



Essex County Athletic Association

Minutes of the Essex AA Executive meeting held remotely via Zoom Video Conferencing on Monday 1st June 2020 at 19:30 hours

Participants:

Andy Catton (Chair)
Gary Chandler (Treasurer)
Claire Levey (Secretary)
Gerry O'Doherty (President)
Brigid Wallen (President Elect)
Malcolm Bailey (Minute Secretary)

1. Minutes of the last meeting of 1st May 2020

Approved.

2. Matters Arising from last meeting

Agenda Item	Matter	Update
1.	Gary Chandler to advise Kaye & Paul Merrywest of the decision to refund entry fees received for the 2020 Track & Field Championships	See Track & Field below
6.	Course Measurer Update – Potential volunteer details passed to Clive Hopkins	Contact made and Brigid Wallen agreed to speak to the potential volunteer to ascertain whether any progress has been made.

3. Treasurers matters

County has paid its annual affiliation fee of £150 to England Athletics.
Clubs annual affiliation fees (£15) to County are due October. It was agreed that County would seek this fee from clubs when it falls due for the year 2020/21.

4. Track & Field

Since our last meeting, Paul Merrywest has continued to chase the On Line Events Company to arrange for a refund of the entry fees for the Outdoor Track & Field and the Multi Events Championships. They still have not responded. Some £900 is outstanding. This company hold all the

individual bank details and it would be very difficult and time consuming for County to refund to the individuals concerned.

Currently, there have not been many requests for a refund and Andy Catton has agreed to write to the company, on behalf of County to chase for a response.

Chris Jones, CEO England Athletics has posted a blog and a message which covers an eventual return to competitive events, guidance on the return to training activity and the challenges posed by the impact of Covid -19 on the sport on the EA website on 1st June. This can be read at:-

<https://www.englandathletics.org/athletics-and-running/news/a-message-from-chris-jones-england-athletics-ceo>

The Track 10k championships due to take place on 8th July, has been cancelled.

If Chelmsford AC 'mile of miles' event takes place on 9th August (Chelmsford have also provisionally booked the track for Sunday 20th September, if the 9th August date is cancelled), County will consider hosting 5k championship race(s) as part of the planned activities.

Jon Metcalf (Thurrock Harriers) has been in contact. He advises that the only Multi Event Championship that has not yet been cancelled is the Eastern AA on 27th September. If this goes ahead it has been suggested that it could be a joint Eastern/Essex Championship. If this does proceed, we need to establish likely cost and potential income to County for us to consider this proposal.

The U17 Inter County match scheduled for 19th July has been cancelled.

Paul Merrywest sent a report from a virtual London EA meeting:-

"It seems that most of the London tracks remain closed especially those linked to other sports. Normans Park in Bromley has reopened as they are like Thurrock and run their own track although the venue is owned by the London Borough. They have set up a booking system, which is on-line.

There is an issue, which you might be aware of, about long/triple jumps and pole vault. The excuse about the jumps is that the athlete might leave sweat where they land!!

No revision to the proposed 'road map' has emerged as yet but it does seem the Regional Council's will be involved in planning events to the end of the season. London is looking at the clubs in the 5 London Boroughs in 'Essex' to ensure that there are no clashes of dates. Of course all current licences have been cancelled and clubs will need to apply afresh based upon a revised form. There seems to be some confusion over Track Mark. I thought it had been postponed to 2021 but others thought it was still applicable for this year.

No firm decisions about Road Running or Cross Country but felt there is uncertainty as to whether these will happen because of social distancing.

The other matter last night is the annual awards. Can there be a note on Monday in the minutes to encourage clubs to nominate people etc for awards. Amy Bryant said last night there were few nominations."

5. Essex Cross Country League & Championships

Potential dates for the Essex XC league are

Saturday 7th November 2020

Saturday 19th December 2020

Saturday 16th January 2021 (or 23rd January 2021 if the Essex Schools XC championships are on 16th January)

Saturday 13th February 2021

Saturday 27th February 2021

Chris Akehurst is seeking offers from clubs to offer to host these fixtures. If any club is able to support, please can they contact Chris.

Chris has been advised that 27th February is the day before the Essex 20.

The current difficulty of booking events is acknowledged as many venues are still not open due to the current Covid 19 restrictions.

Provisional dates for the County XC Championship events are:-

Relays on the 3rd October at Weald Park, Brentwood. Venue has been provisionally booked. Venues still to be confirmed with potential host club.

U13, U15 & Vets Championships – 28th November 2020. Provisional venue – Writtle University College

Seniors – 9th January 2021 – Provisional venue – Gloucester Park, Basildon

6. Road running

Pleshey half has been cancelled.

Tiptree are still hopeful that their 10 mile event will go ahead as planned

Chelmsford 10k and Witham Boxing Day 5 are the other two planned events for the County Championships events

2020 Grand Prix series has been cancelled.

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7. Any Other Business

Chelmsford AC recently hosted a virtual mile event. This was very successful with over 600 runners taking part. Over a £1,000 was raised for charity.

The proposed on line Officials courses are still not available. Once these are launched Andy Catton/Gerry O'Doherty will send out a note to all clubs to encourage them to actively promote these to their membership.

There is a new contact for Harlow AC. Revised Club Secretary list attached.

Summary of Actions

Agenda Item	Matter	By Whom
2	Update re potential volunteer to achieve Course Measurer Accreditation	Brigid Wallen to contact volunteer
4	Contact On line events company to arrange for refunds to be made to the entrants to the (now cancelled) Outdoor Track & Field and Multi Events Championships <i>Since the meeting, contact has been made with the events company and it is anticipated that refunds will be made in the next couple of weeks.</i>	Andy Catton
4	2020 EA volunteer nominations sought: - see https://www.englandathletics.org/volunteering/volunteer-awards-2020/	All clubs
5	2020/21 Essex XC league season – offer from clubs sought to host events	All clubs
7	Write to all clubs once on line Officials Courses are available	Andy Catton/ Gerry O'Doherty

Next meeting will take place on Monday 6th July 2020 at 7.30pm (via Zoom Conferencing)

Draft Agenda

1. Minutes of the previous meeting – 1st June 2020.
2. Matters Arising
3. Treasurers Matters
4. Track & Field
5. Cross Country
6. Road running
7. Any other business

