way to voice opinions which would be brought to attention to ANB staff and addressed at meetings.

Best regards,

Oliver Arnfast