

Avon Athletic Association (Affiliated to M.C.A.A.)

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Held :- 26th Sept 2005.

At Civil Service Club, Filton Avenue, Bristol.

PRESENT : Peter GRIFFIN (President); Graham HOWELL (Chairman); Mike DOWN (Vice Chairman); Mike STRANGE (Hon Sec); Bill KINGSTON (Hon Treas); Ray GOODING (Officials Co-ordinator); Gordon ROBBINS (Road R Co-ordinator); David COALES (City of Bath AC); Mike WILLCOX (Great Western Runners).

APOLOGIES : John ROBBINS (Life Member); James MURPHY (Westbury H); David HUGHES (Empire AC); Tony HURLEY (Life Member).

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the Meeting.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Treasurer Cover

The importance of covering for the treasurer in the event of illness etc was stressed and Bill Kingston assured that he was making preparation to set the necessary actions into motion. It was felt that it was unnecessary for the Bank to be presented with a copy of our Minute from the previous Meeting as proof of our instruction and intention. The fact that our account is a Barclay's Community Account and not a Business Account is relevant.

[Action – Treasurer]

Unattached Levy

The Hon Sec regretted that he had not yet written further letters to the AAA of England, etc. He felt that events had overtaken us (the imminent change to England Athletics) and that the matter would be better resurrected when the new athletics structure became more settled.

AAA of England – EGM

The date for this meeting had now been put back to 29th October 2005. To date no-one was forthcoming to attend on behalf of Avon AA.

Audit of Accounts

The Treasurer was reminded that the Accounts for 2004-2005 remain un-audited.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Welfare

Peter Miller (the current Welfare Officer to Westbury Harriers) has indicated that he would be willing to stand as 'Welfare Officer' for the association. It was unanimously agreed that Peter should be adopted to fill this position.

Bath University Track

A private letter (not purporting to express the views of her club) had been received from Dianna Viles informing of conflicts of usage times between Athletics & Soccer at the Bath University track facility. Some aspects of this letter were précised by the Hon. Sec. David Coales spoke on behalf of the City of Bath club and informed that the letter did not convey the feeling of the Club who felt that they had now established reasonable dialogue with the Authorities at the University and were content with arrangements. Issues of purported fees charged for parents / coaches / observers were felt to be a little over the top by the meeting but again the issue was left in the hands of the Club.

Retention of Playing Fields

A copy of a letter to Bristol City Council (Planning Considerations) had been received from Mike McCarthy on behalf of the Bristol Sports Council outlining their objections to building projects at the Hartcliffe School Campus. The Broad Plain Rugby Club were destined to lose their Playing Field facility as a result. The Committee expressed sympathy with any moves to lessen the reduction in playing fields locally.

County Sports Partnership

Mike Strange is the Athletics Development Officer assigned to oversee the Development Plan established for the four unitary Authorities of Sports West (Avon area) and Hilary Nash is co-opted as Coaching Co-ordinator. A meeting of all partners (including Avon AA and Avon Schools AA) is scheduled.

South West / Sports West Athletics Development Plan

The plans for both Sports West (Avon) and South West were handed out for information.

Clubs Future Audit

Yate & District AC are recent additions to the list (with Empire AC & Thornbury RR) of returns to UKA. This is an update of a previous audit and is required in order that UKA's information on Clubs is current. Please comply. Hon Sec has copies of the Audit document.

Clubmark

Sports West will be calling a meeting shortly to endeavour to get the larger clubs (those that have Young Athletes sections) to embark on becoming accredited by Sport England. This accreditation has particular emphasis on Welfare & Child Protection aspects. In the South West only Cheltenham, Taunton, Yeovil & Cornwall AC are currently accredited.

Fred Hill

Tony Hurley reminds us that Fred (a Life Vice President) and his wife Joan will celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 6th October 2005. It was moved that we purchase a bouquet of flowers and send a card to recognise the occasion.

[Action – Gordon Robbins to arrange delivery of flowers]

Y.O.S.C.

A consultative meeting of users was scheduled for 15th September. The prime user club, Yate & District is usually in attendance and the Hon Sec has past minutes if anyone wishes to refer. In the 16th June Minutes minor repairs to the Long / Triple Jump run ups was noted.

AAA Ranking Lists

Version 2 of the specific software is now available. England Athletics are encouraging all club statisticians to contribute to this central system that will be used for national rankings as well as a tracking system for athletes. The Hon Sec has details for anyone that is interested.

