

## Avon Athletic Association

**Minutes** of the 2015 Annual General Meeting of the Avon Athletic Association, held on Monday March 23rd 2015, in Room 2B066, Block B, UWE Frenchay Campus, Bristol, starting at 8.10pm.

**Those Present:** John Deaton (Secretary), Mike Down (Bristol & West AC), Rachael Fisher (Vice-Chairperson, North Somerset AC), Pam Gooding (Life Member), Ray Gooding (Officials Secretary), Jim Murphy (Westbury H./Welfare), Hilary Nash (Treasurer / Bristol & West AC), Lesley Nunn (Avon Schools AA), Stuart Nunn (Yate & District AC), John Robbins (President), Jim Strudwick (Yate & District AC), Mike Willcox (GWR).

**Apologies:** Ian Macintosh (Trustee), Neil Miller (Westbury H. ). John Robbins took the Chair for the first items.

**Minutes of Previous AGM** (March 24th 2014): accepted.

**Matters Arising:** None.

**Secretary's Report:** Circulated in advance (copies available on request). Mike Down proposed a vote of thanks to the Secretary for his work.

**Treasurer's Report:** Hilary Nash's final version of the Annual Accounts had been circulated prior to the meeting (copies available on request). Independent Examination of Accounts: the appointed Examiner still had accounts from some previous years, so Hilary had asked Sue Marchant (a qualified accountant) to examine the 2014 books: the meeting approved this action.

John Robbins commented on the Association's strong financial position, partly due to the more rigorous financial regime brought in under Gordon Robbins's Chairmanship. Lesley Nunn felt that there was an impression that it was difficult to get the Association to spend money: John Robbins denied that had been the Association's intention. Mike Down pointed out that several clubs had in recent years sought funding from the Avon Network rather than the Association. John Deaton reminded the meeting that the Avon AA tent and projector were both available to clubs on loan.

The meeting thanked Hilary for his work on the Accounts.

### Election of Officers:

President:	Pam Gooding	Elected unanimously
	(Pam Gooding took the Chair for the next item)	
Chairperson:	John Robbins	Elected unanimously
	(John Robbins re-took the Chair of the meeting)	
Vice-Chairperson :	Rachael Fisher	Re-elected unanimously
Secretary:	John Deaton	Re-elected unanimously
Treasurer:	Hilary Nash	Re-elected unanimously

### Election of other Secretaries / Coordinators:

Officials Secretary (Track and Field)	Ray Gooding	Re-elected unanimously
Officials Secretary (Endurance)	Ray Gooding	Elected unanimously
Cross-Country Coordinator	No nomination	
Road Running Coordinator	No nomination	

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Track and Field Coordinator	No nomination.	The arrangements for the 2015 T&F Championships are being handled by a group of activists.
Sportshall Coordinator	Dave Turner	Re-elected unanimously
Welfare Officer	James Murphy	Re-elected unanimously
Webmaster	John Deaton	Re-elected unanimously
Coaching Coordinator	Jim Strudwick	Elected unanimously

#### Election of Team Managers:

Cross-Country (Senior and U/20)	Keith Brackstone is willing to manage the Senior and U20 Women, and Chris Elson to manage the Senior Men.	
Cross-Country (other age groups)	Neil Miller / Steve Parsons (subject to acceptance)	
Track and Field (Senior and U/20)	Ken Holmes	(subject to acceptance)
Track and Field (Younger age gps.)	Dean Garrett	(subject to acceptance)
Road Running:	There is no current Inter-County road-running competition: the Road Running Coordinator would be asked to seek a volunteer should the need arise.	

**Election of Trustee:** Ian Macintosh was re-elected unanimously for a three-year term.

**Election of Independent Examiner:** Sue Marchant was appointed to this post.

#### Proposals for Amendments to the Constitution:

Agenda item 11.1.1: "Delete paragraph 2h in its entirety. This is no longer a requirement for County Associations as, although desirable, it has been transferred to the Networks." Ray Gooding withdrew this and agreed to second the next item:

Agenda Item 11.1.2: "Amend paragraph 2h to read 'To advocate and encourage the development of coaching **and officiating** in the county'". Accepted unanimously.

Agenda Item 11.3: "Delete paragraph 4b and replace it with 'At the Annual General Meeting the following executive officers of the Association shall be elected:

- Chairperson (Who should not be expected to stand for more than 3 years).
- General Secretary
- Treasurer
- Officials Secretary (**whose role is to be in accordance with the England Athletics document "The Role of the Officials Secretary in England". This role can be fulfilled by either one or two persons covering both Track & Field and Endurance officials).**
- Competition Coordinator (whose role is to organise the County Championships and any other meetings approved by the executive committee)".

Ray Gooding agreed to withdraw this item provided that the wording in bold type above could be included in the relevant section of the current Constitution: this was agreed unanimously.

Agenda Item 11.3: "Delete paragraph 4c, which currently reads: "The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers elected under 4b plus two delegates from each affiliated club or association and nominated by that club or association. The General Secretary should be notified of the names of each club or association's delegates within 28 days of their election". Withdrawn.

Agenda Item 11.4: "Delete paragraph 4e, which currently reads: 'A sub-committee, with power to co-opt, may be appointed at the Annual General Meeting, or by the Executive committee, to deal with any matter which could more conveniently be dealt with by a sub- committee'"'. Withdrawn.

Agenda Item 11.5: "In paragraph 4j, delete the reference to "Vice-Chairperson"". Withdrawn.

Agenda Item 11.6: "Replace the current paragraph 5e with 'A quorum at the Annual General Meeting shall be 3 persons excluding the Chairman and General Secretary'". Withdrawn.

Agenda Item 11.7: "Replace the current paragraph 5f with: 'A quorum at an Executive Committee Meeting shall be 2 persons excluding the Chairman and General Secretary'". Withdrawn.

Agenda Item 11.8: "Replace the third sentence of Section 9 (Dissolution), which currently reads 'Assets will be distributed proportionally according to the membership of each current Affiliated club registered at the time before the date of this Meeting' with 'Assets may be distributed proportionally according to the membership of each current Affiliated club registered at the time before the date of this Meeting: the final decision remaining with the Trustees.'".

Several of those present were uneasy about the wording of this proposal, but were divided on the best format of such a paragraph. Ray Gooding agreed to withdraw the item, provided that it would be discussed as part of a general revision of the Constitution during the following year: the meeting agreed with Ray's request.

Agenda Item 12: "That the meeting authorises the General Secretary to issue a revised version of the Constitution, re-numbered to take account of any of the above Motions which the meeting has seen fit to approve". Accepted unanimously.

**Meeting Closed** at about 8.45pm.