



Essex County Athletic Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 7th October 2019 at 19:30 hours in the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford.

Present:

David Staines (Chairman), Gary Chandler (Treasurer), Andy Catton (President), Gerry O'Doherty (President Elect), Malcolm Bailey (Minute Secretary), Chris Akehurst, Nick Burston, Richard Casey, Peter Cassidy, June Cork, Ron Dawson, Mick Emms, Allison Gillan, Mathew Gillard, Kaye Merrywest, Paul Merrywest, Paul Mingay, Ray Pearce, Jean Tierney, Brigid Wallen, Lance Williams, John Weir, Diane Wooller.

1a) Apologies for Absence

Claire Levey (Secretary), Linda Bates, Peter Bates.

2) Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on Monday 2nd September 2019 were **approved** as a true record of that meeting, subject to the following amendment:-

The 2019 Essex walking championships were held on Sunday 29th September 2019.

Gary Chandler advised the meeting that he received a late invoice for the hire of the Electronic Distance Measurement equipment which was used at the U17 Inter Counties T&F Championships which increased the total expenses to £1,864

Proposed by Alison Gillan and seconded by Paul Merrywest.

3a) Matters arising

No matters arising from the previous meeting.

3c) Treasurer's matters

Gary Chandler reported that the 2019 XC relays were very successful. Net profit of £2,010 made. This was less than the 2018 event due to the increase in cost of chip timing. (2018 £500: 2019 £1,065. Our previous suppliers were unable to assist this year).

County's accounts for the year ending 30th September 2019 have now been sent to our Auditor.

Gary mentioned that County 2019/20 Affiliation fees are now due. All clubs that have not set up a standing order are asked to remit the monies by way of an Electronic Bank transfer or send a cheque to the treasurer. (Details will be provided to all clubs)

4a) Correspondence

England Athletics (“EA”) has contacted all clubs to advise them of the club and member body affiliation and athletic registration fees that will apply for the year 2020-21.

Effective from 1st April 2020

Club and member body affiliation fee **will remain at £150 per club/member body**. They will review this in September 2020 ahead of April 1st 2021.

Athletic registration fee **will increase by £1 to £16 per person**. This fee has remained unchanged since 2017-18.

The letter from EA sets out the reasons for the increase, benefits of membership, plans for 2020-21 and an overview of Income/Expenditure for the financial year 2018/19.

4b) Club/Committee Register Changes

No changes to report.

5) Networking

John Weir reported that the first Essex Athletic Network (“EAN”), Sportshall event took place on 6th October at Chelmsford. Around 80 athletes took part. Round 2 is on 3rd November and Round 3, 7th December 2019. The Regional finals will be taking place at Colchester on 19th January 2020. In order to be eligible for selection for the Essex team’s athletes must have competed in at least one of the three rounds and in a diverse range of events. Athletes selected must also be available for a Training session which is being held on January 11th 2020.

John also mentioned that David Fewell (Coaching Co-ordinator at EAN) had recently held a successful course for Track & Field coaches where 17 people attended. (John subsequently contacted David Fewell to ask whether there were any plans to hold a similar workshop for Endurance running. He advised that EA are hosting a workshop which would potentially be difficult for Essex coaches to attend due to distance. David is planning to replicate this locally and he is currently trying to find a suitable tutor to lead the session. Details will be advised to clubs when this has been arranged)

6) Regional Reports.

Nothing to report. Next meeting is taking place later in October.

7) SEAA

Nothing to report.

8) Track & Field

Track & Field sub – committee met on 13th September. Please refer to Appendix 1, below for a copy of the minutes.

UKA are holding the 2020 fixtures meeting on Saturday 19th October 2019. They are proposing the weekend of 30th/31st May for the County Championships. This has traditionally been held over the second weekend of May.

The 30th/31st is not an ideal weekend for us. The British University Championships has been scheduled to take place over the bank holiday weekend, 8th – 10th May and a number of officials that support the County Championships have traditionally attended the BUAC event. If we kept our championships at the second weekend, we may struggle to find sufficient officials.

This was debated at some length, but it was proposed that the date for our championships should be 9/10 May.

