

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AMATEUR ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE A.G.M.

Friday 11th November 2022

Present:	Elizabeth Anthony	Angels Running Club
	Arthur Daley	Gloucester Athletics Club
	Lynn Hudson	Bourton Road Runners
	Steve Hudson	Bourton Road Runners
	Emma Jeffery	Gloucester Athletics Club
	Philip Jeyes	Almost Athletes
	Andrew Kaighin	Cheltenham & County Harriers
	Derrick Lord	Cheltenham & County Harriers
	Rachel Vine	CLC Striders
	David Witnall	Running Somewhere Else

Apologies: Ruth Fulford, Albert Gardiner, Andrew Hawkins, Elliot Prince, John Rodgers

1) MINUTES OF LAST YEAR'S AGM

Minutes for the AGM held 29/10/21 were unavailable, therefore cannot be accepted.

2) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Arthur Daley)

It is good to see that many of the association's activities are thriving and that we are still in a very good financial position.

I have, with contributions from other officers, almost completed a manual that covers all the activities of the association. It gives details of the timing and facilities requirements for our events and should help any new officials and remind those in post for some time about when and what to do. We have made a good start in setting up working groups to organise our meetings. This will, I expect, make tasks more satisfying and encourage volunteers.

We have also started looking more closely at the profit and loss of each event. This is not necessarily to ensure that events make a profit, but to enable us to identify more clearly where money is being spent.

I have become aware that many athletes and club officials see the association as something separate to club athletics. We need to encourage them to see that we are the clubs within the county working together and to contribute to that collective effort.

I thank all those officers and members of the working groups for their contributions over the past year.

3) SECRETARY'S REPORT (Albert Gardiner)

It seems just yesterday I was putting together the 2021 annual report not knowing that after a summer of no competition, the winter would continue in a similar vein. As the grips of Covid got stronger, athletics, like many other sports, felt the hit. Lockdowns were imposed, tracks were closed, and restrictions on training (when training was actually allowed to take place) were imposed. In place of reports on cross country league fixtures came regulations and my spotlights on athletics and athletes. Desperately trying to keep the spark in the sport alive.

With this backdrop we moved towards the spring and tiny shoots of feeling that competition could and would get back and running. The governing bodies drew up guidelines for staging events and the fixtures were put in place. Did anyone believe everything would go ahead? I know I had my doubts, but through sheer determination, hard work and endeavour, pretty much everything did go ahead, and we were back in the game.

Over the summer, as a county, we hosted several races and championships. Gloucestershire clubs also played a part supporting our events, hosting their own open meetings and being part of leagues.

The Executive Committee met regularly by zoom for most of the year and kept in touch with developments within the sport – including circulating information to clubs where appropriate. Behind the scenes, work has taken place to update the County Handbook and the County website to ensure that as much of the historical information is stored in one central place.

In 2021/22 Gloucestershire AAA was sad to report the passing of a number of stalwarts as well as a number of individuals opting to stand down or reduce their level of involvement in the sport.

Sports Hall Athletics

Elliot Prince has led on the Gloucestershire Sports Hall League, where it has been pleasing to note the increasing number of clubs and athletes in attendance.

Officials

Albert Gardiner has agreed to continue as the County Officials' secretary in 2023. He is seeking to set up a level one officials' course at Cheltenham but is awaiting a response from England Athletics. Efforts continue to be made to secure more officials including persuading clubs to have an officials' secretary.

The future organisation of the County Association

Currently the County Association is constituted as an unincorporated association. As the nature of the sport changes, there is the need to consider the future organisational form of the County Association and to decide whether it remains fit for purpose. Various models have been considered and a brief review of what is happening elsewhere has been undertaken.

