



Essex County Athletic Association

Minutes of the Essex AA Executive meeting held remotely via Zoom Video Conferencing on Monday 6th July 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 June 2020

Approved.

Proposed: Claire Levey Seconded: Brigid Wallen

2. Matters Arising from last meeting

Agenda Item	Matter	Update
2	Update re potential volunteer to achieve Course Measurer Accreditation	Progressing. Volunteer is working towards accreditation.
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	Funds have been transferred to on line company so that they can refund all entrants. The on line company have charged a nominal management fee to cover their costs to make the necessary refunds.
4	2020 EA volunteer nominations sought: - see https://www.englandathletics.org/volunteering/volunteer-awards-2020/	Nominations closed at 12pm on 28 June 2020
7	Write to all clubs once on line Officials Courses are available	There are 4 officials' courses now on line (all field events). Agreed to defer contacting clubs until more courses become available.

3. Treasurers matters

Over the last few years' County has applied for a grant from England Athletics to support the sport in Essex. We have not received any paperwork from EA this year to apply for a grant. We understand that their income is considerably down; whilst 95% of clubs have affiliated only 30-40% of individual athletes have registered. This is a sizeable reduction in income for EA which we suspect may be the reason why we have not been contacted.

4. Track & Field

The 2020 Essex 5k track championships have been cancelled.

British Athletics has announced that the Muller British Athletic championships will take place on Friday 4th and Saturday 5th September, with events taking place behind closed doors at the Manchester Regional Arena.

Whether this will go ahead is debateable; finding sufficient officials to cover the event may also be an issue.

2021 Indoor County Championships. Too early to plan, we await guidance from EA and Lea Valley (where the championships are due to take place)

Some outdoors tracks are open – with restricted hours and limitations on the number of athletes that are allowed to train. Only 6 are permitted to be on the track at any one time.

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.

Currently, EA are not granting permits for events that would take place in public areas (See below – Chelmsford AC has obtained a permit for an event taking place on private land). This means it is impossible to plan for any event until these restrictions are lifted.

Provisional dates for the County XC Championship events are:-

Relays on the 3rd October at Weald Park, Brentwood. Venue has been provisionally booked.

But it is considered very unlikely that this will take place on that day due to the current climate as a permit will not be granted.

U13, U15 & Vets Championships – 28th November 2020. Same as relays.

Seniors – 9th January 2021 – Provisional venue – Gloucester Park, Basildon. Although if Gloucester Park is not available there is a possibility that (subject to Government guidance) this could be moved to Writtle (as this is private land). The Vets could be held in conjunction with these championships.

6. Road running

A number of road races continue to be cancelled although decisions are still pending on the Tiptree 10, Chelmsford 10k and Witham Boxing Day 5.

2021 Essex 20 – venue confirmed. However, depending upon the restrictions upon competition at the time, we may not be able to use the school facilities and the race base would have to be in the school car park.

Chelmsford AC has been granted the first licence for an event by UKA to stage their Miles of Miles event. This is being held at Writtle University College on Sunday 9th August. It is being held over a multi terrain course with a maximum of 6 competitors in each race. There are a number of restrictions imposed to ensure the safety of all runners. Full details can be found on the Chelmsford AC website although since the meeting, all entries have been sold.

A question had been raised about the equalisation of vet's categories. It was agreed in 2019 that the women's vet category would be amended to match that of the men and start at 40. This is for endurance events only (road and XC). Track & Field will remain at 35 for both women and men, at this time.

The categories will be in 5 year blocks for road and cross country. The later will take effect from September 2019 and road from January 2020. For relay races (road and XC) the age groups will remain in 10 year blocks. There will be county medals for V60 teams.

7. Any Other Business

Mike Emms has been in contact; he is unwell and it is anticipated that he will not be able to continue in his role as the County Trophy secretary. A volunteer is sought to take over this role asap. Andy Catton agreed to contact Mike to obtain an up to date schedule of trophy holders and a summary on how the point's competitions are calculated. (Mike had experienced difficulty in finding out this information when he took over the role)

EA London Regional meeting took place on 25th June. Copies of the minutes for this meeting are attached.

EA Eastern Regional meeting is taking place on Friday 10th July. Andy Catton is hoping to join the virtual meeting.

Summary of Actions

Agenda Item	Matter	By Whom
2.	Write to all clubs once on line Officials Courses are available	Andy Catton/ Gerry O'Doherty as and when more courses are available
2.	Refunds made to entrants to County T&F championships	Andy Catton to contact Paul Merrywest to ask whether refunds have now been made.
7.	Volunteer sought to take over role as County Trophy Secretary	Nominations would be welcomed
7.	Contact Mike Emms to obtain details of current trophy holders and how point's competitions are awarded.	Andy Catton

Next meeting will take place on Monday 3rd August 2020 at 7.30pm (via Zoom Conferencing)

Meeting finished at 20:15

Draft Agenda

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