

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AMATEUR ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES of MEETING

Friday 17th February 2023

Present:	Arthur Daley	Gloucester Athletics Club
	Rachel Vines	CLC
	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
	Libby Anthony	Angels RC

Apologies: Alan Robertson, Jim Brown, David Witnall.

1. MATTERS ARISING

- Minutes for the previous meeting were accepted.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Arthur Daley)

- Medals for this summer's events have arrived and also for the 2023 Road Race Series and the 2023/4 XC League.
- The coach for the Inter-counties XC Championship has been booked at a cost of £750.
- The working group for the Track and Field Championships has been agreed:
 - Selina Gaskell – recruiting officials
 - Amber Watson – results and ancillary helpers
 - Arthur Daley – booking facilities
 - Albert Gardiner – applying for licences and invitation to officials to respond to Selina.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

- Will look into bank charges and a new mandate this month.

- Still to send out letters regarding affiliation fees to clubs in the county. There was a discussion on whether some clubs are not actually affiliated and would they like to be? (Newent and Hucclecote: Rachel will ask). Some contact details of treasurers were missing: Andy H and Emma will find out)

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

Opening bank balance	20,738.71
Income	1,385.50
Expenditure	<u>-2,830.08</u>
	19,294.13

Per statement 16/02/23 19,306.23

Unreconciled payment	-11.60
Balance per I&E statement	<u>19,294.63</u>
Diff	-0.50

4. CROSS COUNTRY

- A lack of feedback from our county's clubs regarding the proposal to incorporate the County XC Championships into one of our League races: however, those clubs who did respond, said they would be happy with this. The logistics of this was discussed (i.e. how to distinguish between county and non-county runners) and the best ways to proceed (2 numbers for the 2 competitions in the same race?)
- John has been looking into venues and dates for next season. Certain venues are only offering limited dates. As always, we have to consider what other races are being held (e.g. schools, inter-counties, other leagues) in order to maximise the attendance of our races. Again – how do we encourage more of our county runners to support their own county league? Clubs and coaches to please promote this!
- To confirm: next season there will be 4 league races with one of these also being the county championships – probably the December meeting (not too close to Christmas though). Having the county championships early (i.e. still in 2023) will mean a length of time before the inter-counties race (pros and cons) but will also result in a less congested January for many of our athletes.
- Provisionally: early October at Stroud, early November at Cirencester, early December at Arlingham and February at Cheltenham.
- League prizes for all ages will continue to require all 4 races to score for the team prizes and 3 out of 4 races for individuals.
- To clarify: senior men's teams will need 6 men and masters 4. All other age groups including masters will require 3 people (due to less numbers in these categories).
- We are happy for larger clubs to enter A, B and C teams and for all these to be listed in the results, as it potentially encourages more individuals to enter teams and therefore take part (even if this might mean a larger club's teams finishing 1st, 2nd, 3rd ahead of a smaller club who might only finish 4th)
- Second claim athletes were discussed: there is an EA system when registering that checks this and there has not been a case of a second claim athlete being able to occupy a team place in the scoring.
- The minimum age requirement was discussed, as there had been feedback from one club who were unhappy that their 9 year olds would not have been able to take part. The committee reinforced their decision to introduce this requirement on the basis that we need to go with EA recommendations regarding distances – and EA recommend that 9 year olds can run up to 2km which would be too long for younger children.
- There have been complaints about closing dates and lack of 'on the day' entries. The closing dates to enter XC are set in advance in order for start lists to be organised and to receive payment for the pre-race preparation (i.e. venues, toilets, first aiders all need to be paid for in advance). We have a system in place that offers athletes a discount if they enter all the races at the start of the season. This greatly helps us with our planning and provision of facilities to make each race enjoyable for athletes: we believe it also offers good value for money.

- There was a complaint regarding the layout of the results in that race 4 lists everyone together in their finishing order even though the race comprises different age groups and sexes (i.e. U17, U20, ladies and male vets). It was pointed out that all road races are of this format, and athletes can still see their category places in the list and on Powe of 10'.

5. TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

- With us amalgamating 3 days into 2, it was decided to drop the mile race as this would leave middle-distance runners free to enter the 800m and 1500m. It was disappointing to drop the mile, but we cannot offer all three races in just 2 days now.
- Closing dates to enter the competition will be 5 days, with athletes needing to provide their PB. This will give Andrew Kaighan and Elliot Prince sufficient time to write their timetable and start lists and publish three days before the meeting. Rachel Vines will liaise with Race-Results.co.uk.

6. OTHER MATTERS

- Arthur had found a 'county youth' cup in his garage that was last used in 1988. Any ideas on how we might get this going again? To decide next time.