

ESSEX COUNTY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting which was held on 2nd March 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), P. Sketchley (Secretary), R. Burrows, R. Dawson, C. Dowsett, D. Ferguson, D. Keeley, D. Mullane, R. Meadowcroft, K. Merrywest, P. Merrywest, C. Rolewicz, M. Seaman, D. Staines, R. Thompson & J. Tierney.

1) Apologies: P. Bates, P. Bates, R. Pearce, W. Tydeman & J. Weir.

2) Minutes of the last Meeting - 9th February 2009 were approved.
Proposed by K. Merrywest, Seconded by C. Dowsett.

3a) Matters Arising:

- Para 6A)g) - New Lynx software; P. Merrywest stated it was used at the Indoor Champs to process all entry's and other information. Worked extremely well. P. Sketchley to send letter of thanks to the supplier who provided this software at no charge.
- Para 6B)c) - Volunteer to generate and collate Advertising to include in Championship programmes; No one attending this meeting volunteered.
- Para 15c) - Introduction of a January Executive Committee from 2010. Agreed. Proposed by E. Jones, Seconded by C. Dowsett. Also agreed that on concluding the December A.G.M the Association would fund / provide a wine / coffee event.
- Para 15f) - P. Sketchley to send "final" reminder letters to those clubs who have not paid their 2008 Affiliation fee by the last 6th March 2009 deadline.

4A) Correspondence: From P. Sketchley

- a) Letter from SEAA informing us that our Affiliation fee is due from 1st April 2009. Pass to Treasurer for payment.
- b) Reply received from Chelmsford Sport & Athletic centre confirming our booking for the Seniors Inter-Counties match at Chelmsford on 9th August 2009.
- c) Letter from a C. Wint indicating that he is happy to be the U.13 Boys Team Manager. Subject to confirmation that he is available for the 26th July 2009 competition.
- d) Reply received from Essex Schools Secretary providing us with a list of e. mail school contacts. Passed to P. Merrywest.
- e) Letter from J. Stow on Development Workshops and other matters. Reply sent by P. Sketchley.

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

- a) Braintree A.C. New Club Secretary: Mrs Louise Murphy, 24 Walter Way, SilverEnd, Witham, Essex, CM8 3RJ. Tel: 01376 583881. E.Mail = ljmurphy33@yahoo.co.uk
- b) Harlow A.C. Change to married name + phone and E. mail contacts.
Catherine Bauer, 27 Quarry Springs, Harlow, Essex, CM20 3HP. Tel: 01279 322042.
E.Mail = catherine.davidson44@ntlworld.com
- c) Harlow R.C. No Secretary at present. Chairman Colin Moodey to be current point of contact at 37 Upper Park, Harlow, Essex, CM20 1TW. Tel: 01279 412376. E. mail = cam_harlow@yahoo.co.uk

d) Committee Member Rick Thompson: Correction to E.mail address. Now;
rickthompson452@hotmail.co.uk

e) Committee Member Danny Mullane: Correction to E.mail address. Now;
running@dannyjean.fsnet.co.uk

5) Essex Athletic Development Group + Other Related Matters: From P. Cassidy & P. Sketchley

a) Reported on the recent meeting with the new Southern Region representatives Martin Beaver and Rob Thickpenny. It was agreed that there be a couple of meetings for representatives from Essex clubs to attend and hear the England Athletics representatives explain the new "Networks" plans. Both meetings to commence at 19.30 hours; On 1st May at Chelmsford AC club house and on 8th May at Woodford Green AC club house (Subsequently changed to 15th May at the Woodford Green Club house). P. Sketchley to send invite e. mails (via P. Merrywest) and letters to all Essex clubs.

b) Agreed that new Essex Club & Coach Support Officer Rob Thickpenny be invited onto the Executive Committee.

c) No grant funding to be available directly from the new Southern Region, so with the ceasing of the Eastern & London regions from 31st March 2009, no grants will be available for Development Workshops or Sports Hall Athletics needs. The plan is for the new Networks to fund such requirements if they are considered appropriate. The outcome is that the County Association's Development Workshops will not be taking place during the Winter of 2009 /10.

6) Track & Field: From P. Sketchley

a) Recent Indoor Track & Field Championships at Lee Valley Centre.

- Increase in the number of Essex athletes entered had increased, together with other changes and the introduction of a vendor selling sports clothing had resulted in a reasonable profit. Agreed to equally share the cost of hiring Lee Valley staff to operate the Photo Finish equipment on both days. Treasurer to verify accounts for these championships at the April meeting.