(Subsequent to the meeting Diane Wooller has attended The Eastern Athletic Association committee meeting where feedback was given that a lot of clubs are unhappy with the end of May dates and wish to move their Championships to 9th/10th May. Diane has also provisionally booked the Photo Finish equipment for the 9th/10th)

The County were very successful at the Inter counties this year:-.

Results

U13 Boys 1st

U13 Girls 3rd Combined 1st

U15's Combined 1st

U 17 Men 1st

U17 Women 1st Combined 1st

MU 20 Combined 1st

Seniors:

Southern

Men 1st

Women 3rd

Combined 1st

Eastern

Men 1st

Women 2nd Combined 1st

U17 Men 1st

CAU UKs

Men 2nd

Women 4th Combined 2nd

Gary Chandler advised the meeting that the proposed dates for the 5K and 10K track championships are:-

5k – 10th June 2020

10k – 8 July 2020

Chelmsford AC is keen to host one of these events and Braintree may be the venue for the other, if they are able to obtain the TrackMark certification.

Jean Tierney raised an issue about an Havering athlete that had attended the Inter County Championships in Oxford. When he arrived he was advised that the timings of his event had been changed and he had missed the race. It was established that there had been some misunderstanding about the communication of this change in timing to the athlete concerned and it was proposed, that County would reimburse him £25, without prejudice to cover his travel costs. County are not setting a precedent by paying travelling expenses to this athlete and any claim for expenses would be considered on a case by case basis.

Proposed: Kaye Merrywest

Seconded: June Cork

9) Cross Country

Allison Gillan reported that the recent XC relay championships at Writtle University College were very successful. 863 runners were entered with 751 taking part.

Finishing times for teams have been published but not individuals because there were some timing differences between an athlete finishing and the next runner starting at the handover. This meant that if times were added together for each runner it will not marry up with the final finishing time for each team. If runners want to know their individual times they can contact Allison.

Following the event, a small number of questions were raised, which were resolved.

Alison will be sending out the entry forms for the U13, U15 and Vets Championships, shortly.

Dates and venues for the 2019/20 XC Fixtures:-

Date	Event	Venue
2019		
12 th October	Essex League	One Tree Hill
19 th October	SEAA XC relays	Wormwood Scrubs
26 th October	Essex League	Horseheath
30 th November	Essex Vets and U13, U15 County Championships	Writtle University College
7 th December	SEAA Masters and Inter Counties	Horspath, Oxford
14 th December	Essex League	Writtle University College
2020		
4 th January	Senior and U17 and U20 Championships	Gloucester Park Basildon
11 th January	Essex League	Hilly Fields
15 th February	Essex League	Great Notley Country Park
22 nd February	English XC Championships	Wollaton Park, Nottingham

10) Road Running

Since the last meeting there have been two County Road Race Championships. These were the half marathon and 10k.

The half marathon was incorporated into the Pleshey & Essex Half on 15th September and the 10k the Southend on the 6th October.

Essex Winners

Event	10K	Half Marathon
Female	Liz Davies (Springfield Striders) 35:40	Rachel Sweatt (Grange Farm & Dunmow Runners) 1:21:03
Male	Thomas Firth (Southend AC) 32:03	James Connor (Haverling AC) 1:08:31

Entries have opened for the 2020 Essex 20 which is taking place Sunday 1st March 2020.

Due to limitations on the numbers of runners this race will now be only open to Essex qualified runners. This means entrants must:

1. Be affiliated to England Athletics
2. Be Essex qualified by either being born in Essex or having resided in Essex for the 9 months before race day (i.e. since 1 June 2019)
3. Have not competed in another county championship in the same year.

Entry this year will cost £9.

As of the 7th October, 352 entries have been received. Entry limit is 450 so only 98 places left. Clubs need to encourage their runners to enter early to avoid disappointment.

Road Relays are taking place at Colchester on 15th March. First Aid has been booked and licence applied for.

Endurance subcommittee is taking place at Chelmsford AC club house on Monday 21 October 2019 starting at 7.30pm. All clubs are asked to send a representative.

11) Fell running

The selection race for the 2020 Inter Counties championships will be the Orion 15 which is being held on 21st March.

