

ESSEX COUNTY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting which was held on 6th April 2009 which took place in the club house of Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford commencing at 19.30 hours.

Present: P. Cassidy (Chairman), E. Jones (President), J. Weir (Treasurer), P. Sketchley (Secretary), L. Bates, P. Bates, R. Burrows, R. Dawson, C. Dowsett, C. Hopkins, D. Keeley, A. Maycraft, D. Mullane, R. Meadowcroft, K. Merrywest, P. Merrywest, J. Mountstevens, R. Pearce, C. Rolewicz, M. Seaman, D. Staines, J. Tierney & R. Thompson.

1) Apologies: D. Ferguson & J. Stow.

2) Minutes of the last Meeting - 2nd March 2009 were approved subject to the following change:

1) Apologies; Replace one P. Bates with L. Bates.

3a) Matters Arising:

- Para 5a) - Clarification; Networking meetings with club representatives to take place on;

1st May 2009 at Chelmsford A.C. club house commencing at 19.30 hours and on

15th May 2009 at Woodford Green & Essex Ladies A.C. club house commencing at 19.30 hours.

- Para 5b) - Rob Thick penny (England Athletics Essex representative) has verbally agreed to attend our committee meetings.

4A) Correspondence: From P. Sketchley

a) Letter from H. Williams current Cross Country / Road Racing Secretary & former Honorary County Secretary seeks authority to dispose of + 20 year old photo copier which is owned by the county association. This was agreed. P. Sketchley to write to H. Williams confirming that he can dispose of the copier.

b) Letter from a J. Cook of Brunwin Engraving. See Trophies.

c) Notice from Eastern Athletics Association of their AGM to be held at Cambridge on 21st April 2009. C. Dowsett to attend if possible.

d) Affiliation payment request from England Athletics. Passed to Treasurer. Payment made.

e) Letter from Braintree AC Chair C. Rolewicz on matters linked to the Track & Field championships to be held in May. Discuss at next Track & Field Sub Com. meeting.

f) Invitation from Essex County Council for Secretary to attend Essex Jiangsu Sports Hall Athletics competition held at the Brentwood Centre on 18th March. See Sports Hall Athletics.

g) Letter from sports clothing company Fine Designs agreeing to our proposed payment terms and will attend all three days of our May championships at Chelmsford.

h) Letter from Enfield & Haringey AC Treasurer indicating that he has passed onto other interested clubs details about the Lee Valley centres proposals to not permit any indoor championships to commence until 13.00 hours from 2010. A number of clubs are now protesting about this change.

i) Confirmation letter received from new U.13 Boys Essex Team Manager Colin Wint that he is available to attend the Inter-Counties match at Kingston on 26th July 2009.

j) Letter from Sportsex declining our request for a grant linked to our hosting of the Seniors Inter-Counties at Chelmsford on 9th August 2009.



k) Letter from Kent thanking us for our assistance at the recent Indoor Championships. A number of matters raised in their letter which needs to be discussed at the next Track & Field Sub. Com meeting. Cheque also received from Kent linked to us sharing specific costs.

l) From SEAA: Dates of their Track & Field Championships; U.15 & U17 athletes at Ashford on 23rd / 24th May 2009. U.20 & Seniors at Watford on 20th / 21st June 2009.

m) From Eastern Athletics Association Track & Field Championships to be held at Cambridge on 5th July 2009. Their Inter-Counties to take place at Ipswich on 23rd August.

n) Letter from Eastwood School seeking support for an athletics track development at the school.
P. Sketchley to contact the school and report back to committee.

4B) Club / Committee Register Changes: From P. Sketchley

a) Leigh on Sea Striders: No Secretary at present. All correspondence to Chairman Mark Dobson, 20 Dynevor Gardens, Leigh on Sea, SS9 2RG. Tel: 01702 704093.
E.mail = mark.dobson@wilsonjames.co.uk

b) East Essex Triathlon Club: New Secretary: Charles Baynes, 21 Quorn Gardens, Leigh on Sea, SS9 2TA
Tel: 01702 558658 E.mail = chasbaynes@aol.com

c) Colchester & Tendring A.C. New Secretary: Andy Wray, Abbots Hall, Bungalow Road, Gt. Wigborough
CO2 8AR. Tel: 07800 874366. E.mail = andywray77@btinternet.com