UKA

Clubs were circulated by the Hon Sec recently on behalf of UKA to establish a contact list of those who act as 'Meeters and Greeters' for new young athletes coming to clubs. The response from clubs without youngsters was good but extremely poor from those clubs with junior sections.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Current Balance - £19,903.90.

The balance for the Celebration Dinner showed a deficit of £818.49 and no revenues were received from MCAA in respect of unattached levies. A statement was received from the Treasurer and is available for inspection.

Payments to Officials

A list of payments to be made to Officials assisting at Avon AA Matches over the past year was submitted by the Officials Secretary in accordance with our agreed policy. Total payments amounted to £430. The Hon Sec has a detailed breakdown available for inspection. Note that a number of unidentified members of Clevedon AC were key to the organisation of the Cross Country event. Their names have not been forwarded for payments to date.

Grant Applications

B&W AC on behalf of Tony Hillier (Pole Vaulter)

A grant application was received with accompanying invoice evidence for a Vaulting Pole value £310. **Agreed** to offer a grant of a third of the full value at £103.

[Action – Hon Treas. to pay £103]

Anthony Mattis

A grant of £100 was approved on 16th May for the above in respect of his £250 outlay for a scan on his injured leg. It subsequently became apparent that on top of our grant Anthony received one for £150 from UKA. As a result the original grant of £100 has been returned. Further medical costs will occur in this instance and it was agreed that we will only consider another grant on the submission of a relevant new application.

[Action – Hon Sec to liaise with applicant]

Bitton Road Runners & Sole Sisters Running Club

Some further discussion for clarification was conducted in respect of the above grant applications that were not upheld at the 16th May meeting.

COACHING

Coaches Conference

Attention was drawn to the Sports West Coaches Conference to be held at Filton College on Sun 20th November with a theme of 'Long Term Athlete Development'.

Coach Education

The planned courses for the forthcoming period were noted and are listed in the appendix.
Note applications must be directed in the first instance to the UKA REATA - Bill Whistlecroft

OFFICIALS

Payments to Officials

As above (Treas Report) & Note that a number of unidentified members of Clevedon AC were key to the organisation of the County Cross Country event. Their names have not been forwarded for payments to date.

Form 10

This form has been issued to all known officials and should be returned to the Officials Sec promptly. It is a requirement that these forms should be completed annually and failure to complete over a three year span could result in removal from the active Officials list.

Officials Newsletter

The Officials Sec has compiled and circulated an informative 'Officials Newsletter'.

Level 2 Tutor Course

On invitation from UKA, Ray Gooding (Starter), Pam Gooding (Field) & Mike Strange (Timekeeper) are training on Nov 6th to become Tutors.

CROSS COUNTRY

Avon & Somerset XC Champs

Somerset have indicated that they wish to hold the above Champs on Sun 8th January at Millfield Prep School, Glastonbury. (*Note this date was not subsequently confirmed – The chosen date for the Champs will be Sun 15th January*)

Entry forms will be issued shortly by Brian Beale.

Cross Country South West Hub Forum

This group is proving to be effective in shaping the future and meets on a regular basis. Mike Down is the regular attendee on behalf of Avon AA. One idea reaching fruition is the forming of a South West XC League. Three dates are proposed before Christmas and will be UKA preferred dates. These competitions will back into the Westward Lg & the Wessex Lg and should be held respectively in the Exeter, Taunton & Bristol areas.

Some adjustment are also being proposed for County Cross Country dates. The proposed County date should be before Xmas in a bid to attract more younger competitors (no clash with School Hols) and the normal scheduled date of mid Jan will be held for a South West Inter-County event that will aid the selection process for the National Inter-Counties event.

TRACK & FIELD

Junior Inter-County Match

Oxfordshire AA have informed that Avon have an open invitation to re-join their annual inter-county U20 match at the end of the next track season.

[Action – Hon Sec for consideration in the New Year]

ROAD RUNNING

Course Measurers

We were very disappointed after submitting various names for a 'Course Measurers' Course to be informed that we already had sufficient in Avon. For information they are Brian Barr & Phil Holland.

Bath Half Marathon

Some doubts exist over the organisation of this race. The organisers have not applied for a permit for their 2006 race and their submission of returns and payment of unattached levies is also overdue.

