

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY AMATEUR ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Executive Committee (Virtual) Meeting held on Friday 30th July 2021

Present:	Philip Jeynes	Road Race Series Coordinator / Almost Athletes
	Derrick Lord	Cheltenham & County Harriers (Hon Secretary
	Arthur Daley	Chairperson
	Andrew Hawkins	Vice-Chair
	Ruth Fulford	Cirencester AC (Secretary)
	Steve Hudson	Results Coordinator / Bourton Road Running Club
	Lynn Hudson	Results Coordinator / Bourton Road Running Club
	Andrew Kaighin	Cheltenham & County Harriers (Endurance/Track & Field Team Manager)
	Elliott Prince	County Track and Field / Cheltenham & County Harriers
	Albert Gardiner	County Secretary / Education and Welfare / Officials Secretary
Apologies:	Rachel Vines	Treasurer
	Alan Robertson	Forest of Dean AC
	Elizabeth Anthony	Angels RC
	Ian Willoughby	Gloucester AC
	John Rodgers	Cross-country Secretary

ITEM 1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

1. Arthur welcomed everyone to the meeting which commenced at 20:00. In doing so, he apologised for the change of date and thanked everyone for making themselves available to attend the meeting. Meeting attendance was recorded as shown above.

ITEM 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. The minutes of the previous executive committee meeting held on Friday 25th June 2021 were accepted as a true record and were proposed by Arthur Daley and seconded by Derrick Lord.

ITEM 3. MATTERS ARISING

3. There were no matters arising.

ITEM 4. CHAIR'S REPORT

4. Arthur reiterated his thanks to the outgoing officers Mick Morris and Sandra Ennis.

ITEM 5. TREASURER'S REPORT

5. CARRIED FORWARD

ITEM 6. SECRETARY'S REPORT

6. No correspondence has been received since the last meeting. The secretary will be working on updating the county directory to ensure that the Club information is correct and the website.

ITEM 7. MASTERS MEDALS

7. Arthur gave a summary of the background and recommended that consideration be given to awarding medals to athletes in the 'Master' categories. It was agreed that going forward medals will be awarded to Masters Categories in 5 year age groups for Track and Field Championships, which will be in line with existing county arrangements for cross country and road running events.

ITEM 8. ROAD RACE SERIES REPORT

8. The latest (provisional) series race list is as follows:

Fri 6 Aug 21	Cranham Boundary Chase 5.8 miles	Severn Valley Events
Wed 11 Aug 21	Bugattie 10 km	Almost Athletes
Sun 5 Sep 21	Gloucester AC 20 mile	Gloucester AC
Sep (tbc)	Blaisdon 10 km	Forest of Dean AC
Sun 19 Sep 21	Angels 10 km (county champs)	Angels RC
Sun 3 Oct 21	Berkeley 10 km	Dursley RC
Sun 7 Nov 21	Guy Fawkes 5 mile	Tewkesbury RC

POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION/ACTION:

It was noted that the number of races have been reduced from 8 to 7

In his absence, thanks were expressed to Philip Jeynes for his work in this area

ITEM 9. TRACK AND FIELD REPORT

9. South West Track and Field Championships report from Elliott Prince. The day was a huge success from the county's perspective. Run in a different way this year due to Covid regulations, it was good to see the competition go ahead. Some of the main notable differences were timed finals rather than heats and finals, the day being split in two with U13s and U15s in the morning and older athletes in the afternoon and their being no formal medal presentations, though athletes still received a medal if they finished in the top 3 for their event.
10. As a county, we took more athletes than we have done for some years. Part of the reason for this was a new strategy of selecting athletes before they had signed up. As a result of the county's strong presence, we finished in 4th place, behind Devon, Wiltshire and Cornwall but in front of Avon, Somerset and Dorset.
11. Event winners included Amy Jones (U13 800m), James Bagot (U15 800m), Fred Fowler (U15 100m), Jessica Dunton (U17 80mH, 200m), Patrick Kyle (U17 100mH), Lexie Bull (U17 800m), Ben Robinson (SM 800m, 1500m), Isaac Henderson (U17 3000m), Abi Williams (SW 400mH), Ruby Brook (U17 300m), Billy Dickinson (U15 Hammer), Othniel Harris (U15 HJ), Christen Campion (U17 Hammer) and Alfie Wood (U20 LJ).
12. County Championships Part 3: Arthur Daley reported that planning for Part 3 is in hand. A number of entries have been received for all events. Officials have been recruited, we could always do with more. Albert will act as Meeting Manager/Track Referee

