



## SUFFOLK COUNTY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING held at Stowmarket Leisure Centre  
on Friday 13 May 2011

**Present:** Richard Nash, Joe Mower, Tony Cheatham, Terry Back, Jean Cox, Bill Cox, Graham LeRoy, Tania Spurling, Karin Mead, Clive Pinnion, Steve Benson, Mike Oakley, Paul Felton, Margaret Leek.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the Executive meeting of 17 December and 11 February were signed as true records.

### **Matters Arising:**

- ✦ Tony Cheatham confirmed that the £10,000 from the Suffolk Athletics Development Group had been received.
- ✦ Tony Cheatham had contacted Liz Purbeck, but no events for disabled athletes would be included in the forthcoming Suffolk AA Championships.

**Apologies:** Received from Chris Starmer, Jonathan Wilding, Ron Wallwork, Paul Preston.

**Finance:** Tony Cheatham reported that income so far this year was £13,800 which includes the £10,000 donation. Approximately £2000 entry fees for this year's Track & Field Championships. The expenditure so far this year is £1975.90. These figures show an increase of £1800 (excluding the £10,000) for the same period last year. Current balance £16946

Joe Mower has had some difficulty in tracing the Secretaries of some Clubs to get their affiliation fees in. All have now been contacted and fees in, except for Bildeston Bounders. It was agreed to remove Bildeston Bounders from the Suffolk website as no contact can be made. Joe Mower to let Mike Oakley (website) and Clive Pinnion (coaching) details of Club contacts.

Richard Nash asked about coach hire and whether any fares had been collected from travelling parents etc. Karin Mead has the money and some hoodie money which she will pass on to Tony Cheatham.

Richard Nash said that although the County has a good balance, we still need to be careful with our funds to be self funding.

A letter has been received from SEAA for the 2011/2012 affiliation fee of £10. It was agreed that Tony Cheatham should pay this.

## Track and Field:

**County Championships:** These are this coming Sunday and everything has been done. The number of athletes entered (224) is down on last year and the events entered are also down - 477 compared to 520 last year. Income is £2135 which is £45 down on 2010. Graham Leroy said that West Suffolk Parents had been put off by the increase in the cost of event fees. It was pointed out that there is an increase of 25% on First Aid costs and 10 -15 % on the track hire. It was agreed to review costs for next year's championships. Graham also asked for the date for the 2012 championships so that Bury St Edmunds track could be booked well in advance. However the date will be governed by UKA recommendations and the Olympics! Tony Cheatham asked to provide AAA standards information for this event.

**Dates:** SEAA Intercounties U15/U20 champs 27 August - it was agreed to send 4 teams and pay the £80.

CAU is on 29/30 May at Bedford and entries have to be in by 23 May. For 2012 these Championships will be on 25/26 August at Bedford and will probably be that date from then on.

**Cross Country:** Next year's championships will be held at Ickworth Park on January 8th 2012 with a different course. Steve Benson to bring his proposal regarding the U17/U20/SW race formation to the next meeting.

Joe Mower reported that the CAU will be on 10 March 2012 at Crofton Park. This will be the end of the 3-year term at this venue. Not sure where these will be held from 2013. Joe waiting for details.

Steve Benson reported the Kieran Clements won the National, English Schools; was second in the mini marathon (London Marathon), Bradley Wattleworth was 10<sup>th</sup> and Hannah Pettersson 46<sup>th</sup>. Kieran represented England in Brussels and won. He also ran in Spain and did well there.

**Road Running:** Format for the Suffolk Grand Prix Series 2011 is as follows:

### Rules

#### Individual

- (1) Must be a member of a SCAA affiliated club.
- (2) Best 5 from 6 races scores will score towards the series.
- (3) No minimum races to qualify.
- (4) Aged category scores start from 100 for being 1<sup>st</sup> in their age category, reducing for each place behind first.
- (5) Scoring related to members of SCAA affiliated clubs only.

#### Club

- (1) Must be a SCAA affiliated club.
- (2) Top 5 men and 5 ladies from each club will score.
- (3) No minimum runners to score.
- (4) All a6 races score for Grand Prix.
- (5) Scoring starts at 200 for both Men's and Ladies, reducing by 1 for each place behind first.
- (6) Scoring only relates to SCAA affiliated clubs only.