12) Trophies

Mick Emms advised the meeting that he has two trophies to present which will take place at the Essex AA AGM on Monday 2nd December.

13) Walking

The 2019 Essex 10k track walking championships were held in conjunction with the Enfield Race Walking League 1 hour walking event at Lee Valley Stadium on 29th September.

Winners – Ladies Melanie Peddle (Loughton AC) who completed 9,624M within the time limit and the Male was Stuart Bennett (Ilford AC) who completed 9,400M.

14) Officials

Diane Wooller will shortly be contacting people to volunteer to officiate at the 2020 Indoor Track and Field Championships,

15) Schools Liaison

Richard Casey reported that Essex team were very successful at the recent English Schools Track & Field championships.

Junior boys, Inter Boys finished first and the Senior Girls, second.

Overall Essex won finishing 51.5 points clear of Surrey in second place.

This is the third year in succession that Essex has won these championships. A fantastic achievement.

16) AGM

Dave Staines announced that he will step down as Chair at the AGM.

Ray Pearce also announced that he will be standing down as the County Walking Secretary

Ron Dawson advised that he will be resigning from the committee.

New members are sought from clubs to join the committee.

Nomination forms will be sent out to all clubs.

Dave Staines read out a list of fifteen people that have been bestowed Life Membership by the County.

A further five nominations will be put forward by the County at the forthcoming AGM

It was agreed by all those present to nominate Brigid Wallen as the 2020 President Elect.

Nominations were sought to take over as Chairperson. None received. Dave Staines outlined the list of duties that he undertakes on behalf of the County. It was suggested that County appoints two Vice Chairs to support the Chair. This was considered a good idea and it will be proposed at the AGM. If agreed, the Constitution will need to be updated.

17) Any other business

Mathew Gillard wished to pass on his and Southend AC thanks to Andy Catton, Mike Emms and Brigid Wallen for their support with the Essex Championships at the recent Southend 10k.

Meeting closed at 20:54

Summary of Actions

Item	Action	By Whom
10)	Clubs to advise their membership that entries for the Essex 20 have nearly sold out and are encouraged to enter as soon as possible	All clubs
10)	Endurance Meeting – Monday 21 st October. Agenda has been sent to all club secretaries and posted on Facebook.	All clubs to support by sending a representative.
16)	Nominations sought to join the Essex County Committee. Nomination forms sent with these minutes.	All clubs
16)	Consideration of the creation of two Vice Chairs to support the work of the Chair of the County AA	To be considered at the AGM

Meeting agenda for Monday 4th November 2019 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 7th October 2019
3. Matters arising
Treasurers Matters
4. Correspondence
Club & Committee Register changes
5. Networking
6. Regional Reports
7. SEAA
8. Track & Field
9. Cross Country
10. Road Running
11. Fell Running
12. Trophies
13. Walking
14. Officials
15. School's Liaison
16. 2019 AGM
17. Any other business

Appendix 1

Track and Field Sub Committee - 13th September 2019

Present: Paul and Kaye Merrywest, Diane Wooller, David Staines

- 2019 INDOORS

A loss was made last year on the use of WGEL's photo finish equipment. It was decided to use their equipment again in 2020. Some of the cost will be recouped from ECAA next year.

- **2020 INDOOR**

This will be held 8th and 9th February at Lee Valley.

It was decided to raise the entry fees by £1 to £10. There will be a £2/£1 return to the ECAA.

All six lanes will be used for the 200 final as last year.

There could be some minor changes to timetable depending on entries.

- **RELAYS**

Chelmsford to be approached to host on Friday 26th June.

Refreshments delivered to officials to be considered and hopefully arranged.

- **MULTI-EVENTS**

At Thurrock provided track mark has been awarded. Probable date 26th April. Entry £10.

(Thurrock say they have completed everything required for the award of Track Mark but a change in the process has delayed it.)

- **OUTDOOR MAIN DAYS**

Date to be confirmed - probably 9/10th May - at Chelmsford to be booked as soon as date confirmed. Entry fee to remain at £7 (all ages).

3k champs to remain on this weekend-end.

The possibility of holding a 1 mile champs was discussed possibly in conjunction with Chelmsford AC's 'night of miles'.