- No major problems during the championships, although the lack of Essex Officials willing to attend was of ongoing concern.

- Agreed that Essex would apply to hold its 2010 indoor championships at the Lee Valley Centre. Ideally with Kent in order to share costs, etc. The date, possibly a week earlier than this year and to hopefully avoid National Championships.

b) Days 1,2 & 3 of Track & Field Championships at Chelmsford

- K. Merrywest has arranged for all entry form details to be on the associations web site.

- Basildon's main Announcer has indicated a keenness to be involved at our Championships. P. Sketchley to make contact.

- Agreed that tender arrangements be undertaken by P. Sketchley so that a couple of qualified Masseur's can be selected to be available at Days 2 & 3.

- Correspondence / contract arrangements to be completed with a sports clothing supplier to attend all three days. P. Sketchley to undertake.

- D. Mullane to arrange for a medal engraver to attend all three days of the championships.

c) Combined Events + Individual Championship Events at Woodford Green

- K. Merrywest has arranged for all entry form details to be on the associations web site.

d) Seniors Inter-Counties match at Chelmsford on 9th August

- P. Sketchley has sent a grant application to Sportsex.

- Agreed that Officials be given £3 for their Lunch needs.

e) Relay Championships at Braintree on 14th July

- Track is booked from 16.30 till 22.000 hours. K. Merrywest to produce track timetable for C. Dowsett.

f) Next Track & Field Sub. Com meeting to take place on 27th April 2009 at the revised commencement time of 19.00 hours.

7) Cross Country: From D. Staines

a) Essex Schools event held at Basildon last Wednesday. Initial organisation problems sorted after a few races. A substantial number of vehicle owners received Parking Tickets for parking alongside the main road outside of the designated parking area.

8) Road Running: From D. Staines

a) Results of the Essex 20 mile championships held on 1st March at Gt. Bromley.

Men - 1st overall = B. Powell of Woodford Green Club. 1st Essex qualifier = P. Molyneux of Springfield Striders. Women - 1st = S. Stradling of Colchester Harriers.

b) The next Road Running Forum was due to take place on 28th March. Agreed that problems highlighted at the last committee meeting linked to the Gt. Bentley Half Marathon would be reviewed. This includes:

- The failure of "Essex" qualified athletes who did not get their entry accepted even though their entry was within the stated deadline date.
- The lack of any profit sharing for the county association.

c) P. Sketchley outlined that in future detailed accounts for each event should be passed to the county associations Treasurer and the Championship Calendar proposed for the coming Winter should be approved by the Executive Committee. Both requirements also apply's to Cross Country.

9) Trophies: From D. Mullane

a) Arthur Turk trophy was been held by D. Mullane. Arrange to pass to current winners, Woodford Green club during the May championships.

b) Agreed all new medals in future to be ordered by D. Mullane. Secretary P. Sketchley to inform J. Cooke (Brunwin Engraving) that in future we will be obtaining county medals from another supplier.

c) All agreed that the Christine Ohuruogu presentation went off exceptionally well. P. Sketchley to send her a letter of thanks.

10) Walking

a) results of the Essex 10 miles held at Pickets Lock on 21st February:

Men - 1st = S. Davies of Ilford A.C. Team - 1st Ilford A.C. Women - 1st C. O'rawe - Hobbs. No team.

11) Coaching

a) No report

12) Officials: From C. Dowsett

a) Letter of thanks sent to all Officials who attended the Indoor Championships at Lee Valley.

b) Concern expressed about the shortage of Officials for the May Championships. At this time we are short of Starters for the Combined events. C. Dowsett to contact once again those Officials who have failed to reply to his initial letter.

13) Sports Hall Athletics: From P. Sketchley

a) No report.

14) School Liason: From J. Mountstevens

a) No report.

15) Any Other Business

a) Ralph Burrows: Equipment Facilities listing to be sent to all athletic clubs. Any club wishing to host a future Track & Field Championship should consult this document.

Meeting concluded at 21.15 hours

Date of next meeting

6th April 2009 commencing at 19.30 hours in the Chelmsford A.C. club house.

Next Meeting Agenda: 1) Apologies for Absence, 2) Minutes of the Last Meeting, 3) Matters Arising, 4) Correspondence / Club & Committee Changes, 5) EADG Changes, 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.