



Essex County Athletic Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 4th November 2019 at 19:30 hours in the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford.

Present:

Gary Chandler (Treasurer), Claire Levey (Secretary), Andy Catton (President), Gerry O'Doherty (President Elect), Malcolm Bailey (Minute Secretary), Chris Akehurst, Linda Bates, Peter Bates, Nick Burston, June Cork, Mathew Gillard, Ray Pearce, Jean Tierney, Brigid Wallen, John Weir, Diane Wooller.

1a) Apologies for Absence

David Staines (Chair) Ron Dawson, Mike Emms, Allison Gillan, Kaye Merrywest, Paul Merrywest, Paul Mingay, Lance Williams.

In the absence of David Staines, Gary Chandler volunteered to chair this meeting. No objections were received and Gary took the chair.

2) Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 7th October 2019 were **approved** as a true record of that meeting, subject to the following amendment:-

A discussion did take place although it was not noted in the minutes about runners who declare themselves as gender neutral in entry forms as to whether they are still eligible for awards. After the meeting, Brigid Wallen contacted England Athletics who responded as follows:-

Please see below the link to EA non-binary guidelines which will assist:-

<https://www.uka.org.uk/media/news/2018-news-page/september-2018/04-09-18-non-binary-guidance/>

Proposed by Ray Pearce and Seconded by June Cork.

3a) Matters arising

The 2020 5k track championships will be held at Braintree on 10th June and the 10k track championships at Chelmsford on 8th July.

Jean Tierney reported that the athlete who was reimbursed £25 by County because there had been some misunderstanding regarding the timings of his event in the Inter Counties Track & Field Championships was very grateful and wanted to pass on his thanks to the committee.

3c) Treasurer's matters

Gary Chandler reported that 10 clubs have still to pay their County affiliation fees for the 2019/20 season. These are Barking Road Runners, Great Bentley Running Club, Harlow AC, Harlow RC, Cambridge & Coleridge AC, Be Fit for Today Athletics, JBR Essex Triathlon Club, Running Colchester, Weald Park Warriors, Rochford Running Club. All clubs have been chased.

Entry from runners to compete in Vets and Young athletes County Championship event from these clubs will be rejected until these fees have been paid.

Gary is still in the process of setting up an on line payment system through the County Bank, Barclays. It was agreed that Claire Levey will be added as an additional authoriser (in addition to Allison Gillan).

4a) Correspondence

Claire Levey has sent out two emails that she has received from UK Athletics to all clubs.

TrackMark update – an up to date map has now been posted of all venues in the UK; which provides an update of their TrackMark status and their ability to host licenced events. This will be updated on a weekly basis.

2020 Fixtures – Noted that there are two dates for the County Outdoor Track & Field Championships – main date is 30/31st May with the 9/10th as a secondary date. There will be only one date in 2021.

4b) Club/Committee Register Changes

An update club Secretary List will be sent to all clubs with a copy of these minutes.

5) Networking

John Weir reported that Round two of the Essex Athletic Network (“EAN”), Sportshall event took place on 3rd November at Chelmsford. 95 athletes took part. An increase of some 15 on the first round. Round three is on the 7th December 2019. The Regional finals will be taking place at Colchester on 19th January 2019. In order to be eligible for selection for the Essex team’s athletes must have competed in at least one of the three rounds and in a diverse range of events. Athletes selected must also be available for a Training session which is being held on January 11th 2020.

6) Regional Reports.

Nothing to report.

7) SEAA

Nothing to report.

8) Track & Field

As mentioned earlier two dates have been noted by UKA for the 2020 Outdoor County Track & Field Championships. Essex has decided to host ours on the secondary date of the weekend 9th and 10th May. The track has been booked and appropriate licences obtained.

Diane Wooller asked that it be placed on record that she has concerns about whether she will be able to obtain sufficient experienced senior officials to support these championships on the dates agreed. It clashes with the British University Championships (BUCS) which is taking place over 8th – 10th May and a number of officials that normally support the Essex Championships have already indicated that they will be attending the BUCS event. If insufficient officials support our event, it may mean that the event will have to be cancelled. Claire Levey endorsed Diane’s comments.

The next Track & Field subcommittee meeting will take place in March 2020 and all track & field clubs will be encouraged to send a representative.

It was also noted that there may be another fixture clash in 2020. The combined events championships which are being held at Thurrock on 26th April may be a potential date for a UK Youth Development league (“YDL”) fixture. This will affect four clubs in Essex that compete in this league (Havering AC, Basildon AC, Woodford Green & Essex Ladies and Orion Harriers)

9) Cross Country.