Bristol Half Marathon 2006 The likely date selected for this race is 17th Sept 2006.

Permit Applications

New Application Forms are now in circulation and the unattached levy is now £2 per person (despite our previous protests).

Reebok Masterclass

The series of pre Marathon classes was completed at Oldland on 25th August (Bitton RR) and Coombe Dingle on 19th Sept (Westbury H). In all circa 370 different road runners attended these sessions.

Road Running South West Hub Forum

This group is now well established in shaping Road Running in the South West.

The Taunton Half Marathon is planned as the first SW Road Race Championship and will be held in 2006. It occurs 3 weeks before the London Mar. and does not clash with the important Road Relay Championships. This venture should be given our full support.

SPORTS:HALL

Event dates

As shown in appendix.

Sportshall AGM

No-one attended on behalf of Avon as Dave Turner was otherwise tied and Hilary did not receive an invitation.

CLUB NEWS

BITTON ROAD RUNNERS

Bitton wish to announce that they are celebrating their 20th Year Anniversary. They plan a 20 mile road relay (4 x 5 miles legs).

RE-ORGANISATION OF ATHLETICS

Poll of Athletics Clubs in the UK.

We are requested to vote on the following issues by the Electoral Reform Society in order to provide an indication of feeling from the Clubs toward the proposals for re-organisarion.

Issues (Voting options Yes; No; No View.)

Q1 Does your club support these proposals for the decentralisation of Athletics delivery?

(P) Mike Strange (2) Gordon Robbins. Unanimous Yes

Q2 Does your club support the proposed accountability plans for Athletics in the UK?

(P) Mike Down (2) Gordon Robbins. Unanimous Yes

Q3 Does your Club support the proposed financial direction of Athletics in the UK?

(P) Gordon Robbins (2) Mike Willcox. Unanimous No View (Insufficient information).

Q4 Does your club support implementing the membership scheme as presented here?

(P) Mike Strange (2) Graham Howell. Unanimous Yes

Voting Form completed and duly signed

[Action – Hon Sec to mail]

Message to the Clubs via Gordon Robbins supported by Mike Strange :- Encourage all Clubs to cast their Vote.

AOB

South West Hub

The Executive Committee supported the submission of Richard Llewellyn-Eaton as a candidate for interim Chair for the new South West Hub Territory.

Interview and selections will be made by England Athletics from the pool of proposed candidates.

MEETING CLOSED At 9.39 pm Next Committee Meeting – Mon 28th November 2005.

APPENDIX

First Claim changes – Meeting 19th September 2005.

Applicable from 01/10/05

From Westbury H to Bitton RR – Lee SCOTT

Lynnette PORTER was cleared forthwith (19th Sept) to compete for Bitton RR.

First Claim changes – Meeting 24th October 2005.

Applicable from 01/11/05

From Cardiff AAC to Bristol & West AC – Robert BUGDEN

From Fry Club Joggers to Bitton RR – Stephen JENKINS

Coaching Qualifications

Level 1 – Martin FLOOK, Jon WHEELER.

Coach Education Courses Schedule

CIA - Withywood – Sun 27th November 2005.

FIRW - Withywood – Sun 27th November 2005.

L1 – Bath HPC – Sat 20th November 2005.

L2 Day 1&2 – Whitchurch – Sat / Sun 21/22 January 2006.

L2 Day 1&2 – Bath HPC - Sat / Sun 4/5 February 2006.

L2 Day 3 (Speed, Throws) – Sat 25th March 2006

L2 Day 3 (Endurance, Jumps) – Sun 26th March 2006

L3 Phase 1 – Bath HPC – Sat / Sun 24/25 September 2005

L3 Phase 11 – Cardiff NIAC – Sat / Sun 28/29 January 2006

L3/4 Specific (Throws, Sprints) - Cardiff NIAC - Sat / Sun 26/27 November 2005

L3/4 Specific (Endurance, Jumps) - Bath HPC - Sat / Sun 26/27 November 2005

L3/4 Specific (Mentoring) - Bath HPC - Sat / Sun 8/9 April 2006

L3/4 Specific (Disabled) – Birmingham – 24th September 2005

All enquiries to :

Bill Whistlecroft MBE, 89, Elliots Drive, Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 3NR. Tel 01-935-422646

Application Forms are on the Internet.

Officials Level 1 (Assistant) Courses

Please forward names to allow us to plan an introductory course this Winter.