

Avon Athletic Association

Minutes of an abbreviated Management Committee Meeting of the Avon Athletic Association, held on Monday March 24th 2014, in Room 2B066, Block B, UWE Frenchay Campus, Bristol, starting at 7.30pm.

Note: as the quorum for a General Meeting had not been reached by 7.30pm, the Acting Chairperson agreed to proceed with the Abbreviated Committee meeting first.

Those Present: John Deaton (Secretary), Mike Down (Bristol & West AC), Rachael Fisher (Acting Chairperson, North Somerset AC), Pam Gooding (Life Member), Ray Gooding (Officials Secretary), Neil Miller (Westbury H. / SW Council), Hilary Nash (Treasurer / Bristol & West AC), Lesley Nunn (Avon Schools AA), Stuart Nunn (Yate & District AC), Ben Redwood (T&F Coordinator / Yate & District AC), John Robbins (President), Gareth Thomas (Thornbury RC), Mike Willcox (GWR).

Apologies: Dave Coales (Team Bath AC), Ian Macintosh (Trustee), Jim Murphy (Westbury H./Welfare), Gordon Robbins (Road Running Coordinator), Mike Strange (Life Member)

Minutes of Previous Meeting: (January 27th 2014): The draft version of the Accounts presented by Hilary Nash was that for 2013, not 2012. Otherwise: accepted.

Matters Arising :

1. Sportshall: Both Under-11's teams won their inter-County competitions. All four Under-13/15 teams won their sections of the South-West Championships and so qualify for the UK Finals. The Under-13's events will be held on Saturday April 5th and the Under-15's events will be on Sunday April 6th, both in Manchester.
2. Reductions in implement weights for some younger female throwers: all four tracks in the area either have the required implements already or have them on order.
3. Outstanding affiliation fees: Secretary still has to contact the three organizations concerned.
4. Officials Courses: the "Introduction to Officiating" course planned for March 9th was cancelled, but the Level 2 Track Judge and Timekeepers course went ahead as scheduled. The Avon Network had agreed to reimburse the course fees of those Avon activists who attended once they had officiated at enough meetings to qualify at Level 2(a) and received their UKA Licence.
5. The Avon AA Open Meeting on Tuesday May 13th and the Bristol & West AC Open Meeting on Tuesday April 29th have been moved to the Whitehall Track; the British League Division 2 fixture due to be at the Kip Keino Stadium has been moved to Bath University.
6. Avon and Somerset teams had taken part in the UK CAU Inter-Counties Championships in Birmingham on Saturday March 8th.
7. England Athletics document on athlete registration and club affiliation: this had been a leaked preliminary document which has now been superseded.

Treasurer's Report: The Officers had authorized purchase of a digital projector for use on March 23rd and other similar events in the area. There were some applications for grants towards coaching courses outstanding.

Avon/West of England T&F Championships:

1. The Track and First Aid had been booked. The number of medals required had been assessed but no order placed yet. There was no definite indication that an on-line system was immediately available to us, so we would proceed with a manual entry system.
2. Ray Gooding had had only 9 acceptances so far for the meeting from local officials. Bill Kingston would be invited to act as Field Referee.
3. Other Roles: Rachael Fisher had offered to cover on-the-day duties such as number issuing; however that would mean she would be unavailable as a Field Judge. Hilary Nash offered to order results cards etc. and to prepare a check-list of roles to be filled; Stuart Nunn offered to put together a team for hurdles shifting.
4. For Under-13's and Under-15's (both boys and girls), either the 800m or 1500m (still to be decided) would be held as part of the Avon AA Open Meeting on Tuesday May 13th, thus enabling Avon middle-distance athletes in those age groups to challenge for both Championships. Entry for those May 13th events would be on-the-day, not via the main Championships entry form.

Scheduled Meeting of South-West County T&F / Cross-Country Representatives

This will be held on Saturday April 5th at Taunton, to discuss the format of both the Summer and Winter South-West Inter-Counties Championships. The Secretary considered that there was little likelihood of major changes to the format of either meeting as long as EA's tendering process was in place. The meeting felt that the Cross-Country event should be primarily a club event, with the inter-county aspect as secondary. No-one from those present was available to attend this meeting: the Secretary would e-mail the Association's views to the meeting convenor.

Any Other Business Requiring Prompt Action

The Rodway Easy Runner MT race had gone ahead well under the organization of Emersons Green Running Club: there had been some controversy over the awards made when a runner in the Masters category had been the overall race winner. John Robbins would contact Gordon Robbins to see what could be sorted out.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday May 28th 2014, at UWE (subject to room availability).

Meeting Closed at about 8.20pm.