

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AMATEUR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT
THE GALA CLUB, FAIRMILE GARDENS, TEWKESBURY ROAD, GLOUCESTER
ON FRIDAY 2nd JUNE 2017

Present:	Sandra Ennis	Chair
	Norman Lane	Vice-Chair
	Rachel Vines	Treasurer
	Arthur Daley	Cross-country Secretary
	Andy Hawkins	Cross-country Team Manager
	Norman Wilson	Road Running Team Manager
	Anne Wilson	Beyond the Limitations
	Elliot Prince	Cheltenham & County Harriers
	Geoff Trueman	Stroud & District AC
	Mike Storey	Gloucester AC
	Lynn Hudson	Road Race Series Co-ordinator
	Steve Hudson	Deputy Road Race Series Co-ordinator
	Georgina Emile	Angels RC
	Elizabeth Anthony	Angels RC
	Edwina Driver-Dickerson	Angels RC
	Mick Morris	Secretary
Apologies:	Julie Walford	Stroud & District AC
	Albert Gardiner	Education & Welfare Co-ordinator
	Ruth Fulford	Cirencester AC
	Ron Freeman	Gloucester AC

ITEM 1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1. The minutes of the executive committee meeting held on Friday 17th March 2017 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 am pleased to report that our county championships Part 1 and 2 were a great success. The weather was kind and plus the small increase in fees and after expenses £1656.10 was paid into the account. We are however still waiting for the bill for hire of the stadium which will obviously eat into that figure. The downside was unfortunately shortage of officials. We have email contact addresses for numerous officials who all received at least 3 requests for help but only one person replied asking to be removed from the list, a couple were on holiday and a couple more had other commitments. I realise this will always happen but we did struggle on the Sunday and the frustrating part is the number of people who did not respond at all. I would ask if you would go back to your respective clubs, check who your qualified officials are and let Mick or myself know if they wish to remain on the county list. The main worry is that most of the officials who helped over the weekend are not getting any younger so clubs need to look at encouraging some of their younger members or parents to consider just being a Level 1 official which is enough to gain them points at league level as well as helping the county. Well, I have had my moan and I will finish

by saying a big thankyou to everyone who helped to put on the championships. There were lots of parents and competitors who made a point of passing on their thanks and congratulations on the success and efficiency of the event. Parents of the younger and para athletes were especially pleased with how well their youngsters were looked after so you can all give yourselves a very big pat on the back. Elliot Prince then mentioned that he had received an email from Albert Gardiner concerning a possible officials course in October which will be aimed at timekeepers and field officials so there is an opportunity there for newcomers to get trained up ready for next summer.

ITEM 4. TREASURER'S REPORT

4. Rachel Vines reported that at the time of our last meeting we had a balance of £6820.31 in the current account. Since that meeting we had received income of £125.00 and had expenditure of £897.39 and when we add in the £1656.10 from the county championships we now have a balance of £7704.02. Mick has just handed over a bill for over £800 for medals purchased for Part 3 of the county championships and we still intend purchasing new vests and county badges but this nonetheless represents a pleasing financial position to be in. Our instant access account remains untouched and has a current balance of £12854.69.

ITEM 5. SECRETARY'S REPORT

5. Mick Morris reported that he had received a communication from Julie Walford at Stroud who advised that sadly Glenys Peart, a long standing member of the club and a field official, had passed away in April. No doubt there were many in the county who remembered Glenys and would be as sad as we were to receive this news. Julie separately advised that she would shortly be collecting the MV60 road race series trophy that the club had kindly denoted. It is the intention of Stroud that their Chair present this trophy to the 2016 winner, Mark Haslam, as their Frampton 10 km race in July. Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership have emailed to say that they are running a Coach and Volunteer Development Day in Taunton on Sunday 16th July 2017. This includes a number of workshops pertinent to athletics and details should have gone to our clubs but if this is not the case then Mick can forward them onto any interested parties. Richard Ayling, the Club Support Manager for the South West had forwarded on some interesting details of a scheme initiated by Tesco's called Bags of Help whereby local communities and organisations can bid for grants to assist with costs of local schemes. The types of projects funded will be very broad and will cover the direct costs to deliver the project. Some suggestions are purchase of sports kit, specialised medical equipment, improvements to buildings such as changing facilities for sports, running a community event such as a fun run so there may be opportunities there for our clubs. Finally, Mick added his thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make our track and field championships a success this year. Particular mention was made of the first aid support where people such as Elliot Prince in particular were quick to provide support when a young spectator fell and broke her arm. The parents had contacted us to say how grateful they were for the speedy response of all involved and how reassuring everyone had been. There had been a very good atmosphere on the day which is now very much the norm for this event and that certainly reflects on how everyone involved works so hard to ensure the event provides everyone with a good experience. The problem over shortage of officials is not unique to us and has been a concern for some years now. There is no easy solution but we are eternally grateful to those who do turn out for the county as their flexibility and good spirit makes such a difference and as can be seen from all the nice comments we receive it is certainly appreciated by those who come along and compete or spectate/support

ITEM 6. CROSS-COUNTRY SECRETARY'S REPORT.

