

Avon Athletic Association

Minutes of an abbreviated Management Committee Meeting of the Avon Athletic Association, held on Monday 25th March 2019, in Room 3B044, Block B, UWE Frenchay Campus, Bristol, starting at 8.20pm.

Those Present: Martin Bates (North Somerset AC), Roger Brocklesby (Bristol & West AC), John Deaton (General Secretary), Pam Gooding (President), Ray Gooding (Officials Secretary), Penny Mannings (North Somerset AC), Arthur Renshaw (Thornbury RC), John Robbins (Chairperson), Mike Willcox (GWR)

Apologies: Mike Down (Bristol & West AC / Life Member), Ian Macintosh (Trustee), James Murphy (Welfare / Westbury Harriers), Neil Miller (Westbury Harriers), Hilary Nash (Treasurer / Bristol & West AC), Lesley Nunn (Life Member), Stuart Nunn (Yate & District AC), Mike Strange (Bristol & West AC / Life Member), Jim Strudwick (Avon Schools AA),

Minutes of previous Committee Meeting: (28th January 2019): Information from Outside Bodies section 1: paragraph 3 should read "... current EA Regional Council Chair **Keith Reed** and current Council member Mo Pearson ...". Otherwise: accepted.

Matters Arising:

1. Road Running / Endurance Matters: [Post-Meeting Note: the South-West Inter-Counties Road Running Championships events will be the Chippenham Half Marathon on Sunday 8th September and the Gloucester 10km on Sunday 24th November]. The County still has no Road Running Team Manager.
2. UK CAU Cross-Country Championships (Loughborough, 9th March): last year's problem was mud; this year's was a strong wind, which prevented us erecting the Wells City Harriers tent as a base, and caused extra damage to the bottom section of the Avon AA banner's support rod (the makers cannot supply a replacement section). Three A&S athletes placed in the first fifteen places in their races, but there were no particularly high team placings.

Treasurer's Report: Hilary Nash had supplied a list of transactions since the end of the financial year (available on request). The report was accepted.

Officials Secretary's Report:

1. Ray Gooding reported on the Level 1 Field Judges course at Downend on Sunday March 3rd; 13 candidates registered, 11 appeared (9 from Bristol & West AC, 2 from well outside the county). The monitoring Level 4 Official had been brought down from the north-West of England.
2. Ray was critical of the EA requirement for minimum numbers of delegates for a course to go ahead. For some of the more specialist courses, inevitably with fewer delegates, suitable private homes could be used, but EA seem to be reluctant to authorize this.
3. Endurance official Kay Hall has had her status de-activated; another official could lose their status shortly because their DBS check is overdue.
4. Ray has recruited extra officials for the Team Bath AC FieldFest meeting and for the SGAS Inter-College meeting on May 8th at the Kip Keino Stadium (the parking issue has been resolved for this meeting), but the planned Bath University AC meeting will not be going ahead.
5. England Athletics is organizing various Level 1 Officials courses in the area, including Track Judge / Field Judge / Health & Safety courses at Cheltenham on Sunday June 9th.

Arrangements for 2019 Avon AA Track and Field Championships

1. The Championships events will be split between the following Open meetings: June 12th at Yate; 26th June at Bath University; 17th July at Yate; 14th August at Yate. Advance registration would be preferred for each of the Open events, and will be a requirement for those wanting to be eligible for County medals.
2. For the Open meetings at Yate, John Robbins will be arranging for the relevant meeting licences, and is seeking volunteers for handling pre-entries.

Any Other Business:

1. John Deaton has been elected to the England Athletics South-West Council [post-meeting note: the new Chair of the EA South-West Council is Richard Llewellyn-Eaton].
2. From April 1st 2019, all newly-qualifying coaches, and all existing coaches whose DBS certification comes up for renewal (all disciplines) will be required to go through an on-line Safeguarding course. This will cost £10; the course can be accessed at <https://www.ulearnathletics.com/module/161>.
3. Arthur Dagger Memorial Awards: Mike Willcox reported that only six applications had been received this year (normally there are over twice that number), although they were of such quality that awards could be made to all. Both GWR and the Avon AA would give extra publicity to the next round of applications, but clubs would need to play their part in informing their members of the opportunity.
4. Sportshall: at the South-West Sportshall Championships on March 9th at Paignton the Under-13 Boys kept their winning run going but the Under-15's winning sequence was broken: they, and the two Girls teams, finished second to Devon.

The Under-13 Boys team would again qualify for the finals at Manchester: this would involve travel on the previous day and overnight accommodation. Dave Turner estimated that after existing calls on income, there was still a likely shortfall of about £480; the meeting agreed to award a subsidy of £240 to the fixture costs.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday May 20th 2019, 7.30pm., at UWE Frenchay Campus (subject to room booking).

Meeting Closed at about 9.10pm.