4) TREASURER'S REPORT (Rachel Vines)

Figures for 2020/21 were greatly affected by the Covid pandemic, which caused a halt to many activities. With the return to normal, the County continues to be in a good financial position – boosted by our cross-country league. While this year's introduction of advance block-booking at a discounted rate means an increased workload for the Treasurer, it is advantageous to see the entries and their fees so early on. It seems advantageous therefore for us all to encourage support of the league from within our own clubs.

<u>Income</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>2021/22</u>
Affiliation fees	0.00	300.00	Affiliation fees	375.00	150.00
Events	3680.81	14547.70	Events	3185.45	10577.13
Grants / Donations	250.00	0.00	Grants	0.00	0.00
Vets / Medals	212.00	538.69	Refundable expenses	105.20	745.64
Other	0.00	0.00	Miscellaneous	0.00	415.82
			Vests	0.00	793.72
			Transport	0.00	565.00
			Equipment	0.00	0.00
			Courses	0.00	0.00
			Computer / Website	244.56	83.99
TOTAL INCOME	4142.81	15386.39	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	3910.21	13331.30
Opening balance b/f		11707.63			
Total income from above		15386.39			
Total expenses from above		(13331.30)			

Balance c/f 13762.72

INSTANT ACCESS SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance at 30/09/21 12912.63

Interest 12.92

Balance at 30/09/22 12925.55

Accounts accepted by the committee. Moving forward, it was agreed to add Arthur Daley and Emma Jeffery as co-signatories in case of need in the future.

5) ROAD RUNNING SERIES REPORT (Philip Jeyes)

The final race series table has been published following the Guy Fawkes 5. Correction requests / queries may be made until Sunday 20th November, after which the table will be closed and the category winners submitted for shield engraving.

A good number of shields were returned at the Guy Fawkes 5, leaving just nine remaining to be collected. This is being followed up. We have sourced an alternative engraver who has quoted a competitive price and will submit the names for a final quote.

The Civic Suite in Gloucester Docks is confirmed for the presentation awards evening, which will take place on Friday 20th January. The Mayor of Gloucester will be in attendance, with the Sheriff to confirm.

A draft series for 2023 has been published and will be confirmed in due course (the Berkeley 10k is likely to be moved due to the additional UK holiday for the Coronation).

2022 race series category winners

Men open	John Parker	Western Tempo
MV40	David Johnson	Western Tempo
MV45	John Parker	Western Tempo
MV50	Duncan Mounsor	Almost Athletes
MV55	Paul Northup	CLC Striders
MV60	Brian Harris	Cirencester AC
MV65	Chris Jurevicius	Stroud AC
MV70	Paul Beaumont	Running Somewhere Else

MV85	Mike Ward	Tewkesbury RC
Ladies open	Gemma Collier	Gloucester AC
LV35	Gemma Collier	Gloucester AC
LV40	Georgina Emile	Angels RC
LV45	Kate Krzyweic	North Cotswold Tri & Run
LV50	Rachel Barrow	Cirencester AC
LV55	Sue Baldwin	Tewkesbury RC
LV60	Alice Lewis	Dursley RC
LV65	Liz Hulcup	Bourton Roadrunners
LV70	Ruth Fulford	Cirencester AC
LV75	Eileen Hieron	Dursley RC
Team: Men Open		Western Tempo
Team: Men Vet		Western Tempo
Team: Ladies Open		Running Somewhere Else
Team: Ladies Vet		Running Somewhere Else

2023 race series draft

22 Jan		Linda Franks 5 mile	Almost Athletes
29 Jan		Steverton 10 mile	CLC Striders
18 Mar		Fission 20 mile	Rogue Races
Apr	CC	Haresfied 5k	Gloucester AC
8 May (?15)		Berkeley 10k	Dursley RC
12 May	CC	Bourton 1 mile	Bourton Roadrunners
31 May		Stroud Beer Race	Stroud & District AC
14 Jun		Cirencester 10k	Cirencester AC
2 Jul	CC	Bourton Hilly Half	Bourton Roadrunners
9 Aug		Bugatti 10k	Almost Athletes
17 Sep	CC	Angels 10k	Angels RC
5 Nov		Guy Fawkes 5 mile	Tewkesbury RC

6) CROSS COUNTRY AAA ANNUAL REPORT (John Rodgers)

We returned to something like a normal season for 2021-2 with a slightly truncated league season attracting good support and the county championship defying the rain to bring cross country back to the north of the county.

