



Essex County Athletic Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 3rd April 2017 at 19.30 hours in the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford

Present:

Ray Pearce (Acting Chairman), Gary Chandler (Treasurer), Claire Levey (Secretary), John Weir (President), Diane Wooller (President Elect), Malcolm Bailey (Minute Secretary), Linda Bates, Peter Bates, Peter Cassidy, Ron Dawson, Roy Meadowcroft, Kaye Merrywest, Paul Merrywest, Jean Tierney, Brigid Wallen.

Before the meeting started, all the committee stood for a minute's silence to pay our respects to Howard Williams who recently passed away.

(At the Essex Endurance Network Meeting on 27th March 2017, Chairman David Staines read out a personal tribute to Howard; this has been posted on the Essex Endurance website)

1a) Apologies for Absence

David Staines (Chairman), June Cork, Mike Emms, Allison Gillan, Mathew Gillard, Paul Mingay, Brian Panting,

2) Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on Monday 6th March 2017 were **approved** as a true record of that meeting.

Proposed by Claire Levey

Seconded by Paul Merrywest.

3a) Matters arising

Gary Chandler advised the meeting that he has spoken to the County Auditor (Rodney Silk) to discuss transferring a sum of money from the General into a Contingency fund within the County accounts. An amount of £12,000 has been approved (which will cover any potential liability from the Indoor & Outdoor County Track & Field Championships). This transfer will be reflected in the 2016/17 accounts.)

Due to the absence of David Staines, the following items will be carried forward to the next meeting:-

Minute Ref.	Action	By Whom
3b)	Review of questions asked by A & E Medical Services about the provision of medical services to County events	Dave Staines to review and respond to Gary Chandler
5)	Dave Staines to meet with Hayley Pegg to discuss the proposed Coach/Athletics programme	Dave Staines
14)	Letter of complaint to be sent to England Athletics about the problems that club's have been experiencing with their membership IT platform	Allison Gillan to draft a response and Dave Staines to sign on behalf of the County.

3b) Treasurer's matters

Gary reported on the anticipated financial outcome from the three recent County events:-

- **Indoor Track & Field Championships** Profit £1,038 (2016 profit £1,500) but there is a potential contingent liability of circa. £1,645. This is because of the decision to carry forward entry fees for those competitors whose events did not take place due to the power failure at the venue this year. Potentially the 2018 Championships may show a loss in the 2017/18 accounts. Total expenses were up on the previous year, the largest being that for medical cover.
- **Essex 20.** County profit £1,500 (2016 Profit £1,300). Increased profit due to more entries being accepted this year.
- **Road Relays.** At the AGM in December it was agreed that County would increase the subsidy given to host clubs of the three main XC events from £250 to £500. With the County finances still in a healthy position, it is proposed that the payment given to Harwich Runners (host club of the Road Relays) also be increased to £500 for this year.
The number of teams taking part increased from 67 in 2016 to 97 so the increase in entry fees covers the cost of the higher grant payment.
Proposed by Kaye Merrywest
Seconded by Ron Dawson

Also, Gary reported that the annual insurance premium covering the County's trophies has just been paid. This has increased by 3.9% to £780. Insurance is arranged through a specialist broker.

4a) Correspondence

Claire reported that the County's England Athletics affiliation fee is due. The invoice has been sent to the Treasurer to pay.

4b) Club/Committee Register Changes.

No changes to report.

5) Networking

Tony Benton has been in contact to request a grant to cover travelling costs for the U15 girl's team (seven athletes and one team manager) to the Sportshall National Final in Manchester.

Agreed to support this with a grant of £250.

Proposed: Claire Levey

Seconded: Jean Tierney

6) Regional Reports

No Regional meetings have taken place since the last committee.

7) Track & Field

Paul Merrywest reported that he had received a further email from one of the four complainants about the Committee's decision not to refund the Indoor Track & Field entrance fees to those competitors whose events did not take place.

The athlete from Peterborough had suggested that we were 'breaking the law' to refuse a refund (although it had been agreed that those competitors affected would be allowed to transfer their entry into the 2018 championships). This email had been sent on to Dave Staines to respond. Dave is away on holiday but he did contact the individual concerned to say that his email had been referred to the County's solicitors.

A comment was made that the person concerned had entered the Eastern rather than the Essex Championships. Essex has already paid over the monies to the Eastern Athletic Association and it was considered by those present that it was a decision for them to refund or not. The email is being

forwarded to Tony Cheatham at Eastern AA for them to decide what action to take and to respond to the person concerned.

