



Essex County Athletic Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 23rd April 2018 at 19.30 hours in the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford.

Present:

David Staines (Chairman), Diane Wooller (President), Gary Chandler (Treasurer), Andy Catton (President Elect), Malcolm Bailey (Minute Secretary), Richard Casey, June Cork, Ron Dawson, Mike Emms, Allison Gillan, Kaye Merrywest, Paul Merrywest, Paul Mingay, Jean Tierney, Brigid Wallen, Alistair Gillan (Guest).

1a) Apologies for Absence

Claire Levey (Secretary), Linda Bates, Peter Bates, Mathew Gillard, Gerry O'Doherty, Ray Pearce, John Weir, Lance Williams

2) Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on Monday were **approved** as a true record of that meeting

Proposed by Paul Merrywest and seconded by Kaye Merrywest.

3a) Matters arising

Action	Update
Contact clubs about forming a working party to discuss an Essex Track & Field league	In progress
Potential new member to be contacted to join the Essex Executive Committee	David Staines to contact
Point of Contact for East End Road Runners to be provided to David Staines	Actioned
Contact clubs to ascertain how many of their members would meet the eligibility requirements for Disabled athletes and what category they would qualify for	Email will be sent to all clubs
Write to Adam Hickey to congratulate him on winning the National XC Championships	Actioned
Volunteer sought to take on the role as County Trophies Secretary	Post still has not been filled. Volunteer sought.

Paul Merrywest advised the committee that he had received a request from Be Fit Today Track Academy (“BFFTA”) asking whether they could enter their members into the 2018 Outdoor Track & Field County Championships. They were advised that entries have closed. Paul mentioned that BFFTA have academies both at Mayesbrook Park and Lee Valley. They have not yet affiliated to County.

4a) Correspondence

Nothing to report

4b) Club/Committee Register Changes

There are still five vacancies on the Executive committee. Following an email from David Staines to all affiliated clubs, one new potential member has been proposed. Ideas and suggestions for recruitment of new members would be welcome to fill the remaining four positions.

5) Networking

Nothing to report

6) Regional Reports

Paul Merrywest reported that a London Regional meeting was taking place on Wednesday 25th April.

7) Track & Field

Paul & Kaye Merrywest advised that they have received 102 entries for the 2018 County Multi Events Championships (Pentathlon) which is being held on Saturday 28th April at Thurrock Harriers. They have received 28 entries for the U13 girl's championships and 20 for the U15 girls. A number are not Essex qualified.

Preparations are going well for Days 2 and 3 of the Outdoor Championships. Due to the possibility that Chelmsford Football Club may need the stadium on Sunday 13th May; there have been some changes to the programme. All Hammer events are on day 1 and Javelin on day 2.

Two events for Masters have been added. 3000m on Saturday and 5,000m on the Sunday

It is anticipated that a timetable for the two days will be sent out by the end of April.

Not everyone is aware of the new UKA rule change for Competition 2018-2020 that came into force on 1st April 2018 for the 4 x 100m and 4 x 200 m relays. This is that the acceleration zone has been eliminated and has been merged into one takeover zone, 30m in length. Until the old markings are updated the takeover zone will begin at the existing line marking the start of the acceleration zone. The scratch line remains in place but is now 20m after the start of the zone.

It was agreed that the 2019 Indoor County Track & Field championships will take place over the first weekend in February.

Entries have opened for the track 10k championships which will be held on 11 July at Braintree AC.

The next Track & Field sub-committee meeting will be held on Monday 25th June at Chelmsford AC.

8) Cross Country

Brigid Wallen is looking to source 'all weather' running numbers for the County XC events. A quote of £50 for 400 numbers has been received. The committee felt that the numbers were of a good quality and supported the purchase. Next season, all three main XC Championship events will be chip timed. This will be provided by Harwich runners at a cost of £550 per event.

At the last Endurance meeting a decision was made to equalise the distances run by the Senior Ladies and Men at 10k (as per the recommendations of the IAAF). Since then, there has been some positive and negative feedback from runners, coaches and team managers. Subsequently, we are aware that the Metropolitan League has also considered a similar proposal but this was rejected (voting 8 to 6 against). As we understand at the current time, neither the National or Inter Counties championships will equalise the distances for their events. However, the meeting was reminded that our decision was an experiment and it would be reviewed after the 2019 championship event. If runners are not happy with the change, which was arrived at democratically, then runners can decide not to run in the championships. This decision will be reviewed at the Endurance meeting in February 2019.

The proposed date for the Vets/U15 and U13 Championships does clash with a Metropolitan League date. We are to consider moving back the Essex event by one week.

