



SUFFOLK COUNTY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING held at Mid Suffolk District Council Offices,
Needham Market on Friday 23 May 2014

Present: Joe Mower, Tony Cheatham, Terry Back, Jennie Grimwood, Paul Felton, Jonathan Wilding, Karin Mead, Ron Wallwork, Odile Wladon, David Cripps, Terry McEntee, Trevor Bunch, Ian Gooderham, Robin Belsom, Ricky Peacher, Janet Lomas (SEAN) Margaret Leek.

Apologies for Absence: Jean Cox, Bill Cox, Mike Oakley.

Minutes of Previous meetings: The date of the February 2014 meeting should read 28 February and not 25th. With that amendment the minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

Matters Arising: None.

Update of Norfolk combining: Joe Mower read the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19 March 2014. From those present at the meeting (OW, DC, PF) these minutes do not reflect a true record. Following discussion a proposal from PF that Suffolk County AA thinks no more about combining with Norfolk County AA for county championships and no further meetings should be held was seconded by OW and all present were in favour. JM will inform them of our decision.

Finance: TC reported that there are now two accounts: Suffolk County AA and SEAN account. In the SCAA account at present is £18,008 which includes the championships income but not any expenses. This is up £967 from the same point last year.

In the SEAN account £4990 has been received from England Athletics and with expenses taken into account there is a net figure of £4790. Terry McEntee said there was still money in Suffolk Sport account which he will look into and get transferred.

KM handed over to TC Birmingham coach money, hoodie and vest monies. KM reported that two of the new boys vests had "gone missing". KM has a list of the purchasers of the new vests so will probably be able to find out in due course where they have gone!

PF has invoice for a new cover to the race clock of £30. Terry Back will get it paid.

Terry B has a bill for trophies which was handed to TC.

Track and Field: TC reported that all the entries were in for the Championships this coming Sunday and everything was ready. The event entries are up 25% on last year. DC queried the time of the 1500m steeplechase and asked if it could be looked at before next year's championships in relationship to the other endurance events.

Cross Country: PF proposed to incorporate a 9 -11 age group in the championships as from next year. The distance would be 2K.

JM gave the following dates: ECCA relays 1 November at Mansfield; Southern Cross Country Relays 18 October at Wormwood Scrubs; Southern Vets and Inter-counties 13 December at Oxford; County Championships 4 January 2015 at Ickworth; SEAA championships 24 January at Brighton; National Championships 21 February at Parliament Hill; Inter Counties 7 March at Birmingham; English Schools 14 March at Blackburn.

Road Running: TB gave his report - All events so far this year have seen good entry levels which is confirming the view that the economic situation that showed a slow take up last year has improved.

The Suffolk GP 2013 awards were issued at the Tapley 10/20 during February with Bury taking the team award. It also saw the start of the County events with the 10mile being well supported by the men but not so well by the women. It was noted that the event had not separated out the county entries and thanks to Joe for sorting that. TB has emailed all the other county events asking them to make certain it does not happen again.

The 2014 Suffolk Grand Prix is 3 events in with Stowmarket $\frac{1}{2}$, Bungay $\frac{1}{2}$ & marathon being the first 3 events. All have had increased club runners which indicates that the selection of events and awareness of the GP is increasing. Current standings are on the SCAA website and Bungay lead the team event.

Sudbury, Alton Water and Woodbridge have produced successful events from a runner's point of view but all have had some minor problems with organisation or timing issues which have not always been down to the organisers.

The London marathon saw some excellent results across the Suffolk area and the press coverage in papers such as the EADT was wonderful. It reported just about all the clubs and some unattached athletes, but sadly not mentioning the Mini Marathon which had some of our young athletes in. Well done to all club runners for their efforts and the money raised for local and national charities.

The new UKA rule book is out so please make certain you obtain your copy soon. There are a few changes that could effect your races.

The County 5K champs is now just a few weeks away and is quickly followed by the County 5 mile at Kirton and 10k at Newmarket. Please make sure your members are aware and support these events. Bury are holding the next GP event at their Friday 5 at Nowton Park and again please point your members towards the event.

TB has produced 2 newsletters which have been sent out to the clubs and are on the website. The aim is to maintain and improve contact with the clubs which has not been too good in recent times. I hope that member clubs will begin to feed back with bullet points or news that can be placed into circulation and improve communication.

Finally TB would be interested to know what the committee feels regarding county champs. At the present time the road running events are not bringing funds to the SCAA but are in fact costing. Having looked around other counties, they appear to run their events as a totally separate race and are not "attached" to a club event e.g. Essex 20 at Langham. Is this something that the SCAA feel is a practical thing for Suffolk, not for all races but possibly just one. This would mean deciding what event, when and where and how to organise etc. but we do already do this for the cross country for example.

