

## Avon Athletic Association

**Minutes** of a Management Committee meeting, held on Monday October 4th 2010, at the Civil Service Sports Club, Filton Avenue, Bristol, starting at 7.30pm.

**Those Present:** Gordon Robbins (Chair, Road Running Co-ordinator, Bitton RR); Keith Brackstone (CC Coordinator), John Deaton (Secretary), Mike Down (Bristol & West AC), Rachael Fisher (NSAC), Ray Gooding (Officials Secretary), Hilary Nash (Treasurer / Bristol & West AC), Gareth Thomas (Thornbury RC) .

**Apologies :** Pam Gooding (Life Member), Neil Miller (Westbury/SW Council), Jim Murphy (Westbury H. /Welfare), Lesley Nunn (Avon Schools AA), Stuart Nunn (Yate & District AC), John Robbins (President), Tim Snowdon (Avon Network), Mike Strange (Life Member), Jo Thomas (NSAC), Mike Willcox (GWR).

**Minutes of Previous Meeting** (July 26th 2010): List of apologies: add Gareth Thomas (Thornbury RC). Eligibility: Joanne Russ should read Joanne Ross. Date of SW Road Running Group seminar date should have read Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September. With these corrections, the minutes were accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting.

### Matters Arising:

1. Presentations Evening: arrangements in hand.
2. Proposed Primary Age Group Championships: continuing minute.
3. SW Road Running Group Seminar (September 25th): called off after the main speaker pulled out.
4. South-West Inter-Counties T&F Championships (8<sup>th</sup> August, Exeter): the event went off well: Avon finished fourth overall. Avon's younger athletes supported the event well (only one no-show), but the turnout of Senior athletes from all the counties was disappointing. Most, if not all, of the county vests were returned.
5. CC Team Managers for U13/U15/U17: still no volunteers. Keith Brackstone undertook to find some.
6. Avon AA Grants for Coach Education: the meeting ratified the system as laid out in the document distributed by the Secretary before the meeting (which can also be found on the Avon AA website).
7. Proposed composite NJAL team: a joint team from Bristol & West AC, Yate AC, Team Bath AC, North Somerset AC and Mendip AC had been registered with UKA before the September 30th deadline (subject to obtaining the required signatures), and was being registered with the National Junior League.
8. County Open T&F Meetings 2011: continuing minute.

**Secretary's Report:** The Secretary had been advised of the proposed formation of a club based at Bradley Stoke. Developments awaited.

**Treasurer's Report:** The account balances immediately prior to the meeting were: Current Account £821-04; Deposit Account £20,610-90. Hilary would issue reminders shortly about outstanding affiliation fees.

### Officials Secretary's Report:

1. EA's new Officials Coordinator for the Midlands and South-West is Michael Cox.
2. There are reported delays in the issue / renewal of some Level 2 officials licences.
3. Level 2 Tutors will no longer assess candidates' logbooks. A committee would now assess logbooks for transfer from L2(County) to L2(Region): Ray was unclear who would assess a L2 (Club) to L2 (County) transfer.
4. Ray would be attending a meeting at Solihull on October 23<sup>rd</sup> to be briefed on the TRINITY officials database. UKA is likely to expect more reports and other work from him: Ray is planning to ask UKA about recompense for this. The UKA's version of the Avon Officials list is seriously out of date, and they have asked for Ray's help in updating it.

5. There will be Level 3 and Level 4 Officials courses at Filton in December, and some stand-alone L3/L4 modules will be available in the New Year to any interested official.
6. The new UKA grading system for officials will come into force on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2011. This means that, for officials who have not gone through the procedure to become a NEW Level 3 will be re-categorised:
 

... Old Level 5's or Old Level 4's:	to Level 2c (Regional)
... Old Level 3's:	to Level 2b (County)
... Old Level 2's and new officials:	to Level 2a (Club)

However Ray may be able to recommend some Old Level 2/3 officials to UKA for grading as Level 2c (Regional) officials – but only if he has Form 10 data to back up his recommendations. John Deaton would circulate a reminder to officials to return Form 10's (preferably before October 23rd).

7. Starters will need to take particular care to adhere to legislation about certification and transportation of guns, as a five-year prison sentence is now possible for breaches of the law.
8. There is a Level 2 Officials course at Cheltenham on Sunday October 10th. Ray had only just heard about this: maybe there is more scope for cooperation between counties on officials education.
9. Level 2 Officials Course locally: Tim Snowdon would organise one in conjunction with Ray Gooding if there was sufficient local demand. John Deaton to circulate clubs.

**Road Running Matters:** The Road Relay championships had gone ahead successfully at Clevedon: the 10 Mile Championships (incorporated in the Oldbury Power Station 10M race) had also gone off successfully despite a smaller field than usual, probably attributable to recent bad weather. Nigel Rowe was putting together Terms of Reference for County Licensing Officers. New Licensing Standards had been issued: the changes are mainly minor, but include a requirement that any Under-9's event must be held completely off public roads. In a consequent discussion of club membership forms, the meeting recommended that all forms for under-18's should require a parent / guardian's signature (John Deaton to advise clubs).

**Track and Field Matters:** Mike Strange was on holiday: he would submit the promised financial estimates at the next meeting.

**Cross-Country Matters:** Keith Brackstone had discussed the format of the Tri-Regional Championships with the other two counties' CC Coordinators. The entry form was on all three county websites; all entries would come to Keith. The financial surplus after deducting fixed costs (e.g. venue hire, portable toilets) would be distributed between the three counties. In response to a query from WSM Junior AC about athletes without EA Licenses: the £2 surcharge for an unlicensed athlete would only apply to Seniors, but an unlicensed athlete would not be able to compete in the name of a club (but a school name, or "unattached", would be okay).

