

MINUTES OF THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE AAA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD BY ZOOM ON FRIDAY 30TH APRIL 2021

Present:	Sandra Ennis	Chair
	Arthur Daley	Webmaster
	Lynn Hudson	Results Co-ordinator
	Steve Hudson	Results Co-ordinator
	Norman Wilson	Road Running Team Manager
	Anne Wilson	Cross-country Secretary
	Philip Jeyes	Road Race Series Co-ordinator
	Richard Blackwell	Gloucester AC
	Alan Robertson	Forest of Dean AC
	Elizabeth Anthony	Angels RC
	Ian Willoughby	Gloucester AC
	Andy Hawkins	Cross-country Team Manager
	Derrick Lord	Cheltenham & County Harriers
	Albert Gardiner	Officials Secretary & Welfare Co-ordinator
	Mick Morris	Secretary

Apologies:	Ruth Fulford	Cirencester AC
	Elliot Prince	Cheltenham & County Harriers
	Andrew Kaighin	Cheltenham & County Harriers

ITEM 1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on Friday 26th March 2021 were accepted as a true record.

ITEM 2. MATTERS ARISING

2. There were no matters arising.

ITEM 3. CHAIR'S REPORT

3. Good evening everyone. I hope you are all well. As you will recall at the last meeting resignations were submitted for Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Cross-country Secretary. These positions need to be filled by 30th June 2021 in order for Gloucestershire A.A.A. to continue. Should this not happen the association would have to be closed and all finances forwarded to UKA. I certainly do not want this to happen and I am sure if clubs get together bodies can be found for these positions. During my time as Chair I have found great camaraderie with people more than happy to work together to help keep the association going forward so please ask yourself can I find some time to help by taking on one of these positions.
4. I was wondering if it is the thought of the length of time these positions would require that is putting people off so might this be the time to think about putting time limits, say 1, 2 or 3 years term of office, instead of once you take a position you could be there for years. Elections would take place at the AGM and anyone in a position would submit their name for a further term should they so wish. I know at the moment all positions come up every AGM for re-election

with hardly any offers but if the time limit is up members would know in advance that volunteers would be required to keep the association going.

5. Having read the minutes from the last meeting I felt I made it sound that being part of the association was a chore but I can assure you all that it was far from it and I enjoyed every minute and also the camaraderie. It was my consultant at the hospital who having accused me of being a determined or stubborn person, which I totally deny, then told me I should be dead so I had to have a re-think hence my resignation. I hope by the time of our next meeting all positions will be filled and the association will go from strength to strength. Richard Blackwell said he thought the suggestion regarding term of office was a good one but going forward we will need to keep in mind the need not to have so many positions coming up for change at the same time.

ITEM 4. TREASURER'S REPORT

6. Rachel forwarded the following figures after the meeting. The current balance for our main account is £10723.83 and for the savings account the balance is £12906.23. Since the last meeting we have had expenditure of £194.00 towards some of the costs of putting on this year's county track and field championships in May.

ITEM 5. SECRETARY'S REPORT

7. Mick Morris advised the meeting that England Athletics have set up a webinar for 6.00 p.m. on Thursday 6th May 2021 for a discussion on competition which will cover risk assessments, venue capacity and what to expect from a safety advisory group. This is aimed at those putting on events and people may register and join on-line. England Athletics have offered a grant of up to £500 for counties towards the costs of their track and field championships and Arthur Daly has submitted an application on our behalf. The South West have set up a sub-committee to discuss their championships (at Exeter on Sunday 18th July 2021) and have arranged a Zoom meeting for 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 5th May 2021. The track and first aid have been booked and many other arrangements are in hand. There is an open invitation for people to join the meeting and Mick will send anyone the link who wishes to take part in this meeting. Cheltenham are putting on a meeting on 29th May 2021 and are looking for officials - please contact Elliot Prince if you are available. A recent meeting of the South West council noted that they are now processing a good number of licensing applications. They did note that there are difficulties for event organisers over meeting the full requirements for officials, primarily as many of the older officials in the region are no longer available. This is something everyone needs to be aware of. In respect of the 5 km road race series mentioned at our last meeting, it would appear that this is now going to be a series of 4 races put on in Avon rather than having each county in the region putting on a race. South West medals would be presented at their road race relays as part of the Cleeve Relays on the August Bank holiday weekend. The South-West cross-country championships for 2022 is planned for 2nd January 2022 at Merryfield with confirmation expected at their next council meeting in June.

