



Essex County Athletic Association

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

Present:

David Staines (Chairman), Gary Chandler (Treasurer), Diane Wooller (President), Malcolm Bailey (Minute Secretary), Nick Burston, Richard Casey, June Cork, Ron Dawson, Mick Emms, Allison Gillan, Kaye Merrywest, Paul Merrywest, Ray Pearce, Brigid Wallen, John Weir.

1a) Apologies for Absence

Claire Levey (Secretary), Andy Caton (President), Mathew Gillard, Paul Mingay, Gerry O'Doherty, Jean Tierney, Keith Thornton, Wendy Tydeman, Lance Williams.

2) Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on Monday 1st October 2018 were **approved** as a true record of that meeting except that 8) Cross Country the following sentence should be amended to read:-

“Only the team results would be advised to Athletic Weekly”. (Team results to be advised to Power of 10 has been DELETED from the sentence)

Proposed by Ray Pearce and seconded by Paul Merrywest.

3a) Matters arising

Item	Action	Update
3a)	Contact Keith Palmer to ask that he contact Chelmsford Council to advise them that if we book the stadium for the 2019 Outdoor Track & Field Championships that we will require the venue until 6pm on the Sunday	See agenda item 7 – Track & Field below
8)	Entry forms to be sent out to all clubs for the U13, U15 and Vets XC Championships	Entries forms have been sent out. Closing date for entries 17 th November
9)	County to enter a team into the 2019 Inter County Fell Championships	Alistair Gillan has advertised event. No great take up at the moment as date of the event is still to be announced.
14)	Contact Peter Sketchley to confirm names of people who have been a Vice President of Essex AA and those that have been awarded Life membership	Dave Staines has contacted Peter Sketchley. See agenda item 14 – Preparation for AGM
15)	WG&EL to be asked to provide a business case for the purchase of a Chip Timing System	Mike Emms has contacted WG & EL.

3c) Treasurer's matters

Gary Chandler advised the meeting that 46 clubs have now paid their 2018/19 affiliation fees to County. One club paid at the meeting. Only three clubs have not paid their fees (Be Fit For Today Track Academy, Colchester & Tendering AC and Cambridge & Coleridge AC). A further reminder will be sent to these clubs (Malcolm Bailey to Action)

Two clubs have recently affiliated for the first time – Weald Park Warriors and Running Colchester.

4a) Correspondence

Nothing to report

4b) Club/Committee Register Changes

Updated Club Secretary List will be sent out to all Essex County affiliated clubs with these minutes.

5) Networking.

Round 2 of Essex Athletic Network Sportshall events took place on 4th November 2018 with Round 3 taking place on 1st December 2018.

6) Regional Reports

Paul Merrywest was unable to attend the recent London regional meeting. He understands that the following areas were discussed at that meeting:-

- Changes in the Regional structure are under discussion.
- Crystal Palace Sports Centre – is in the midst of a review instigated by London Mayor, Sadiq Khan. Report to be completed early 2019.
- Number of affiliated runners to England Athletics continues to rise. Over 1000 new registrations from Essex based athletics (mainly road runners). Increased memberships assists England Athletics obtain additional grant funding from Sport England as it demonstrates the number of people who participate in the sport around the Country.

The South of England Athletic Association has issued a Strategy document covering the period 2018 – 2023. It is recommended that all clubs should read. A copy will be sent out to all Club Secretaries with these minutes.

7) Track & Field

The meeting was advised that a National Athletic League fixture has been scheduled on May 12th 2019. This is the date for Day 2 of the Outdoor County Championships. There was opposition to this fixture but flexibility was given to Counties to change the date that they hold their County Championships or to schedule races into other established events. The move avoids other clashes and has been designed to ensure that County Championships for Junior athletes are not impacted in any way. It was suggested that the number of senior athletes competing at County Championships in recent years has declined.

This decision affects athletes from 5 clubs in Essex.

The committee expressed considerable disappointment at this decision and consideration was given to moving the dates of the County Championships. However, with an already full calendar it is impossible to find an alternative date to hold the County Championships.

Due to the congestion of the fixture list and the difficulty of finding an acceptable alternative date it was proposed that we retain the County Championships on the dates that have already been agreed (11/12th May 2019). This was unanimously agreed by all those present.

It was also agreed that the winner of the County Championship event does not automatically gain selection for the UK Inter Counties Track & Field Championships. Relevant team manager will decide.

Kaye Merrywest advised that they have already received 37 entries for the forthcoming Indoor Track and Field championships. Schools entries will need to be received before Christmas.

At the Lea Valley Centre it is felt that the inside track is too tight for 200 metre runners. Therefore it has been decided to only use 5 lanes for the Senior and U20 events.

Venue still to be decided for the 2019 Outdoor Championships.