It was agreed that the next Track & Field sub - committee would meet at the clubhouse at Chelmsford AC on 24th July. Start time 7pm.

The number of entries received for the Outdoor Track & Field Championships are around the same level as this time last year. (The closing date for entries, by post is Friday 14th April and on-line Thursday 20th April 2017)

A date has still to be agreed for the 2018 Indoor Track & field Championships. A suggestion to combine the event with the Kent Championships at Lea Valley was rejected.

Ray Pearce commented that the Essex rules Governing the County Championships need to be reviewed. There are some differences with those governing UKAA events. To be reviewed at the AGM.

Gary Chandler spoke to Trevor Sibley (Braintree AC) about the date for the 2017 10k Track County Championships at the weekend. Trevor has agreed to let Gary know within the next few days.

8) Cross Country

Nothing to report.

9) Road Running

Endurance Network meeting took place on Monday 27th March. Minutes have been published and a copy can be located on the Essex Athletics website.

The Braintree 5 was held on 2nd April from the Chelmsford City Race Course. This incorporated the 2017 County championship event. This was a new course and the facilities and route were considered excellent. We have still to decide the venue for the 2018 County event and this could be a possibility.

Team Winners of the Road Relays

Ladies – Springfield Striders

Men – Ilford AC

Team Winners at the 5 mile event

Ladies – Orion Harriers

Men – Ilford AC

Individual winners

Ladies – Elizabeth Davies 28:41 (Springfield Striders)

Men – Blair McWhirter 25:34 (Ilford AC)

10) Trophies

County currently awards a trophy for points accumulated by clubs during the season in the following age categories:-

Female

- Senior & U20 Ladies
- U17 girls
- U15 girls
- U13 girls

Male

- Senior Men
- U13 & U15 Boys, U17 and Junior Men

It was proposed by Roy Meadowcroft that we should mirror the number of trophies given to the Male as that for the Female. He proposed that County purchase two additional trophies to be awarded to:

- U13 Boys (to be known as John Dowsett trophy)
- U15 Boys (to be known as Mike Seamen trophy)

The U17 & Junior trophy, known as the Herbert Pash Cup would just be given for that age group.

All present agreed to support this proposal

Proposed; Roy Meadowcroft
Seconded: Claire Levey

11) Walking

The 10k track championships will be held at Enfield on 23rd September 2017. It will be incorporated into a one hour race that is taking place that day.

Dominic King (Colchester Harriers) has been selected to compete for Great Britain at the IAAF World Championships in London in the 50k Race Walk event.

12) Officials

At the November committee meeting it was agreed that County would cover the cost of the Health & safety fee for each person attending the courses during the early part of this year. Cost per person £10. Diane Wooller asked about how these refunds were to be made as most of the courses were paid by the clubs. 26 people attended these courses. Two were for time keeping and the rest for field events. Gary Chandler asked Diane to send him a list of the clubs concerned and the number of people attending from each club and he will send out cheques to each club.

Diane also mentioned that she is very short of volunteers to help out as ancillary helpers at the forthcoming Outdoor County Championships. Without these volunteers the event would not be able to take place. All willing volunteers are asked to email Diane Wooller at diane.wooller@btinternet.com

13) School Liaison

Nothing to report

14) Any Other Business

Gary Chandler is to contact Dave Staines to provide him with the County Medals for the Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

Meeting concluded at 8.26pm

Summary of actions

Minute Ref.	Action	By Whom
3a)	Review of questions asked by A & E Medical Services about the provision of medical services to County events	Dave Staines to review and respond to Gary Chandler
3a)	Dave Staines to meet with Hayley Pegg to discuss the proposed Coach/Athletics programme	Dave Staines
3a)	Letter of complaint to be sent to England Athletics about the problems that club's have been experiencing with their membership IT platform	Allison Gillan to draft a response and Dave Staines to sign on behalf of the County.
7)	Review Essex rules governing County Championships	For review at the AGM
12)	Diane Wooller to advise Gary Chandler of the number of people attending from each club at the Health & Safety course. Gary to send a cheque to each club (refund £10 per person)	Diane Wooller/ Gary Chandler
14)	Contact Dave Staines to provide him with the medals for the forthcoming Outdoor Track & Field Championships	Gary Chandler

Meeting agenda for Monday 5th June 2017 at 7.30pm to be held at the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the last meeting
3. Matters arising
Treasurers Matters
4. Correspondence
Club & Committee Register changes
5. Networking
6. Regional Reports
7. Track & Field
8. Cross Country
9. Road Running
10. Trophies
11. Walking
12. Officials
13. School Liaison
14. Any other business