TB would welcome feedback.

The Ekiden Relays are almost full so clubs need to get their entries in asap. There is also a junior event for the first time this year.

There was a query on the date and details of the Hadleigh 10. No licence has been applied for. TB will follow this up.

In 2015 JAFFA are organising a 10k round the town event, to be held on 14 August 2015.

KM gave results of the Inter-counties at Birmingham: first Suffolk runners home were Charlotte Summers (U13) 17th and the team came 12th; Abigail Rose (U15) 88th and the team 23/40; Lauren Howe (U17) 119th and the team 29/37; Emily Gooderham (U20) 135th no team result; Sara Bird (SW) 24th and team 24/32.

JM gave the following dates: Southern Road Relays 20/21 September at Aldershot; National Road Relays 4 October Sutton Park; Area 6 and 12 stage Road Relays 28 March; National 6 and 12 stage Road Relays 11 April Sutton Park.

PF has been approached by the Beccles Friends of Cancer UK to hire the race clock for a charity "fun run". He quoted the hire cost of £75 but has been asked if the County would do a better price as it is for charity. After discussion it was agreed to keep the cost at £75.

Race Walking: The next race is the Moulton 5. There are about 50/60 walkers of which about 10 are from Suffolk. Dominic King could be the main rival for Callum Wilkinson. Next winter RW wants to promote Race Walking within the county using Callum's experiences and successes as an example.

Sportshall Athletics: Due to pressure of work JG has only been able to attend one meeting and because of this may have to stand down as representative. TMc says there is a small group working now and are very keen so would be able to take this on. Dates of forthcoming events are 4 October, 8 November and 29 November all at Northgate, Ipswich covering Under11, Under13 and Under15.

There is a need to get the schools event to link with Clubs to provide a better Suffolk team. This past year has paid for itself.

SEAN: TMc reported that there are projects up and running and these are being dealt with by Janet Lomas. Projects are bursaries for coaches, Leaders support and Officials support. Clubs will be written to regarding these. There is funding to support coaches and officials and there is a need to encourage people to become timekeepers and track judges and this will be pointed out in the letter to Clubs.

Coaching visits made have been to JAFFA, a throws event at Hadleigh Hares and sprints at Framlingham Flyers.

DC said there was a need to support the steeplechase event as several youngsters were now training for this event.

With regard to race walking, RW to let SEAN his needs for next year.

TMc wants to revisit Clubs as Tania did before her move away and to get Clubs to share their resources.

Officials:

Track and Field: Nothing to report.

Endurance: JM is now on the Education section of UKA. He has a list of up-to-date Officials. There are many on the list who do not have a current CRB/DBS. JM is dealing with this.

Stuart Green from Stowmarket is now a TMO. There are many on the TMO list whose qualification is out of date. The course costs £80 but if affiliated to a Club the cost is £40.

TMc said that SEAN is subsidising 50% of courses. There is a refresher course in September at BSE.

JM said that Officials who do not submit their log sheets within 3 years will be put on the non-active list.

JM is also on the Tri-Regional Panel for the East.

Website Update: Apparently Jo Stevenson has been unable to access the County Website to update it. Richard Oastler originally set up the website and needs to be contacted to sign the form to enable JS to access the site. TC will deal with this.

Capel Cheetahs have not affiliated to the County Association so have therefore been taken off the website. Brandon, Diss and Ipswich Tri affiliations are also outstanding. OW will contact Diss.

For information, the Capel 5 is not going ahead as they have no man-power to organise it.

Any other business:

- ⤴ PF and JM attended the Club conference and were disappointed at the attendance by Clubs, especially road running clubs. There was a lot of information which would benefit clubs and opportunities to raise queries that clubs may have.
- ⤴ DC produced a strategy for the Cross County Season. This was handed round to those present. It was agreed to have a meeting on 4 June at the White Hart, Hadleigh, Suffolk and to combine the meeting with Road Running section to look at fixtures and dates for 2015.
- ⤴ KM invited Road Running clubs to submit names of any U13 athletes they have who would benefit or like to experience track/field competition at the Under 13 inter-counties at Kingston on 27 July. For the U15 and U20 competition at Cophall on 3 August KM put in a plea for help in getting teams before the day for this competition. OW offered help prior to the event.
- ⤴ Janet Lomax informed the meeting of the Quad Kids competition at Northgate on 12 July for U11 and U13.
- ⤴ OW reported on the Schools Championships at BSE on 8 May. It poured all day and therefore no hurdles competition was held. Therefore if anyone would like to be considered for the Anglian Schools on 21 June in this event, they should contact Mike McNeil (details on Suffolk Schools website).

Date of the next meeting is 12 September 2014.