Logistically the season again presented problems in securing venues which satisfied the need for race infrastructure at the same time as providing challenging contests. Most venues now require a lot higher fees than a few years back and this has had to be passed on to the runners as higher entry fees in order that the section remains profitable and indeed cross contribute to other sections which have less recourse to income.

There were three league fixtures at Cirencester Park, Pittville Park, and Old Down Country Park plus the annual championship meeting at Cotswold Farm Park. Additionally embryonic Short Course races were held near Bourton and at Stratford Park Stroud. Thanks to the clubs who stood up and hosted events and as ever to the officials who made the events possible and to Lynn and Steve Hudson for processing results so quickly and efficiently.

This season 2022-3 has two new venues at Arlingham and Over near Gloucester, as well as returns to Cirencester Park and Cheltenham, and the championship continuing to be held at Cotswold Farm Park.

The opening fixture went well in terms of organisation where the team entry scheme proved a good way of encouraging entries and it will hopefully lessen the admin workload on the next rounds. We ran the young athletes events with both genders together and this certainly provided more spectacle as well as saving time and overlapping races.

With regard to the event, it was disappointing to receive reports of rule transgression but also sad to see these accompanied by demands for sanctions, rather in the style of footballers demanding red cards for opponents. My preference is to offer structured advice to offenders as often they are not entirely au fait with the rules along with widespread publicity that we expect 'more' in regard to compliance.

7) ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

Named officers willing to stand were not contested. Therefore they consist of:

Chairman	Arthur Daley
Vice Chair	Andrew Hawkins
Honorary Secretary	Emma Jeffery
Honorary Treasurer	Rachel Vines
Cross Country Co-ordinator	John Rodgers
Road Race Series Co-ordinator	Philip Jeyes
Road Running Co-ordinator	
Sports Hall Co-ordinator	Elliot Prince
Track & Field Co-ordinator	Elliot Prince
Officials Secretary / Co-ordinator	Albert Gardiner
Welfare / Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Albert Gardiner
Webmaster	Arthur Daley
Social Media Manager	Andrew Kaighin

8) NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS

Awards will be presented, along with the Road Race Series medals, at the County Awards evening at the Gloucester City Council Chambers, Gloucester Docks on the evening of Friday 13th January 2023.

Gloucestershire AAA Athletic Achievement Award

This is presented to the athlete, official, coach, club officer or volunteer helper who has achieved something special during 2022 or over a longer period of time.

Dave Lucas - nominated by Alan Robertson (Forest of Dean AC)

Philip Jeyes - nominated by Fi Barnes (Almost Athletes)

Bob Purcell - nominated by David Robinson (Gloucester Athletics Track Management) and Charlie Price (Gloucester AC)

After a lengthy discussion, the committee has decided that all three nominees are equally deserving – therefore this award will be split between all three.

Bob Hussey Memorial Award

This is presented to the county athlete putting up the best track performance of the season for 2022.

No list available at the time of writing.

Anthony Lancaster Memorial Award

This honours the best track performance by a county senior and or veteran runner.

Charlie Price - nominated by Bob Purcell (Gloucester AC)

The committee has accepted this nomination.

9) A.O.B.

In the absence of the out-going secretary, his report was discussed – especially his final paragraph re the county association being corporated or not. What are the benefits and disadvantages to being a community trust or having charity status? What is the best practice to adopt? It was decided that Arthur and Rachel will assess the situation with other counties and seek EA advice, and feedback at the next meeting.

Dates for diaries: January 13th, February 17th, April 14th, July 21st, November 10th.