d) Rogers Runners Running Club: New Secretary: Judy Grocott, Stuart House, 47 Second Avenue,
Westcliff on Sea, SS0 8HX. Tel: 01702 220324. E.mail = jgrocott@havenshospices.org.uk

e) Woodford Green & Essex Ladies AC. New Secretary: David Hollingworth: Beech Farm Barn, High Road,
Loughton, IG10 4JJ. Tel: 0208 4180521. E.mail = hollingworth@btconnect.com

f) Agreed that the following clubs no longer be registered with the county association due to non payment of the affiliation fee; Asics Chafford Hundred AC, Blackwater Harriers, Comets Road Running Club, Harvey Snails HKA and St George TOW Club.

g) Agreed that Little Baddow Ridge Runners be deleted from the county associations register at their request, as they are affiliated to another association which they consider to be more appropriate for their sport.

Subsequent to the 6th April meeting the following club secretary change was received;

h) Grange Farm & Dunmow Runners: New Secretary: Kath Birks, 18 Guernsey Way, Braintree, CM7 2FB
Tel: 07947309992. E.mail = birksclan@tiscali.co.uk

5) Essex Athletic Development Group From P. Sketchley

a) Next EADG meeting takes place on 20th April at the Chelmsford club house. R. Burrows to stand down from membership of this group. Present Chair C. Rolewicz is intending to resign from the group.

b) Following discussion on the merits of the county association retaining its links with the EADG, it was agreed that representatives would attend the next meeting to establish what benefits would arise out of us continuing our membership. It was also suggested that the new England Athletics "Networking" proposals may replace the need for groups like the EADG. To report back to the next meeting.

6) Track & Field: From P. Sketchley

A) Indoor Track & Field Championships at Lee Valley Centre

a) 2009 Championships; Reasonable profit achieved this year compared with last years loss.



poorly attended. Winners are as follows: U.13 Girls = Chelmsford, U.15 Girls = Orion, U.17 Women = Chelmsford, U.13 Boys = Southend, U.15 Boys = Southend, U.17 Men = Woodford Green Vets Women = Colchester Harriers, Vets Men = Springfield Striders.

9) Trophies: From D. Mullane (a) & P. Sketchley (b)

a) Medal Engraving: The one known Engraver who has mobile equipment is not available over our championship period. If anyone knows of a "mobile engraver" please contact D. Mullane.

b) Reference letter from medal supplier J. Cook of Brunwin Engraving. He expresses disappointment that he will no longer be supplying the county association with medals and asks that we purchase his outstanding stock of 185 medals. This was agreed to. P. Sketchley to reply indicating that all of these medals be sent to D. Mullane the Trophies Secretary.

10) Walking: From P. Cassidy

a) At the Inter-Counties held at Coventry on 4th April the Essex Men's team came 1st.

b) Next race is the 50K due to be held on 25th April at Stockton on Tee.

11) Coaching

a) No report

12) Officials: From C. Dowsett

a) Following the successful recent Level 1 course for Students, it is suggested that such a course could be put on for committee members and others if their was the demand.

13) Sports Hall Athletics: From P. Sketchley

a) P. Sketchley attended this competition on 18th March at the Brentwood Centre for U.11's schools, linked to the recent Chinese Olympics with a similar Sports Hall Athletics competition also taking place in that country. Essex athlete Sarah Claxton presented the medals to the youngsters.

14) School Liason: From J. Mountstevens

a) Essex Schools teams competed in the recent English Schools Cross Country Championships on 21st March. None did that well and it is generally acknowledged that cross country standards in Essex are at a lower level than that which is achieved in track & field.

15) Any Other Business

a) County Web Site - A Maycraft = Number of complaints received due to the absence of some Essex championship / competition results. Need for event Organisers and / or Team Managers to get results more quickly to the County Web Site Manager.

b) County Web Site - A. Maycraft = Agreed review should be undertaken to reduce site running costs if this can be achieved.

c) Paul Merrywest = Need for Athletes Registration number to be included on Championship entry form. Future difficulty linked to School's pupils who are not a club member so they do not have a number.