The Eastern XC Championships will be taking place on 17th November at Chantry Park Ipswich. As this is only a few miles pass the Essex border it is hoped that it will be well supported by County athletes.

9) Road Running

The Essex Road relays held at Harwich were very successful. It is an excellent course (mostly traffic free) although a number of Essex clubs did not support the event. David Staines had sent out an email asking clubs for feedback as to why they did not enter teams and a number of responses, were received. Various reasons were cited which included that the date clashed with a number of other races that weekend (including the Orion 15, Colchester half and the London Landmarks half). It was suggested that day of the relays could be changed to a Sunday. Andy Catton will speak to Martin Clark to discuss whether this is a viable option.

Since the last committee meeting the Little Bromley 10K has taken place which incorporated the Essex Championships. The view was that this is an excellent course set at an unique venue (Little Bromley Church). It was hoped that this race could host the championship event again sometime in the future.

Both the Wix 5 and Tiptree 10 have opened up entries for their races (both will be County events). Entries were opened early for Essex qualified affiliated runners (as agreed at the November Endurance meeting). The Tiptree event which is being held in October is already 50% sold out.

Gary Chandler reported that he has received an approach from Sussex to hold an Inter County Challenge event at the 10k in Brighton. It was agreed that we would send a team from Essex.

The Halstead Marathon (which is taking place on 13th May) will be the next County Championship event.

10) General Data Protection Regulations (“GDPR”)

The change in government legislation regarding data protection known as the General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”) will be in place from 25th May 2018.

It is considered that affiliated clubs have been taking the appropriate action to address the new requirements arising from the change in legislation

A question was raised about what additional wording that needs to be added to entry forms for races and providing background information about how we go about protecting the personal data that we are provided with by affiliated members. Malcolm Bailey will provide the necessary templates/wording that has been suggested by England Athletics to Gary Chandler and Brigid Wallen.

11) Trophies

A volunteer is still sought to take on the role as the County’s Trophy Secretary.

12) Walking

In the County Championships in May, a total of 11 entries have been received.

13) Officials

Diana Wooller advised that she is still short of officials for the Main County Track & Field Championships and continues to chase potential volunteers.

Diane advised that official’s course for Track & Field and Time keeping took place on 22 April. There were 20 people on these courses although not all were from Essex. This course had been rearranged from earlier in the year due to snow. Some of the people that had registered for the earlier course could not attend as they were helping out at the London Marathon.

14) Schools Liaison

Richard Casey informed the meeting that in the Schools National XC Championships both the Junior Girls and Senior Girls won their team competitions. Highest place finishers in the Junior Girls was Abigail Ives (5th) and in the Senior Girls, Khai Mhianga (6th). Meeting congratulated both teams on their successes.

The Multi events schools championships will take place at the end of May and the Track & Field championships during the first week of June.

15) Any other business

Alistair Gillan attended the meeting to advise the committee the progress that has been made with the new videos that he is producing on behalf of the County.

He has made three short videos. One focusing on Course measurement featuring Clive Hopkins another on the work of officials (featuring Diane Wooller) and the third on Coaching (featuring Simon Mennell).

Course measurement will be a standalone video (it was released on facebook on 24th April) and the other two videos will be combined to form another where it is probable that there will be an introduction from Chris Jones (CEO England Athletics). Alastair is in contact with England Athletics. It is hoped that England Athletics may assist with the cost of the production of this video. Release date sometime during May to June.

June Cork advised the meeting of the sad news of the passing of Peter Grumbridge, Vice president of Southend on Sea Athletic Club. Our condolences are sent to his family and friends.

Meeting closed at 21.27.

Summary of Actions

Item	Action	By Whom
4b)	Ideas and suggestions are welcomed for the recruitment of new members onto the Executive committee	All clubs
9)	Contact Martin Clarke (Harwich Runners) to discuss the possibility of changing the day of the Essex Road Relays from a Saturday to a Sunday	Andy Catton
10)	England Athletics suggested wording for race entry forms and Privacy Notices (following GDPR) to be sent to Gary Chandler and Brigid Wallen	Malcolm Bailey
11)	Volunteer sought to take on the role of the County's Trophy Secretary	All clubs to consider

Meeting agenda for Monday 4th June at 7.30pm to be held at the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the meeting of 23rd April 2018.
3. Matters arising
Treasurers Matters
4. Correspondence
Club & Committee Register changes
5. Co-option of members onto the Committee
6. Networking
7. Regional Reports
8. Track & Field
9. Cross Country
10. Road Running
11. 2018 General Data Protection regulations
12. Trophies
13. Walking
14. Officials
- 13 School Liaison
- 14 Any other business

