

## Avon Athletic Association

**Minutes** of an abbreviated Management Committee Meeting of the Avon Athletic Association, held on Wednesday 7th July 2021, by Zoom, starting at 7.05pm.

**Those Present:** John Deaton (General Secretary), Pam Gooding (President), Ray Gooding (Officials Secretary), Hilary Nash (Treasurer / Bristol & West AC), John Robbins (Chairperson).

**Apologies:** Debbie Brooks, John Cox (GWR), Kelly Dicks (GWR), Mike Down (Bristol & West AC / Life Member), Helen Leaney (North Somerset AC), Ian Macintosh (Life Member), Penny Mannings (North Somerset AC), Arthur Renshaw (Thornbury RC), Di Viles (Team Bath AC).

**Minutes of previous Committee Meeting:** (24th May 2021): Accepted.

**Matters Arising:** None.

### **Decision on 2021 Avon T&F Championships:**

The meeting needed to decide whether to accept the Somerset AA invitation to hold our championships in conjunction with theirs at Yeovil on August 21st and 22nd, or to hold our own event in September (the Yate track had been provisionally booked for Sunday 26th September).

The Secretary had received various opinions from local activists in favour of each of the options. However the meeting was not confident that we could provide an adequate range of officials and helpers to hold a single-county Championships at the end of September. In particular, we had not yet identified any potential Meeting Manager. The meeting felt that a two-County event would provide a broader range of competition, but recognised that some potential competitors will be away on holiday.

The meeting agreed to accept the Somerset AA invitation: the Secretary would contact the Somerset AA organiser promptly. Points to note:

..... the Committee would give Somerset full discretion in the allocation of athletes to heats. Avon AA titles would be awarded on heat times where necessary

..... as the Somerset AA are not presenting medals (at least, on the day), Avon would not do so either

..... Avon would encourage their officials to attend (some have already undertaken to do so), and would be prepared to offer contributions towards petrol expenses (per car, not per official)

The Committee would be prepared to consider promoting a low-key Open meeting with a limited range of events on September 26th (without any titles at stake). This meeting could include relays if there is the demand; however we would need sufficient support from clubs and activists for the meeting to go ahead.

### **Treasurer's Report:** (Distributed in advance; copies available on request):

1. The Independent Examination of the Accounts is under way.
2. The Treasurer was not prepared to handle the funds of Team Avon after 31st December 2021.

**Officials Secretary's Report:** This was distributed in advance (copies available on request).

### **Road Running / Endurance Matters:**

Arthur Renshaw had reported the following items:

..... there was no obvious prospect of any Avon AA Road Race Championships this year

..... there are few races actually going ahead in the area: many of these are staged by third-party companies.

..... Team Bath AC are to be congratulated for successfully organising the Cotswold Way Relay for 100 Teams on July 3rd.

..... Thornbury RC are looking to replace the SundaysHill 10k (cancelled for 2021, and probably permanently) with a new local road 10k race in October.

..... he plans to re-start issuing the Avon Race Diary after July 19th once final restrictions are lifted.

John Robbins reported that the Chew Valley 10km (September 12th) and the Bristol 10km / Half Marathon (September 19th) will be going ahead (as much as can be guaranteed in the present situation).

**Any Other Business requiring Immediate Attention:** None.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 13th September (provisional).

**Meeting Closed** at about 7.50pm.