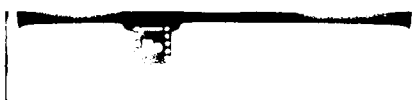
Agreed P. Sketchley should write to England Athletics Affiliation Dept. seeking clarification on this matter.

d) Mike Seamon sought that UK Athletics be asked to consider that two weekends be allocated each year for county championships in order to avoid league date clashes. There was no support for this change.

Meeting concluded at 21.23 hours.

Date of next meeting: 1st June 2009 commencing at 19.30 hours in the Chelmsford AC club house.

Next Meeting Agenda: 1) Apologies for Absence 2) Minutes of the Last Meeting 3) Matters Arising 4) Correspondence & Recent Club / Committee Member Changes 5) EADG Matters 6) Track & Field 7) Cross Country 8) Road Running 9) Trophies 10) Walking 11) Coaching 12) Officials 13) Sports Hall Athletics 14) School Liaison & 15) A.O.B.



- b) 2010 Championships; Kent have indicated that they are once again keen to join us and share costs.
- c) Letter sent to the Lee Valley Centre seeking a booking over the weekend of 6th / 7th February in 2010. Seeking to avoid a clash with England Athletics Indoor Championships; Seniors probably on over 2nd weekend in February and the young athletes over last weekend in February.
- d) Results of Indoor Inter-Counties match at the Lee Valley Centre on 15th March. Essex 1st in both Male and Female competitions.

B) Days 1, 2 & 3 of Track & Field Champs at Chelmsford on 4th, 9th & 10th May 2009

- a) Agreed that Officials Secretary C. Dowsett invites those recently qualified on Level 1 grade to officiate at these championships in order that they gain experience of championship requirements.
- b) Championship Secretary K. Merrywest indicated that the entries were slightly down on last year.
- c) The following was agreed;
 - U.13 Girls Walk: Distance to be over 2000M.
 - The commercial photograph processing company be allowed to attend as they did last year.
- d) The request from a Photographer to take photos which would then shown on a Web Site for sale was declined.
- e) Minor revisions to the timetables on all three days to be agreed between K. Merrywest and R. Burrows.
- f) Basildon Announcer B. Charles has indicated that he is available on all three days. C. Dowsett to contact him.
- g) P. Sketchley has informed all clubs and placed on the associations Web Site details about the proposals to invite two suitable qualified practitioners in Sports Massage to attend on Days 2 & 3 following a tendering process. Closing date for applications is the 24th April 2009.

C) Combined Events & Individual Events at Woodford Green Track on 16th / 17th May 2009

- a) A draft timetable for both days has been agreed between K. Merrywest and Woodford Greens Organiser.
- b) A reasonable number of entries received to date.

D) Date of next Track & Field Sub Com. meeting is on 27th April commencing at 19.00 hours at Chelmsford A.C. Club House.

E) Essex Team Managers Vacancies

- a) U.13 Girls Team Manager I. Parkin has failed to provide any proof of having a recent CRB check. Sadly, he will therefore not be available in future.
- b) Vacancies currently exist for the following age groups: U.13 Girls, U.15 Boys, U.17 Men & U.20 Men. If you know of anyone suitable who is interested, ask them to contact P. Sketchley.

7) Cross Country: From D. Staines

- a) Miss J. Judd of Thurrock Harriers finished first in the U.15 Girls race whilst representing Essex in the recent English Schools Cross Country Championships.

Road Running: From D. Staines (a) to c) & R. Meadowcroft d) & e)

- a) At a recent meeting of the Running Group the following change was agreed which will increase funding to the county association after losses due to the ceasing of Road Racing Levies.
 - Out of every Essex Championship entry, £1 would be returned to the county association by the host organising club. This would apply to all events except the 20 Miles which is hosted by Colchester Harriers, an event which often makes a financial loss. The athletes entry fee for this event to be increased to £7.
- b) No changes to be made to overcome past problems linked to Essex athletes failing to get their entry accepted even though their entry was received before the closing date. This failed to satisfy some members who believed that a change in procedure could solve the problem.
- c) An increasing problem is linked to "Road Closures" for a race and the ever increasing cost linked to the compulsory hire of the Police at £40 per hour.
- d) Both Senior Men's and Senior Women's Relay races recently held at Basildon was won by Basildon A.C.
- e) The younger age groups and Veterans Relay Races held at Chelmsford on 5th April was generally

