



Essex County Athletic Association

Minutes of the Essex AA Executive meeting held remotely via Microsoft Teams Video on Monday 12th July 2021 at 19:30 hours.

Participants:

Andy Catton (Chair), Claire Levey (Secretary), Gerry O'Doherty (President), Brigid Wallen, Kaye Merrywest, Paul Merrywest, Diane Wooller, Chris Akehurst, Paul Mingay, Gary Floate, Keith Palmer, Jean Tierney, Claudia Rabess, Allison Gillan, June Cork, Ron Dawson, Scott Darney, Melanie Peddle.

1. Apologies for Absence

Malcolm Bailey (Minute Secretary), Gary Chandler (Treasurer), John Weir, Hayley Pegg, Richard Charleston (due to connectivity issues)

2. Minutes of the last meeting of 7th June 2021

The minutes of the meeting on Monday 7th June 2021 were **approved** as a true record of that meeting.

Proposed: Allison Gillan

Seconded: Brigid Wallen

3. Matters Arising from last meeting.

Agenda Item	Matter	Update
3.	Essex representative volunteer sought for co-option onto the England Athletics East Region Council	Volunteer still to be sought. Reminder to all clubs to canvas support from their members for a volunteer to represent Essex at the East Region meetings.
3.	Essex County Trophy secretary post vacancy.	Susan Edwards has put her name forward for this role. Andy Catton to speak to her re the role. Committee all in favour for Susan to take on the role.
3.	Welfare Policy	It was noted that UKA have launched a new updated Safeguarding policy. Malcolm advised that he would read this in conjunction with what we already have and bring this to the next meeting for consideration and hopefully adoption.
5.	U15/U20 Inter Counties Track & Field Champs	Claire Levey to check with Hayley Pegg to see if Team Managers are

		happy to support these championships and respond back to SEAA. Event currently planned for 11 th September at Oxford.
9.	Cross Country Fixtures meeting	Fixture meeting confirmed for 21 st July at Chelmsford
11.	Host for the 2022 Essex 20-mile championships	Paul Mingay advised that a decision was still to be made but if was able to go ahead the race would return to Langham.

4. Treasurer's Report

Gary Chandler was unable to attend the meeting. He advised prior to the meeting that we were still awaiting the £500 grant from England athletics that had been applied for. They had advised the reason for the delay is that it takes one month to make an e-payment.

5. Correspondence

Claire Levey advised that we had received an email with regard to the preliminary notice of the UKCAU AGM 2021 which we will be held on Wednesday 22nd September. The committee advised that there were no matters to be raised at this meeting on behalf of Essex. Claire advised that she would speak to Sharon Herbert to see whether or not she would like Essex to nominate her as Officials representative as she has been in previous years.

Andy Catton advised that we had received an email from Susan Edwards with regard to the Ladies 5k track trophy. As there is no trophy for this event, Susan would like to set up a Just Giving/Go Funding page. She will email/contact the running clubs for contributions. No objections from the committee to this proposal, therefore approved. Andy Catton to advise Susan of the decision. At this point the men's trophy for the 5k which is the Atlanta trophy was discussed due to the value as it will need to understand the costs that Susan is aiming for. Due to the value of the Atlanta trophy the ladies trophy may not be so expensive. It was noted though that we do need to encourage more ladies to take part in the track 5k championships.

Nothing to report with regard to Club & Committee register changes.

6. Networking

Nothing to report.

7. Regional Reports

London – Paul Merrywest advised that the London meeting takes place 14th July. In correspondence received prior to the meeting though it has been noted that many clubs within London/Essex have lost a number of members due to England Athletic figures. After discussion though it was decided that this may be due to clubs not paying the EA fees due to lack of competition and not actually losing the number of members they are referring too. Scott Darney noted that his club had put membership renewals back due to no racing therefore the EA memberships also had not been paid. It was noted that EA registration is due 31st August.

Allsion Gillan noted that Springfield Striders include the EA membership within their own membership, so EA subs are automatically paid.

Paul Merrywest also noted that both BeFit Today and Havering have received money from the Club Support Fund that has been put in place.

East – Nothing to report.

8. Track & Field

Outdoor championships

Closing date for entries has now passed. 580 athletes have entered for 920 events.

Entities are down on previous years. No block entries have been received from the schools due to the champs taking place during school holidays.

Both senior and U20 events have filled up well but numbers for u13's have gone down. Most of the events for them have gone straight to finals with no second rounds as in previous years.

It was noted that there have been no complaints re the increase in fees. Programme is being worked on and there will be one programme for the two days at a cost of £4.

Paul Merrywest advised that Hayley Pegg will be speaking to Fine Designs with regard to them attending the two days.