ITEM 6. ROAD RACE SERIES CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

8. Philip Jeyes said that a truncated list has been drafted, the current proposal being that 8 races are held from which the best 5 results count. The Bourton Hilly Half has been cancelled so that race is no longer part of the series and therefore no county half marathon championships will be

held this year. The Bourton 1 mile, Gloucester 5 km and Angels 10 km are still county championships events. The majority of races in the series are separated by two weeks and the updated provisional list is as follows:

Sat 10 Jul 21	Bourton 1 mile	Norm & Ali Lane
Mon 12 Jul 21	Stroud Beer Race	Stroud & District AC
Wed 11 Aug 21	Bugatti 10 km	Almost Athletes
Wed 25 Aug 21	Gloucester 5 km	Beyond the Limitations
Sun 5 Sep 21	Gloucester AC 20 mile	Gloucester AC
Sun 19 Sep 21	Angels 10 km	Angels RC
Sun 7 Nov 21	Guy Fawkes 5 mile	Tewkesbury RC
Sun 21 Nov 21	Gloucester 10 km	Beyond the Limitations

(inc. Dave McNamee Memorial).

Sandra Ennis queried whether we would still hold a presentation evening for road race series awards as this was a truncated series. All agreed that the presentation of awards at the end of the series should still go ahead. Steve Hudson pointed out that we would need to update the series rules to cover the change in the number of events.

ITEM 7. COUNTY TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

9. Arthur Daley reported that arrangements were proceeding apace. We are the only county in the region putting on a championships at this time so are attracting a number of guest entrants from other counties as youngsters are looking for schools championships qualifying times. For this reason it is imperative that we have sufficient officials to ensure results count in that regard. There is a note on the website asking guests to email Arthur to let him know they have entered so that we mark them correctly in our results and don't give out medals to the wrong people. Some of the parents/coaches with these guests have volunteered as helpers which has boosted our number of officials. We have four Level 3 field officials this year which is a great help for those events. We have our licence and it looks at the moment as if we should break even as we already purchased the medals last year so that expense does not have to be met. There is a requirement to submit a report after the meeting this year which is a new requirement. At the moment we are short of timekeepers so that is an area that Arthur is still working on. The entries close on 8th May 2021 and the software we are using will then sort out and seed heats for us. Richard Blackwell asked if we would need to use the pavilion at Blackbridge. Arthur confirmed we would need this for the toilets (we are also having some porta loos) but that he had prepared a one-way system plan for the pavilion to achieve social distancing. Ian Willoughby queried why there was no place to enter the competitor's age category on the on-line form. Arthur said the system worked from the date of birth and would thereby only show events that you were permitted to enter for your calculated age group so that it stopped people entering events they were not eligible for. Sandra asked for advice on the number of packed lunches required and said she would bag them separately. No refreshment facilities would be provided due to Covid restrictions. Car parking would be provided at the lower car park for officials and the upper one for athletes. This would mean that athletes and their

coaches/parents could use the playing field for socially distanced resting or picnics between their events helping to ensure distance between groups is maintained and reducing the numbers within the track area.

ITEM 8. DISCUSSION ON REPLACEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

10. Mick Morris stated that Arthur Daley had contacted John Rodgers of Dursley who had kindly agreed to take over the post of cross-country secretary for the next 3 years. It was agreed that we would accept this offer as it was great to have this important role filled. John has experience of the league as he has hosted a fixture each year for a while now. Arthur himself was willing to take on the post of Chair of the association if no other volunteers were forthcoming. This offer was also accepted. Following further discussion Andy Hawkins volunteered to take up the post of Vice-chair and as a consequence stood down as cross-country team manager. Derrick Lord undertook to speak to Elliot Prince to see if he would be willing to take on the post of track and field secretary and Albert Gardiner offered to assist as secretary. Albert will be contacted after the meeting to see what exactly he means by assist. This left the post of Cross-country team manager, secretary and track and field secretary still to be filled although we had possible candidates for two of the posts as outline above.

ITEM 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11. Part 3 of County Track and Field Championships. Following discussion the date of Friday 10th September 2021 was selected for Part 3 of the county championships (the 10,000 metres, 1 mile, 4 x 100 metres relay and 4 x 400 metres relay). Mick Morris undertook to contact Elliot Prince after the meeting to see if the Prince of Wales Stadium is available for this date and to ask Elliot to book the track if it was.
12. Road Running Team Manager. Norman Wilson confirmed that he was still available to serve in this post despite having taken up his duties with Athletics Ireland.

ITEM 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

13. Friday 25th June 2021 was selected as the date of the next Gloucestershire AAA executive committee meeting. As lock down restrictions are planned to be lifted by then Sandra Ennis undertook to check to see if the Gala Club would be available for us to hold a face to face meeting on that date rather than another Zoom meeting.

MICK MORRIS
Hon Sec