## 2011 Events

- |                           |               |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| (1) Joe Cox $\frac{1}{2}$ | - 27 March    |
| (2) Kirton Friday 5       | - 3 June      |
| (3) Newmarket 10k         | - 3 July      |
| (4) Framlingham 10k       | - 4 September |
| (5) Bungay 20k            | - 6 November  |
| (6) Hadleigh 10           | - 20 November |

This was agreed but need to work out age categories. With regard to Trophies - if these are presented in future years we need to work out how these are going to be purchased.

Paul Felton talked about Licences for road races. CLOs are being replaced. The new system is being trialled up North and results should be known by the end of June. The application for a licence remains the same and the paperwork should be completed correctly. Joe Mower said that UKA has acknowledged that Suffolk is the only county that scrutinizes licences before issuing them.

In order for the Woodbridge 10k to take place £400 has to be paid to the Police to be on duty. Paul Felton informed the Committee that he was qualified to close roads because he had attended the relevant course.

The date of the Ekiden race has been changed to 17 July 2011 and this now clashes with the Capel 5.

Tania Spurling asked what interest there would be from Suffolk Clubs if Park Runs were organised in the County. These appear to be very popular all over the country. They consist of a 5k run in a park and are free to enter. Tania advised to contact Paul Turner (JAFFA) who may already be looking into organising this. Suffolk AA would support these events but could not help with funding also there is question as to whether these races would be covered by insurance and if not, then Suffolk would not support. Tania to also look into this.

**Race Walking:** In the absence of Ron Wallwork it was reported that there had been a walk at Lee Valley which incorporated the Suffolk County Championships but no information was available about this.

**Sports Hall Athletics:** No report.

**Coaching:** Clive Pinnion reported on the recent Coaches Meeting. The feeling was that Tania and James Cudmore should visit Clubs re: Athletics 365. There is a need to identify when athletes need to specialise and Athletics 365 would be a good indication for this. Mentoring coaches - higher level coaches within a Club should mentor lower level coaches. Tania informed the meeting that there are several Open Sessions within the Network and information can be obtained from the website [www.se-an.org.uk](http://www.se-an.org.uk). There is a feeling that there are not enough coaching courses locally. The next coaches meeting is on 8 June at Hadleigh. Clive is quite happy to visit Clubs within the County.

**Officials:** Tony Cheatham said that it was the 'close season' for setting up courses but there is a shortage of all Officials. Have Clubs got people wanting to be Officials? Tony to contact Carl Marston to do an article for the East Anglian Daily Times/Evening Star. Graham Leroy to let Tony know of the Bury contact and also the Suffolk Free Press.

A discussion followed on the larger Clubs in the County putting on Open Meetings to allow the smaller Clubs to take part which would perhaps bring in Officials.

Clubs should also have a Volunteer Co-ordinator.

Joe Mower gave a report on the UKA Endurance and Training Group Meeting. There are five people in Suffolk who can Referee a race for up to 300 competitors. There are only two people in Suffolk qualified to carry out Risk Assessments - Joe Mower and Paul Felton.

The question was asked "Is there an upper limit when Officials have to retire?" - age is now up to 80.

Joe reported that there is a Tutor and Risk Assessment course at Holiday Inn, Ipswich on 22 May and there are 22 booked on this at the moment.

Over 50 appeals have been sent in by Officials on their qualification status. The first of the reply letters will be sent out next week.

Also in the pipeline is the question of whether to allow crop tops to be worn in cross county races - risk of hypothermia - a long vest to be worn underneath.

A young girl had died at the County Cross Country Championships but this was due to natural causes and the organising Club did nothing wrong. However, this highlights that ambulances should be able to get within a reasonable distance of casualties on courses and all gates should be unlocked. Race Directors are to be made aware of this.

**Correspondence:** CAU AGM is at Bedford on 29 May at 5.30pm.

**Any Other Business:** Richard Nash made the comment that there appears to be very little coverage of athletics in the local press and this may contribute to the lack of people coming forward to help.

**Date of next meeting:** Friday 30 September 2011 at Stowmarket Sports Centre 7.30pm.