



Essex County Athletic Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 5th March 2018 at 19.30 hours in the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford.

Present:

David Staines (Chairman), Diane Wooller (President), Gary Chandler (Treasurer), Andy Catton (President Elect), Malcolm Bailey (Minute Secretary), Richard Casey, Ron Dawson, Mike Emms, Allison Gillan, Matthew Gillard, Kaye Merywest, Paul Merrywest, Paul Mingay, Gerry O'Doherty, John Weir, John Harris (England Athletics, Club Support Manager, Hertfordshire/Essex), Alistair Gillan

1a) Apologies for Absence

Claire Levey (Secretary), Linda Bates, Peter Bates, June Cork, Ray Pearce, Jean Tierney, Brigid Wallen.

2) Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on Monday 5th February 2018 were **approved** as a true record of that meeting

Proposed by Paul Mingay and seconded by Kaye Merrywest

3a) Matters arising

Matter Arising	Update
Discuss refund of Essex XC champs at Endurance meeting	See Endurance Minutes dated 19 th February 2018
Seek written confirmation from Vanarama League that football playoffs will move to an evening kick off. Paul Merrywest, Kaye Merrywest and David Staines to decide on venue of T&F champs based on whether we have written confirmation	Written confirmation has been received from Chelmsford City FC that final will take place on the evening of the 13 th May, if Chelmsford FC reaches that stage. It is confirmed that days 2 and 3 of the champs will take place at Chelmsford. See Track & Field – agenda item 8.
Provide summary of GDPR regulations for the committee	See Agenda item 11
Vacancy for Trophies Secretary	Volunteer still sought to take on this post
Arrange £1000 donation to Essex Schools	Payment made on 5 th March.

David Staines advised that he has received 10 responses from Essex Track & Field clubs to the proposal to set up an Essex Track & Field league. 8 were in favour and 2 against. 4 clubs still to respond.

A meeting of those clubs that support the proposal will now be arranged.

3b) Treasurer's matters

Gary Chandler reported that Net Income from the Indoor County Track & Field Championships was circa. £2k, before the cost of medals are deducted.

Some £500 of the entry fees from those held over from last year's event (which were curtailed due to a power cut) were not taken up.

The County's insurance has been paid. Nominal increase of £14 this year – now £796

£250 has been paid to cover the cost of the new Road Race Grand Prix medal. This is refunded once an order is placed. However, this may have to be redesigned due to the cancellation of the Essex 20 this year (See Agenda item 10)

4a) Correspondence

Nothing to report

4b) Club/Committee Register Changes

A new club in Rochford has been formed. Known as Rochford Endurance & Distance ("RED") Runners. They have affiliated to England Athletics. We shall contact them to discuss the benefits of affiliating to County.

5) Co-option of new members onto the Committee

An email was sent to all clubs from David Staines encouraging clubs to propose new members. A response has been received from one interested party. David Staines is to follow this up.

6) Networking

Nothing to report

7) Regional Reports

Paul Merrywest has recently attended a London Region meeting. He reports that there are 3 London based clubs that fall within the Essex postal boundaries that are affiliated to England Athletics but not with County. These are Befit Today Track Academy ("BFTTA") (a club that is based at Mayesbrook Park. They are geared towards promoting athletics for children), Cyprus Flyers and East End Road Runners.

John Harris mentioned that BFTTA received a grant from the 2012 Inspiration programme and will provide contact details to Dave Staines.

Andy Catton will forward the email contact address for East End Road Runners to David Staines.

Kirsty Aitken (England Athletics, Education and Training Officer London) has been sending out bulletins to clubs informing them of forthcoming Coaches/T&F courses, which does include those taking part in Essex

Paul Merrywest raised a concern that clubs may not be checking up on coaches whose DBS checks expire. Whilst it is felt that clubs do have the necessary systems in place it is recommended that all clubs check to ensure that their Coaches' DBS are up to date.

There is a consultation taking place about the future of the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre.

The SEAA AGM was discussed. Essex does have a representative involved with the SEAA but it was felt that one of the Essex Executive Committee members should attend the next AGM. This will be placed onto the agenda for our AGM in December.

8) Track & Field

Paul & Kaye Merrywest advised that the entry form for the Outdoor County Championships has been sent out to all clubs and schools.

Due to the possibility of finishing Day 3 of these Championships early (Chelmsford City FC may need the stadium that evening) the Hammer event has been moved to the Saturday and the Javelin to the Sunday.

Entries have already been received.

John Harris mentioned that Cornwall is encouraging Road Runners to try out Track & Field events. They are putting on three evenings around the County. John Harris will provide details of these events to David Staines in order to consider whether Essex may wish to organise similar events

This year, Essex saw a 10% increase in entries into the Indoor Track & Field Championships and it is felt that the introduction of more Vets races into the Outdoor championships this may produce more entries.

The next Track & Field sub- committee will take place on 25th June 2018 at 7.30pm at Chelmsford AC.

There was some discussion about the inclusion of disabled events into the County Championships. This will be discussed at the sub – committee. In the meantime, David Staines agreed to contact clubs to ascertain how many of their members would meet the eligibility requirements for Disabled athletes and what category they would qualify.