Venues are being sought for the 2019 5k track County championships and date and venue for the relays as Basildon are unable to accommodate our suggested date.

Chelmsford was suggested as an alternative for the relays and John Weir has agreed to investigate.

Multi-Events Championships will be held at Thurrock on 28th April 2019.

There is a vacancy for the position of Team manager for the U17 boys. John Weir may know someone who might be interested and he will approach them to ask whether they would be willing to accept.

8) Cross Country

Brigid Wallen reported that she has received a few entries for the forthcoming U13, U15 (girls & boys) and Vet Women and Men County XC championships. These are taking place on Saturday 1st December 2018 at Hilly Fields. Closing date for entries is 17th November.

9) Road Running

Since the last meeting, the final two County Road races have taken place. These were the Tiptree 10 and the Wix 5.

Both ladies' races were won by Rachel Sweatt (Witham) (Times - Tiptree 59.46 (new course record) and Wix 28.53)

Both Men's by Edward Mitchell (Colchester Harriers) (Times – Tiptree 53.49 and Wix 28.53)

This completed the 2018 Grand Prix Series. Overall winners of the series were Ladies – Rachel Sweatt and Men – Chris Burgoyne (Springfield Striders)

For the first time a medal will be awarded by County to all runners who complete at least 4 out of the 5 Grand Prix events – (this year the Essex 20 had to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions). A total of 57 runners have achieved this (21 Ladies and 36 Men). Medals have been ordered and it is expected that they will be received within the next couple of weeks.

The team selected to represent Essex at the forthcoming 10k Invitational Inter Counties race at Brighton on Sunday 18th November 2018 are:

Female

Liz Davies (Springfield Striders)

Rachael Sweatt (Witham RC)

Lyndsay Colman (Southend AC)

Rachel Wiseman (BasildonAC)

Male

Grant Twist (Havering AC)

Paul Molyneux (Springfield Striders)

James Connor (Kent AC)

Chris Burgoyne (Springfield Striders)

10) Trophies

Kaye Merrywest mentioned that she is unsure whether the Schools trophies should include results from both the Outdoor as well as Indoor events. Roy Meadowcroft did send a spreadsheet to Dave Staines/Malcolm Bailey listing 2017 winners detailing how the results were calculated. A copy of this will be sent to Kaye Merrywest.

It was suggested that a meeting is arranged in the New Year to set out how the winners of all the Essex Trophies are worked out to avoid any confusion in the future.

11) Walking

Nothing to report

12) Officials

Nothing to report.

13) Schools Liaison

Essex Schools' 2019 Cross Country Championships in January will take place at Hockley.

14) AGM

The committee unanimously agreed to support the nomination of Gerry O'Doherty as President Elect for 2019.

It was agreed that County would award Long Service Medals to officials who have given time to support athletes across the sport. It was agreed that the Trustees would get together to discuss.

Ray Pearce and Peter Sketchley have provided names of Vice Presidents and Life Members. An updated list can be produced from the basis of this information.

15) Any other business

Paul Merrywest requested authorisation to purchase a replacement laptop keyboard costing £65. He uses this for the County events. Approved by the committee.

Meeting closed at 21:09.

Summary of Actions

Item	Action	By Whom
3c)	Further reminder to be sent to the three clubs whose 2018/19 affiliation fees are still outstanding	Malcolm Bailey
7)	Venue for the 2019 County Outdoor Track & Field Championships still to be decided	County
7)	Investigate possibility of Chelmsford holding the County Track relays on Friday 28 th June 2019	John Weir
7)	Fill vacancy for U17 boys Team manager	John Weir to approach a possible volunteer

Meeting agenda for the Annual General meeting on Monday 3rd December 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 AGM held on 4th December 2017
3. Matters Arising
4. Presentation of Accounts
5. Presentation of Secretary's Report
6. Election of Officers and Executive Committee:
 - a) The President
 - b) The President Elect – Nominations
 - c) Life Vice Presidents & Life Memberships – Nominations]
 - d) Honorary Treasurer
 - e) Honorary Secretary
 - f) Chairman
 - g) Vice Presidents/Life Members (Elective 6)
 - h) Members 21 (includes 1 from the Essex County Schools Athletic Association)
 - i) Honorary Auditors
 - j) Honorary Trustees
7. Presentation of Trophies
8. Election of Officers for Executive Committee:
 - a) Track & Field Championship Secretary's
 - b) Track & Field Secretary Track & Field Team Managers
 - c) Cross Country Secretary

- d) Cross Country Team Managers
- e) Road Running Secretary
- f) Walking Secretary
- g) Race Walking Association Representative
- h) Race Walking Association Representative
- i) Eastern Region AA Representative
- j) Officials Secretary
- k) Championship Records Secretary
- l) Trophies Secretary
- m) School Liaison Representative.