The Mike Sully meeting in November was scheduled to include a "mob match" for local clubs: the meeting recommended that a charge of £10 per club be made.

Keith intended to apply for a permit for the meeting: those present were unclear who issued CC permits for our area [post-meeting note: Rita Brownlie at MCAA] or to whom CC officials should send their Form 10's [post-meeting note: Gordon Robbins]

**Sportshall Matters:** nothing to report.

**Avon Network Matters:** The Network website [www.avon-network.org.uk](http://www.avon-network.org.uk) had been launched. EA had launched the "Athletics 365" project in September: all Avon clubs with junior sections had been involved in discussions about the programme. The Network is bulk-purchasing Coach and Athlete handbooks for resale to clubs (first delivery awaited).

Event Development Days: the Running day had to be deferred because of lead coaches' involvement with the Commonwealth Games. The Jumps Day (Sunday October 17th, Bath) had attracted only 11 coaches so far: John Deaton would send out a reminder to clubs. Those present wondered whether or not this represented the bulk of active jumps coaches in Avon, and were unaware whether coaches in neighbouring areas had been invited.

Tim thanked those clubs who had notified him of their Club Development Officers and Coaching Coordinators .

**Avon Schools AA Matters:** The e-mail version of the pre-meeting notes wrongly gave the Schools International date as the second weekend in July (it stays on the third weekend).

**South-West Council Report:**

1. The next meeting of the Council would be an “open” meeting on Wednesday December 8th, with each SW county and network invited to send two delegates (Gordon Robbins hoped to be able to attend). Mike Summers (EA) hoped to be present.
2. A pilot for the new “Running Coach” award was held in Truro and was well received.
3. A Midlands / South Wales Coaching Conference was scheduled for Saturday December 4th in Cardiff [but a UKA Coaching Conference was also scheduled for Cardiff on December 5th].
4. Selection for the SW team for the London Mini-marathon 2011 would be done after the SW Schools CC Championships, but other performances will also be considered.
5. The Midlands / SW Indoor Championships will be held on 12th/13th February 2011 (venue tba).

**MCAA / EA / UKA Matters:** John Deaton had attended the EA AGM at the Neasden Hindu Temple. As well as a presentation on “Athletics 365”, there was news of an imminent change to the EA Registration scheme. An “e-card” will be issued immediately on receipt of the affiliation fee from the athlete’s club; meeting and road race organisers will be able to compare entries against records of affiliated members. Clubs will need to ensure that they pay their club affiliation fees within three months of the due date. The MCAA AGM is on Monday December 6th.

**Stoke Gifford Athletics Stadium Limited:**

(note: this is the management body of the Filton athletics track; the Avon AA is represented on the Board of the company, and Keith Brackstone is its Company Secretary)

The track laying is complete, but the lighting has not yet been commissioned and the Track Certification remains to be done. It is intended that SGAS will be responsible for track management between 6.00pm and 10.00pm from Mondays to Thursdays; there seem to be some problems with bookings coordination at the moment.

The official opening is scheduled for Tuesday November 2nd, involving a limited range of invitation Track and Field events; Ray Gooding was asked to arrange for some officials for this meeting. There may be some midwinter open meetings (probably after the New Year).

The Packers track surface has been laid, but lining still has to be done. This facility is managed by Bristol City Academy, but it will be available for outside use at appropriate times. It was suggested that the out-of-hours management of this facility could be combined with that of Filton.

(Keith Brackstone requested that this should become a permanent item on the Avon AA Committee agenda).

**Club News:** None.

**Any Other Business:** None.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 29th November. **Meeting Closed** at 9.40pm.

## APPENDIX A

### Changes of Eligibility affecting Avon clubs (up to August)

John Brierly	Worcester AC to Bristol & West AC	e.d. 01/08/2010
Peter Godwin	Team Bath AC to Somer AC	e.d. 01/08/2010
Tracey Halliday	Team Bath AC to Wells City Harriers	e.d. 01/08/2010
Martin Hobie	Newquay & Par AC to Bristol & West AC	e.d. 01/09/2010
Trudi Johnson	Sole Sisters to Thornbury RC	e.d. 01/08/2010
Victoria Kenny	Westbury Harriers to Bristol & West AC	e.d. 01/01/2011
Simon Merrill	Team Bath AC to Birchfield Harriers	e.d. 01/01/2011
Tania Vorster (U15)	Vale Royal AC to Team Bath AC	e.d. 01/08/2010

## APPENDIX B

### Coach, Club and Officials Conferences

- a) The 2010 England Athletics Coaching Conferences: the same event but at three different venues:

Manchester (SportCity)	Sunday 28th November
Lee Valley (North East London/Enfield)	Saturday 4th December
Cardiff (NIAC, on the UWIC Cyncoed Campus)	Sunday 5th December

- b) The England Athletics Club and Network conferences (again, the same event at three venues):

Solihull Hilton	Saturday 30th October
Guildford Holiday Inn	Saturday 6th November
Leeds- Garforth Holiday Inn	Saturday 13th November

- c) The National Women's Coaching Conference, in Milton Keynes on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Note that applications for this one close on October 12th.

- d) Midland Area Officials Association conference, at the Aldersley Sports Village, Wolverhampton, on Sunday November 7th. Note that applications for this one close on October 23rd.

Details of each of these can be found on the appropriate websites, but in case of difficulty please contact the Secretary ([john@johndeaton.co.uk](mailto:john@johndeaton.co.uk))