Paul Merrywest gave an update to the committee with regard to a company called Opentrack. Opentrack are a company who will assist with the running of track & field championships. Some other counties already use their services. Cost wise for this is unsure at the moment re the administration but entry fee for athletes would be similar. Paul Merrywest to get more information on this and report back to the committee at the September meeting. This could be something that is considered for the 2022 indoor champs.

2022 Indoor championships

It was noted that a Track & Field subcommittee will be required with Eastern Athletics with regard to the 2022 indoor championships. Ideally this should take place in September.

10k Championship

The question was raised as to whether or not we could host a 10k track championship following the success of the 5k. Could be held beginning/mid-September. Gary Chandler and Hayley Pegg to find a date to see if this could be held at Chelmsford. It was noted thought that we will need to ensure we avoid the Pleshey half marathon.

9. Cross Country

Fixture meeting will take place 21st July. Once fixtures have been agreed Allsion Gillan will communicate to clubs.

10. Road Running

Nothing to report. Dates of races to be advised in due course.

Scott Darney gave an update on course measuring and it was noted that there are problems with the 5k in Witham being measured. It was advised that Paul Wood is a possible course measurer but struggling to find contact details for him. Discussion took place and it was recommended that we contact England Athletics for guidance/assistance re course measurers available. Scott Darney to contact EA to see what information is available.

11. Fell Running

Nothing to report.

12. Trophies

As mentioned earlier in the meeting a volunteer has been found to take on the role of Trophy Secretary.

Andy Catton will continue as acting Trophy officer until after the main Track & Field championships and then handover to Susan Edwards. Andy will continue to assist in tracking down all the missing trophies for the remainder of the year.

ALL CLUB SECRETARIES – could we please ask all Club Secretaires to check in their records and also with their members to see if anybody has any Essex trophies that should have been returned in previous years. This in particular refers to the Arthur Turk Cup, which is the trophy awarded for the Men's 10,000m which we believe has been missing since 2011/2012

It was advised that we have sufficient medals for the outdoor champs at the of July but the question was raised as to whether or not the presentation should continue to take place in the current place due to CoVid restrictions. After some discussion it was advised that this is the best place for the presentation to take place and it will remain there for the championships.

13. Walking

It was noted that there are 8 entries for the Essex Champs. These include one U13 girl, one U15 girl, three senior woman and three senior men.

14. Officials

Diane Wooller noted that we do have enough officials for the outdoor championships but if other people are available then that would be good, as we always need more.

15. Schools

Nothing to report.

16. Any Other business

Brigid Wallen noted that Jess Judd had been confirmed re the doubling up at the Olympics for the 5k and 10k. Gerry O'Doherty advised that he had sent an email of congratulations to Jess on behalf of Essex.

Kaye Merrywest advised that we have given concession to any multi eventer at the county champs that have entered 4 events or more due to the fact that there had been no multi events held this year. Clubs would like us to hold both the multi events and the relays in 2022.

It was also noted that all six Essex teams in the regional multi events had won and reached the finals in September.

17. Date of next meeting

It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting will take place on Monday 6th September face to face at Chelmsford. Claire Levey to speak to John Weir to book the room at Chelmsford.

At this point the topic of face to face meetings was raised by Claudia Rabess and it was asked if we could continue with virtual meetings. A discussion took place and it was decided that the meetings would return to face to face/in person going forward.

Summary of Actions

Agenda Item	Matter	Action required	By whom
3.	U15/U20 Inter Counties Track & Field Champs.	Hayley Pegg to be contacted to confirm if Team managers are happy to support the U15/U20 Inter counties and then report back to SEAA.	Claire Levey

5	Correspondence – Preliminary notice of UKCAU AGM 2021	Claire Levey to contact Sharon Herbert to see if she would like Essex to nominate her for Officials secretary role	Claire Levey
8.	Track & Field re 2022 Indoor Championships	Track & Field subcommittee required with Eastern Athletics with regard to the 2022 Indoor Championships	Paul Merrywest / Kaye Merrywest
8.	Track & Field – Opentrack	More information and costings required re the using of Opentrack. Report back to September meeting.	Paul Merrywest
10.	Road Running – course measuring	Contact England Athletics with regard to information of course measurers that could be used within Essex	Scott Darney
16.	Any other business – September meeting	Room to be booked at Chelmsford for September committee meeting	Claire Levey

Meeting finished at 20:33

Draft Agenda for the next Executive Committee meeting to be held at the clubhouse Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford on Monday 6th September 2021 (Subject to Government restrictions). Start time 7.30pm

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the previous meeting – 12th July 2021.
3. Matters Arising
4. Treasurer’s Report
5. Correspondence
Club & Committee Register Changes
6. Networking
7. Regional Reports
8. Track & Field
9. Cross Country
10. Road running
11. Fell running
12. Trophies
13. Walking
14. Officials
15. School’s Liaison
16. Any other business
17. Date of next meeting