



SUFFOLK COUNTY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING held at Stowmarket Leisure Centre on Friday 29 June 2012

Present: Joe Mower, Tony Cheatham, Terry Back, Jean Cox, Bill Cox, Jonathan Wilding, Terry McEntee, Mike Oakley, Margaret Leek.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting having been circulated were taken as read and signed as a true record by Joe Mower, taking the Chair in the absence of the Chairperson.

Matters arising: Through Margaret Leek, Karin Mead asked for clarification on why the County was not supporting the Inter-counties Under 15 and Under 20 track and field championships at Abingdon. It is understood that some emails had been sent about this and the incorrect information given. The Committee confirmed that the reason for not attending these championships was the financial, cost of entry fees and the coach expense in ratio of the amount of athletes involved.

Apologies for Absence: Richard Nash, Ron Wallwork, Karin Mead, Graham Leroy, Tania Spurling, Jennie Grimwood, Roy Miller, Chris Starmer.

Finance: Tony Cheatham reported that balance for the year so far is £15,222.01 which is £2,500 up for the same period last year. The County Championship entries were slightly down on previous years but the entry fee was up. There was a profit of about £500 but could be more - this is mainly due to cheaper track hire at Bury St Edmunds however more help from the sports centre is given when held at Ipswich.

Richard Nash, through the chair, had two questions for the Treasurer - have all clubs paid their affiliation fee and the answer is yes. Have all clubs paid for the Grand Prix and the answer is not all (only host clubs pay).

Track and Field: Tony Cheatham reported that the County Championships had gone well. A coach has been booked for the Under 13 Inter-counties championships at Kingston. Bill Cox asked the cost of the coach - £500. Could the hire of a mini bus not be cheaper. However the number of athletes is usually 30 therefore that would not be viable. It was again mentioned about the change of venue for the Under 20 and Under 15 from Copthall to Abingdon and the coach would have had to leave about 6am for a 10am start and the cost. Richard Nash, through the Chair, had a query for Terry McEntee about the hardship fund. Terry said that Ipswich Borough Council have a scheme which seems relevant but needs slight adjustment for our purposes. Terry will let the County have a copy before it is put into practice.

Cross Country: No formal report. Bill Cox said there had been a very successful presentation evening for the Suffolk Winter League.

Road Running: Terry Back reported that the Road Running season is well under way. There have been good entries and everything going well. The Woodbridge 10k was a sell out and TMO were used and chip timing. In the Friday 5 series there is one race to go. Richard Nash took on the Grand Prix and the result of the first three events are on the website. The fourth event result needs to go on before the final event next Friday.

It was suggested to get Clubs to organise the races on a rota basis so it didn't fall to same people each time and to deal with the Grand Prix results. Terry is struggling to get the results for the Junior Grand Prix from organisers and also entry details for this need to show athlete's full name, date of birth and Club. The Rules for the Friday 5 need to be looked at as they need to be the same for each race. Chip timing is being used and doing all the work so there is no need for Clubs to do it.

Jean Cox raised again that having races either side of half term excludes some of the youngsters. Jonathan Wilding also made the suggestion that when planning the dates to make sure there isn't a race the following Sunday.

Richard Nash, through the Chair, asked how Felixstowe Road Runners were getting on with their 10-mile race. Jonathan Wilding said the Police are not interested. However, next year there are plans to re-develop the sea front, which means digging up the promenade, having a new pier therefore at the moment do not know what facility will be available.

Race Walking: No report although Joe Mower reported that the Moulton 5 went well.

Sports Hall Athletics: Tania Spurling has been trying to get some dates organised and has been communicating with Jennie Grimwood and Adam Burgess. Also with Joe Mower so as not to clash with cross country fixtures.

Jennie Grimwood will chase up Clubs in the next few weeks. Terry McEntee said that Adam Burgess is very keen to come and meet Clubs to promote this event.

Coaching: There was no report. Bill Cox had been on a Psychology in Sport workshop.

Officials: (a) Track and Field - Tony asked that if Clubs needed courses to let him know. There are some Officials who need to do a Health and Safety Course. Names need to be given to Tony and then he will arrange a date for the course.

(b) Endurance - Joe Mower reported that Kate Wooldridge (JAFFA) now has a 2A licence. Joe needs sheets back by the end of August. To get upgrading Officials need to find their own person to report on them. Richard Nash, through the Chair, asked when is the next Risk Assessment and Health & Safety Course for Endurance Officials. Joe Mower attended a forum where it was mentioned about Adjudicator and Referees. It was proposed from the forum that all races should have an Adjudicator and Referee. The runbritain licence application is being updated and hopefully will come into effect at the end of August/beginning September.

Jonathan Wilding is working towards going from 2A to 2B. He has downloaded the modules from the website, he queried should these be handed over with the record sheet. Joe Mower said send them to him to deal with.

Correspondence: Information from Richard Nash re: merger of Suffolk County AA and SEAN. The SEAN name needs to continue to exist (see RN's notes available from the Secretary). There will be funding for courses but not for an employed person. England Athletes will review the area and clubs covered by James Cudmore etc.

Email received from Adam Keer re: Park Runs. The idea of these is for people to get into running and then join a club but it appears that a lot of those taking part are already runners and club athletes! Terry McEntee has attended a meeting and it is proposed to start these in September.

The County Facebook page has 93 members.

Stephen Benson has been suspended by UKA - undergoing Police investigation. The County needs to appoint an Under 17 Men, Under 20 Men and Senior Men Team Manager and Suffolk Schools AA need to appoint a new representative to this Committee.

Any other business: Matti Mortimore of Ipswich Harriers has been selected for the World Junior Championships.

The Suffolk Youth Games is next weekend. These will be the last ones to be replaced by the Suffolk School Games.

Terry McEntee said that after the Olympics there will be funding available from UKA.

Dates of next meeting: 21 September 2012. Jonathan Wilding, Mike Oakley and Terry Back offered their apologies.

Meeting closed 9pm.