6. Arthur Daley advised that there had been some recent changes in venue availability for next season. We have agreed venues for fixtures 2 (at Chippenham) and 4 (at Cheltenham) and possible venues for fixture 3 and the county championships, although those have to be firmed up before they may be counted on. Stroud are considering hosting an event at Olddown Park and Tewkesbury are considering whether they could host the county championships. However, it may be that the Olddown venue would be better for the county championships in view of the limitations on car parking there. Dursley are also looking into possible venues to host an event. Currently there is no offer from Gloucester AC to host a fixture but that is as always in the background. Another possibility would be for a club such as the Angels to host a fixture at Plock Court. Although this is not the most popular venue it is some time now since we ran there so it should not be completely disregarded. Angels attendees wondered if Hartbury College could be a venue and queried what was involved in hosting a match. Arthur said he had had some discussions with the college but they were not overly interested. However, he could certainly make further contact to see if this had changed. In respect of hosting fixtures, the league provided the officials and actioned the entries and results so host clubs would be required to select and mark a course and to marshal it. Arthur also mentioned that the league had developed a solid group of officials who came together each year for the various cross-country fixtures but we were not complacent and were as always looking to develop further.

ITEM 7. EDUCATION AND WELFARE SECRETARY'S REPORT

7. Albert Gardiner was unfortunately not able to be present this evening but had emailed to advise that he was checking on the feasibility of holding an officials course in the county in October. This was the course referred to earlier by Elliot Prince.

ITEM 8. ROAD RACE SERIES CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

8. Steve Hudson reported that 6 events had been completed, with the latest being the recent 5 km road race at Haresfield on a particularly warm evening. There are four more coming up soon and clubs have been emailed to keep them informed on what is happening. Mark James is currently the leading man in the series and Shona Crombie-Hicks is the leading lady. The recent movement of an athlete into the first of the Masters categories, ie LV35 and MV40, has highlighted that this is something that we should be dealing with automatically and some minor changes to the league rules have been implemented to cover this. As at present such athletes will still be eligible for the Open category but it means they will automatically commence scoring points in their master's category when they first become a master rather than them being expected to notify the series co-ordinators and request inclusion in the master's category. Those moving from one master's category into a new master's category during the competition year will still be expected to inform the series co-ordinators if they then wish to change to scoring points in their new category for the competition year instead of remaining scoring in their previous master's category. At the same time a couple of areas have been updated to make the meaning clearer and avoid confusion and some club name changes have been incorporated. These updated rules will now be placed on the county website.

ITEM 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9. County Track and Field Championships Wash-Up. Ian Willoughby had emailed to offer some items for consideration for next year's county championships. His first suggestion was to move the long jump for U17W, U20W and SW to the Saturday to free up some time for the long jump on the Sunday and allow us to split the U13G/U15G off as there had been a large entry in the

lady's categories this year which led to some difficulties with athletes wishing to go off for concurrent track events. It was agreed that this will be implemented for next year. He also expressed concern that the Prince of Wales Stadium did not have any stadium starting blocks which led to issues for some athletes. Elliot Prince confirmed that this was the case but advised that the trustees were working to improve things at the track and had this year got a new high jump bed and now had the PA system back and working. Arthur Daley mentioned that the lap bell was not very good. Mick Morris suggested that perhaps the stadium trustees could make use of the Tesco's grant scheme and purchase some starting blocks and maybe a good hand bell to improve those aspects of the stadium provision. Elliot promised to let Mick have an address to allow us to forward on these suggestions.

10. South West Road Championships. Norman Wilson advised that despite his best efforts it had not proven possible to get a representative team together for the South West road championships this year.

11. Angels 10 km. Liz Anthony passed on the thanks of the Angels RC to all those who had assisted with the Angels 10 km this year, marshals, timekeepers, helpers, etc. They were grateful to everyone who so freely gave of their time and assistance.

ITEM 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

12. The next county executive meeting will take place at the Gala Club, Fairmile Gardens, Tewkesbury Road, Gloucester at 8.00 pm on Friday 4th August 2017.

MICK MORRIS
Hon Sec