

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE AMATEUR ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION**

**MINUTES of MEETING**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

Present:	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
	Elliot Prince	Cheltenham & County Harriers
	Andrew Hawkins	Cheltenham & County Harriers
	John Rodgers	Dursley RC

Apologies: Elisabeth Anthony, Derrick Lord, Alan Robertson, Geoff Trueman, Aaron Bennett, Ian Cutler, Jim Adams, Rachel Vines.

1. MATTERS ARISING

- Minutes for the previous meeting were accepted.
- Governance of the GAAA: following a request arising at the AGM, Arthur duly enquired as to how other county associations are organised, and ascertained they also seem to be amateur associations.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Arthur Daley)

- We have a working group of myself, Phil Lucker and Amber Watson selecting the inter-counties CC team.
- The working group for the T&F Championships will start preparations soon. It currently comprises of myself, Rachel Vines, Selina Gaskell, Amber Watson and Albert Gardiner.
- We need to work with the three clubs who provide the majority of competitors for the T&F Championships to provide a greater number of volunteers or officials. Is there a way we can follow the example of swimming clubs who give free entry to the children of parents who volunteer?
- Medals have been ordered that should cover all events until March 2024. 2024 Road Race series medals will have ribbons marked GAAA Road Race Series'.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

#### Bank Reconciliation 1/10/22 to 30/9/23

Opening bank balance	13,762.72
Income	13,923.00
Expenditure	<u>-6,947.01</u>
	20,738.71
Per statement 11/01/23	20,750.81
Unreconciled payment	-11.60
Balance per I&E statement	<u>20,739.21</u>
Diff	-0.50

A comprehensive table of figures showed that the county CC League continues to provide most of our income. Accounts accepted by the committee. Arthur Daley and Emma Jeffery will be added as co-signatories.

#### 4. TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Proposed dates April 29<sup>th</sup> and May 14<sup>th</sup> 2023 at Blackbridge, Gloucester. Making one a Saturday and the other a Sunday might be preferable for those who could have commitments on one of the days.
- Long discussion on the need for a third date (which was provisionally set for September 8<sup>th</sup> at PoW, Cheltenham. Other counties manage their championships over 2 days not 3. Spreading it out involves more commitment for officials and potentially causes a lack of atmosphere for competitors. It was decided to compress the timetable once the entries are known.
- All the county's clubs need to publicise the T&F Championships: coaches to encourage youngsters to participate.
- 10,000m. Popularity has dropped off in recent years. Why do more athletes not enter? We should continue to hold and promote this event, as it is a unique opportunity for distance runners, with not many other areas holding it.
- Conclusion: hold the championships on just 2 days - April 29<sup>th</sup> and May 14<sup>th</sup> 2023, with all clubs encouraged to support it!
- Entries will close 5 days before the competition so that Andrew K and Elliot will have sufficient time to compile the timetable and seedings.

## 5. AWARDS EVENING (Phil Jeyes)

- Most of the dates for the road race series are confirmed and shown on the GAAA website.
- Preparations sorted for the Awards Evening: prize winners informed, refreshments organised, shields engraved etc.

## 6. CROSS COUNTRY REPORT (John Rodgers)

- So far the league CC has gone well, with good attendance and resultant useful income for the county.
- Safeguarding procedures discussed: in the event of a child becoming lost, this needs to be reported to the finish line officials.
- Length of race is determined by EA and is just a minimum length.
- Minimum age will be restricted to 9 and above (rather than stipulating school years).
- Useful for children's races not to be in chronological order, so that the very youngest can watch older children run to get an idea of the course.

## 7. OTHER MATTERS

- Proposal to move County CC Championships: this was initiated because of the poor attendance due to there being too many races or dates clashing with inter-county events. Other counties actually hold their championships in the Autumn months (we have ours in January). A decision was reached to incorporate the county championships into one of the league fixtures – perhaps the end of November at Cotswold Farm Park. This would relieve the busy month of January, when many athletes compete in other events (e.g. Birmingham League and inter-counties).
- Changes to CC League rules: a copy of the changes was distributed to club contacts. Clubs asked to feedback at the next GAAA Committee meeting.
- Next meetings: February 17<sup>th</sup>, April 14<sup>th</sup>, July 21<sup>st</sup>, November 10<sup>th</sup>.