9) Cross Country

Adam Hickey (Southend on Sea AC) won the Senior Men's National XC championships which were held at Parliament Hill on 27th February 2018. David Staines will write to Adam Hickey on behalf of the County to congratulate him. He is only the 5th ever runner from Essex that has won this event.

Record number of entries into these championships (6644 up 1156 on the 2015 record). Although it was noted that there were not many Essex runners taking part. Springfield Striders had teams finishing in both the Senior Men and Ladies events.

Richard Casey reported that the Year 7 & 8 Essex School Championships have recently taken place at Stubbers (organised by Cooper Coburn School). These were well attended.

At the recent Endurance meeting it was agreed that distances for the 2019 Senior Women and Senior Men XC Championships would be equalised. Both running 10k.

There is a consultation currently taken place about age groups for both the Ladies and Men being identical. i.e. O35, O45, O55, O65.

10) Road Running

Due to adverse weather conditions, the Essex 20 which was scheduled to take place on 4th March 2018 was cancelled. Ron Dawson mentioned that he went round the course on the Sunday and confirmed that the right decision had been made.

Rescheduling the event for Sunday 11th March was considered – but Ron Dawson advised that he would have struggled to get marshals because it is Mothering Sunday. Other dates were considered but these clashed with other events. Moving the race to the Autumn was also discounted as this is the end of the Track & Field season and the start of the XC.

Gary Chandler will advise all entrants that the race is being cancelled this year and that they will be able to transfer their entry into the 2019 race (date still to be decided). As per the entry form, no refunds will be made.

At the recent Endurance Meeting, there was a debate about ARC registered runners taking part in County events. England Athletics rules state that runners should be affiliated to EA to qualify for County events. David Staines has contacted ARC and is awaiting a response.

11) General Data Protection Regulations (“GDPR”)

These take effect in the UK from 25th May 2018. England Athletics have produced guidance to all clubs (see <https://www.englandathletics.org/clubs--community/club-management/gdpr-and-data-protection-advice>)

It is felt that clubs are aware of the impact that it will have on them although we will add this to the agenda for next month's meeting.

12) Trophies

A volunteer is still sought to take on the role as the County's Trophy Secretary. John Weir has said that he will look the trophies for the forthcoming Multi – Events Championships.

13) Walking

Nothing to report

13) Officials

Diana Wooller advised that she is still short of officials for the Main County Track & Field Championships and continues to chase potential volunteers.

Diane also mentioned that venues for the Eastern Counties Track & Field Championships have changed. Inter Counties (Hibbard Trophy) is now being held at Bury on 8th September and the main Championships at Peterborough on 30th June.

13) Schools Liaison

The National Schools Championships are being held on 17th March at Leeds. Essex is entering 6 teams.

14) Any other business

Alistair Gillan spoke about the next video that he is producing for County. He has interviewed Diana Wooller(Officials), Clive Hopkins (Road Race Measurer) and Simon Mennell (Coaching). Possibility that these could be combined into one video or three short videos.

These will be viewed at the next Executive committee meeting on 23rd April 2018.

John Harris outlined his role within England Athletics. It is a strategic role to support clubs with development priorities within the Essex and Hertfordshire area. John Harris also mentioned that EA have entered a partnership with DW Fitness First. They have 123 gyms and 88 retail shops around the country. More details can be found at:-

<https://www.englandathletics.org/athletes/athlete-registration/dw-fitness-first>

Meeting concluded at 9.16pm.

Summary of Actions

Item	Action	By Whom
3a)	Contact clubs about forming a working party to discuss an Essex Track & Field league	David Staines
5)	Potential new member to be contacted to join the Essex Executive Committee	David Staines
7)	Point of Contact for BFTTA to be provided to David Staines	John Harris
7)	Point of Contact for East End Road Runners to be provided to David Staines	Andy Catton
7)	Recommended that all clubs check to ensure that their Coaches DBS checks are still valid	All clubs
7)	Member of the Essex Executive committee to attend 2019 SEAA AGM	To be discussed at Essex AA AGM in December. Minute Secretary to add to the agenda for that meeting.
8)	Details of the Cornwall Initiative to promote Track & Field Running to Road Runners to be sent to David Staines	John Harris
8)	Contact clubs to ascertain how many of their members would meet the eligibility requirements for Disabled athletes and what category they would qualify for	David Staines
9)	Write to Adam Hickey to congratulate him on winning the National XC Championships	David Staines
12)	Volunteer sought to take on the role as County Trophies Secretary	Volunteer sought.

Meeting agenda for Monday 23rd April 2018 at 7.30pm to be held at the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the meeting of 5th March 2018
3. Matters arising
Treasurers Matters
4. Correspondence
Club & Committee Register changes
5. Co-option of members onto the Committee
6. Networking
7. Regional Reports
8. Track & Field
9. Cross Country
10. Road Running
11. 2018 General Data Protection regulations
12. Trophies
13. Walking
14. Officials
- 13 School Liaison
- 14 Essex AA Next Video – Coaching/Road Measuring and Officials
- 15 Any other business

