

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA TRACK AND FIELD OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

Devoted to the Promotion of Track and Field

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

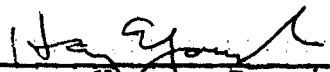
On December 18, 1971, at the weekly All-Comers Track and Field Meet, I was put in the awkward position of having to make a decision regarding participation of women in extra and open events alike. I turned down requests by participants of women's track asking to compete in this meet. I took this positive stand because I felt it was in the best interest of the Northern California Track & Field Association and the hundreds of male athletes that compete during a season of our meets. Women's events and individual participation was denied because the existing schedule of men's competition necessitated over four hours of effort.

During my stint as president of the association and as meet director, I have steadfastly maintained that these All-Comers meets were for men. On occasion special events were included for women and age group athletes with the understanding that this effort was, strictly, an accomodation for these people. During recent meets and for the last few series many of the loyal officials involved in these meets complained of additional non-scheduled events. For this reason and because I felt, for many other reasons, that involvement with women and age group competitors would detract from our winter and summer series, led me to take a firm stand. On December 18 at the meet I asked the members present to let me know how they felt about this situation. Instead of receiving a vote of confidence, the quorum present directed me to accept women competitors both on an individual basis and in limited special events.

All of these very fine and dedicated officials are, certainly, entitled to their opinions and as their chairman I am compeled to follow their dictate. This, of course, is the Democratic process that all of us so firmly believe in. Unfortunately, this mandate has left me personally in the unenviable position of having to take a complete about-face on a situation that I was most emphatic about. I still feel that the stand I took was the right one.

In reviewing all these facts I can come to only one conclusion. For the best interests of everyone concerned it becomes necessary to make a change. Effective immediately, I wish to tend my resignation as President of The Northern California Track & Field Association and subsequently, as Meet Director of the All-Comers meets.

Whoever might take over these duties has my best wishes and full cooperation.



Harry Young, President
No. Calif. Track & Field Assn.