POINTS TO NOTE/ACTION:

- **Report Accepted**
- **Arthur to book catering van**
- **Albert to chase/recruit more officials**
- **Consideration re: Toilets – Depending on costs vs numbers**
- **Results Coordinator – Not sure who is available. Arthur to ask Eddie Campbell.**

ITEM 10. CROSS-COUNTRY REPORT

13. John Rodgers emailed the following report. Work is currently advancing on forming a Gloucestershire League series of four races for 2021-2 as well as the county championship day for January 2022. As the English Cross Country Association are still apparently dormant we have decided to set our own dates as close as possible to the weekends used in previous years in order to push planning along.
14. John has encountered a number of issues thus far which are shaping a slightly different look for the season i.e.
 - Lack of suitable venues which offer sufficient winter car parking, a large enough area to avoid multiple laps and the resilience to stand wet weather.
 - The desire for substantial payments by the venues/suppliers which are interested in helping.
 - Since the commercial race providers have entered the market these have risen sharply, we are now facing regular demands of £500 for the grounds as well as adding on at least £200 for a couple of portable toilets and £300 for minimum first aid cover
 - The reduction in numbers of officials for handling on the day entries
 - The number of clubs who are willing to assist in staging an event
 - The cost and manpower requirement to adopt chip timing
15. In order to counter the above problems the following measures were proposed:
 - Make the races on line pre entry only to simplify race day procedures and concentrating our human resources on hand timing for now with results being processed by LUSH Timing after the race.
 - Increasing the fee to at least £7 (£4 Junior) per race or £24 (£13) for the series to cover the costs of facility rentals and compensation for wear and tear after the races.
 - Asking for parking fees at certain races to enable us to offer a choice of courses evenly spread around the county.

16. With this in mind, John has got this far with a programme with all of the arrangements still in the negotiation stage
- Race 1 Sat 16/ Sun 17 October No offers yet but Cotswold Farm Park are thinking of offering a lower price than one or two other venues but also want to assess what they will have going on, on that day. (If not the possibly Wotton fitting round the car boot sale)
 - Race 2 Sun 7 November Wooton (with the car boot sale gone we can lengthen the laps a little)
 - Race 3 Sun 12 December Cirencester Park if we can get a reasonable price. (They have hosted the Oxfordshire league previously)
 - Race 4 Sun 13 February Cheltenham Pittville Park (Subject to weather conditions)
 - Championships Sat 8 January Old Down (Still awaiting contact with this venue)
17. Other venues that have been considered but no progress made (If you know a 'contact' at any of them let John know!) are:
- Charlton Park (Excessive fee and no club willing to go out there to organise the race)
 - Cheltenham Racecourse
 - Plock Court (Multiple suppliers involved and severe shortage of parking except in adjacent University who want a lot of money)
 - Over Farm Park (Arthur going to look at the venue)

18. POINTS TO NOTE/ACTIONS:

- **The report was accepted.**
- **It was recognised that whilst our current fees provide value for money, they are very low.**
- **It was agreed to accept the proposed fees, although car park charges might be an issue**
- **Still awaiting information re Race 1**
- **It was also suggested to approach Ali and Norman Lane and a club re: usage of their site**

ITEM 11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

19. A discussion took place about the need to document the history of the association and individuals who have contributed so much to the sport. It was agreed that a list of the County trophies and Life Members should be added to the website.
20. It was also deemed appropriate that a copy of the county constitution should be re-circulated to members and uploaded to the website.
21. It was reported that new Mile Trophies had been received.
22. A question was raised as to whether the Road Race awards could be sooner than January 2022. It was concluded that the awards should remain in January as this would allow sufficient preparation time.
23. Arthur reported that as part of the handover, the County records have been deposited with Gloucestershire Archives Centre, some will be digitalised via an external source. There is a monthly subscription to archive.
24. A discussion took place around new officials into the county. Whilst it was pleasing to note that there has been a slight increase, it was felt that in terms of sustainability we need more officials from clubs.

25. POINTS TO NOTE/ACTION:

- **Albert to liaise with Mick Morris with a view to obtaining a full list of trophies/Life members**
- **Albert to obtain copy of the county constitution, for inclusion on the website**

ITEM 12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

26. Arthur Daley proposed that the next meeting be held at 8.00 p.m. on Friday 29th October 2021.

Meeting Closed: 21:15

Date/Time of Next meeting: Friday 29th October 2021

ALBERT GARDINER
Hon Sec