

Avon Athletic Association

Minutes of a Management Committee Meeting of the Avon Athletic Association, held on Monday March 14th 2022, by Zoom, starting at about 7.25pm.

Those Present: Debbie Brooks, John Cox (GWR), John Deaton (General Secretary), Pam Gooding (President), Ray Gooding (Life Vice-President), Andrea Garcia-Lock (SGS College), Penny Mannings (North Somerset AC), James Murphy (Welfare / Westbury Harriers), Hilary Nash (Treasurer / Bristol & West AC), Arthur Renshaw (Thornbury RC), John Robbins (Chairperson), Jim Strudwick (Avon Schools AA), Mark Thomas (Team Bath AC).

Apologies: Martin Bates (North Somerset AC), Kelly Dicks (GWR), Ian Macintosh (Life Member), Neil Miller (Westbury Harriers), Mike Strange (Bristol & West AC / Life Member).

Minutes of previous Committee Meeting: First part of Officials Report should have read :

1. Added to Avon Lists: Jim Lawrence : Timekeeper level 3; Field Judge level 2; Track judge level 3 [note: "second-claim" for Avon, first-claim for Buckinghamshire].

Otherwise: Accepted.

Matters Arising:

1. The second day of the South-West Indoor T&F Championships went ahead on Sunday February 20th. The EA South-West Council, and the East Wales and West Wales Regional Councils all presented medals for this meeting , but the South Wales Regional Council faced criticisms for not doing so.
2. The 2022 South-West Inter-Counties T&F Championships has been put back to Sunday July 24th.
3. Mark Thomas's T&F Official status: Ray Gooding had continued to pursue this issue. He was in contact with a new staff member at England Athletics, who had apologised for the mistakes made on this matter (possibly arising from changes of staff at EA) and who would be progressing the upgrading.

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

1. Hilary had reimbursed John Deaton for the entry fees of £215-00 for the UK CAU Inter-Counties Cross-Country Championships, and Ray Gooding for £197-86 for the repair of the Seiko printer / watch.
2. Hilary had received a further batch of Avon AA vests at a cost of £691-20. It should be noted that VAT is now chargeable on all sizes of vests, as it has been ruled that they are adult clothing even if wearable by children. For the next re-stocking of vests, additional quotations would be sought.
3. It was agreed that Avon AA vest prices should be £15 for new vests and £10 for used vests.
4. Loan of Avon AA vests to Team Avon in the YDL Upper Age Group: Hilary requested that at the end of each Track season, the relevant Team Avon Team Managers should provide a return of the number of vests in each category (gender / size / New vs. Used) held by them. Re-supply could be dependent on this information being made available.

Hilary may be contacted by the Somerset AA Treasurer concerning the Avon & Somerset vest supply.

Road Running / Endurance Matters:

1. Arthur Renshaw was content with the provisional list of Avon County Road Championships as quoted in the January 2022 Minutes (Hogweed 10km on Monday 30th May; Cleeve Road Relays (Sunday 28th August); Oldbury Power 10 Miles (Sunday 18th September)).

2. The Rodway Easy Runner MT race normally held in a Sunday in mid-March is being planned for a Friday evening in August (details awaited).

Arrangements for the 2022 Avon AA Track and Field Championships :

The Championships will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 14th May and most of the day on Sunday May 15th, both at the Yate Outdoor Sports Centre.

1. John Robbins would shortly distribute the provisional timetables, and local activists are urged to examine and comment on these. He is also in contact with David Cooke (Somerset AA Secretary / Championships organiser).
2. There may be a Quadtots competition, but with limited numbers.
3. Entry fees will be £8-00 for the first event and £2-00 for each subsequent event (whether on the Saturday or the Sunday). Steve Grant has arranged for the EntryCentral system to be used again, and data from the cancelled 2020 event has been transferred into the 2022 setup.
4. The 800m events will be on the Saturday and the 1500m events on the Sunday, so that U13/U15 middle-distance athletes are able to contend for both Championships.

There may be 3000m Championships events on the Saturday. If there is a "Night of the 5000s" or similar event during the Summer, we could consider asking to have the Avon Championships incorporated.

5. The Somerset AA will be holding their Steeplechase Championships events on the morning of Saturday 14th May, at Yeovil, and those Avon athletes wishing competition on Steeplechase should consider taking part as guests (whether these will be recognised as Avon Championships still has to be decided).
6. We hope to be able to make medal presentations on the day, in batches at set times in the programme as official results become available.
7. Mr. Ravi Bagdi's party of young Indian athletes hope to be able to take part in the meeting. In that case, any Indian athlete in a medal-winning position receives the medal corresponding to their position, while Avon competitors will be allocated medals as if the Indian athletes had not taken part.
8. A Licence application will need to be made, which will require the names of the Lead Officials.

Any Other Business: Items covered elsewhere in the Minutes.

Date of Next Committee Meeting: Monday 25th April, 7.00pm., by Zoom. It may be possible to arrange for the meeting to be sub-titled.

Meeting Closed at about 8.20pm.