Dates and venues for the 2019/20 XC Fixtures:-

Date	Event	Venue
2019		
30 th November	Essex Vets and U13, U15 County Championships	Writtle University College
7 th December	SEAA Masters and Inter Counties	Horspath, Oxford
14 th December	Essex League	Writtle University College
2020		
4 th January	Senior and U17 and U20 Championships	Gloucester Park Basildon
11 th January	Essex League	Hilly Fields
15 th February	Essex League	Great Notley Country Park
22 nd February	English XC Championships	Wollaton Park, Nottingham

The Essex Vets and U13 & U15 County Championships will be chip timed. Entry forms have been sent to all clubs. Closing date is 17th November.

10) Road Running

An Endurance Subcommittee meeting took place on 21st October and minutes from this meeting have been sent to all clubs and posted on the website.

Key items highlighted:-

- Last race of the County Road Championships is the Stebbing 10 which is taking place on 10th November. Race is full. Grand Prix series medals and trophies for the individual and teams will be presented on the day.
- Eight Counties are now taking part in the Invitational Inter Counties event at the Essex 20. In addition to the Counties advised at the Endurance meeting, Bedfordshire has now agreed to send a team.
- Essex 20 has now sold out; although six entries were received from unaffiliated runners. They have all been contacted and advised that they will not be able to take part unless they affiliate to England Athletics and are eligible to take part by way of Essex registration. There will not be a waiting list although runners can transfer their entry to another eligible athlete.
- There will be a V60 team competition (as well as a V40 & V50) in the Road Relay championships which are being held at Colchester on 15th March 2020.
- Howard Williams trophy – nomination forms will be sent out to all clubs at the end of November. Clubs are asked to nominate their top three events but this year it has been agreed that a club cannot vote for their own race.

11) Fell running

Nothing to report.

12) Trophies

Mike Emms was unable to attend the meeting. He sent a report to advise that:-

- He is contacting Basildon AC, Havering AC Chelmsford AC and Newham & Essex Beagles AC to remind them to return their Points trophies ready for presentation at the forthcoming AGM.
- After the Stebbing 10, he will be able to inform the winners of this year's trophies.

13) Walking

Nothing to report

14) Officials

Diane Wooller reported that she has received a good response from officials to attend the 2020 Indoor Track & Field Championships.

Diane is going to hold an officials course at Chelmsford in 2020. This will include Time keeping, Track and Field disciplines. These will be advertised on the England Athletics website and details emailed to all club secretaries and current officials.

15) Schools Liaison

Nothing to report

16) AGM

Dave Staines had previously advised the committee that he will be standing down as Chair at the forthcoming AGM.

Andy Catton has indicated his willingness to stand.

It is also proposed that the number of Executive committees meetings be reduced to 5 (every two months).

A proposal was discussed to appoint a Vice Chair. It was pointed out that this would require a change to the constitution. The existing constitution confirms that the honorary treasurer, honorary secretary and president (in addition to the chairman) are collectively responsible for the management of the Association and so with both the secretary and treasurer confirming they were willing so “cover” the chairman there was no need to appoint vice chairs and change the constitution.

There will be a vacancy for the County Walking secretary. A name was mentioned and Andy Catton agreed to contact this individual.

A nomination has been received for a new member to stand on the Executive committee – Scott Darney (Witham Running Club). Further nominations would be welcome as there are vacancies on the committee.

The proposals to award five new life memberships were agreed. Proposed Ray Pearce Seconded Jean Tierney.

Claire Levey to contact all those nominated.

Gary Chandler agreed to organise the plaques which will be presented to those that have been nominated.

Refreshments for the AGM will be organised by Gary Chandler.

17) Any other business

Andy Catton wished to place on record his appreciation to everyone who supported him during his year as President. He mentioned Mike Emms in particular who assisted him with the presentation of the County medals.

Meeting closed at 20:41

Summary of Actions

Item	Action	By Whom
16	Nominations are sought to take over the role as County Walking Secretary	All clubs
16	Nominations are sought for the vacant positions on the Executive Committee	All clubs

Meeting agenda for the next Executive meeting (date and time to be advised) to be held at the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford.

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the meeting of 4th November 2019
3. Matters arising
Treasurers Matters
4. Correspondence
Club & Committee Register changes
5. Networking
6. Regional Reports
7. SEAA
8. Track & Field
9. Cross Country
10. Road Running
11. Fell Running
12. Trophies
13. Walking
14. Officials
15. School's Liaison
16. Any other business