

## Avon Athletic Association

**Minutes** of a Management Committee Meeting of the Avon Athletic Association, held on Monday April 25th 2022, by Zoom, starting at 7.05pm.

**Those Present:** Di Cave (Hogweed Trotters), John Cox (GWR), Jeremy Dale (Yate & District AC), John Deaton (General Secretary), Kelly Dicks (GWR), Mike Down (Life Vice-President / Bristol & West AC), Pam Gooding (President), Ray Gooding (Life Vice-President), Penny Mannings (North Somerset AC), Hilary Nash (Treasurer / Bristol & West AC), Stuart Nunn (Yate & District AC), Arthur Renshaw (Thornbury RC), John Robbins (Chairperson), Shelley Stiff (Bitton Road Runners), Mark Thomas (Team Bath AC).

**Apologies:** Julie Boynes (Hogweed Trotters), Debbie Brooks, Andrea Garcia-Lock (SGS College), Ian Macintosh (Life Member), James Murphy (Welfare / Westbury Harriers), Jim Strudwick (Avon Schools AA).

**Minutes of previous Committee Meeting:** Accepted.

**Matters Arising:** EA has now recognised Mark Thomas as a Level 2 Timekeeper: Ray Gooding has received apologies from EA for the delay in confirming this.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Distributed in advance; copies available on request):

1. All 2022-23 Affiliation fees except one had been received.
2. Hilary had made the EA 2022-23 Avon AA Affiliation fee by personal payment and has been reimbursed, as EA no longer accepts cheques for any payment (member clubs need to note this for their own EA Affiliations and athlete registration fees).
3. Hilary had been contacted by the Somerset AA Treasurer, who considered that the Avon AA should pay the invoice of over £1000 for the re-stocking of Avon & Somerset team vests (despite the fact that all revenue from vest sale / hire since 2017 had gone to the Somerset AA, and that the Avon AA had met all team entry fees since 2017). John and Hilary had both replied, declining to pay: nothing has been heard back on the matter.
4. The Independent Examination of the 2021 Avon AA Accounts still has to be done.
5. The Chairperson had authorised John Deaton to claim for his petrol expenses for travelling to the UK CAU Cross-Country Championships. He would also be claiming the fee for the website URL.

### **Officiating Matters:**

1. No appointment of an Officials Secretary was made. Ray Gooding will prepare a Job Description to encourage volunteers.
2. EA has some new staff assigned to Officials Development, and there will be more courses arranged, including some in-person courses.
3. Yate & District AC has offered to act as hosts for a Level 1 Photo-Finish course.
4. Welsh Athletics has scheduled various Officiating courses (including in-person Timekeeping courses), but priority will be given to Welsh residents.

### **Road Running / Endurance Matters:**

1. Avon AA 10km Road Race Championships: these will be incorporated in the Hogweed 10km on Monday May 30th. Hilary will contact the Hogweed Trotters race organiser regarding medals. John Deaton will check that the Championships status is mentioned on the Avon AA website.
2. Cleeve Road Relays (Sunday 28th August): this will go ahead as an Avon AA Championships but not as a South-West Championships (although guest teams from the South-West and elsewhere will be welcome). Endurance clubs from Avon are urged to support this event.
3. The UK CAU has suggesting an Inter-Counties Road Relay Championships (possibly in the north of England: few other details yet). The meeting did not feel inclined to support the event, being concerned (among other factors) of the possible effects on the Area and National Road Relays. John Deaton would seek the views of the Somerset AA before responding to the UK CAU.

### **Track & Field / Sportshall Matters:**

1. Avon AA Track and Field Championships: these will be held on the afternoon of Saturday 14th May and most of the day on Sunday May 15th, both at the Yate Outdoor Sports Centre. On-line entries will close on Sunday May 8th. There are some 157 entries at the time of this meeting, but clubs are urged to press their members for extra entries.

The Avon AA Steeplechase Championships events will be incorporated in the Somerset AA Championships events on the morning of Saturday 14th May at Yeovil. Entries for these events need to be made via the Somerset AA website: they close on Saturday May 7th.

Mr. Ravi Bagdi has supplied a list of competitors from the Indian party: it was agreed that their entry fees could be accepted on the day of the meeting.

First Aid: St. John Ambulance is currently unable to cover any events at YOSC for the 2022 season. Arrangements have been made with Bristol Ambulance EMS (Events) [BAEMS Ltd].

Officials: we have a reasonable number (John Deaton will distribute the current list): we understand that there may be some inexperienced officials from SGS College available. More technical officials and ancillary helpers will be welcomed.

Officials Refreshments: these will be arranged via Andy Lathall.

2. The Avon Schools Sportshall Trials will be held at the Bristol Grammar School Sportshall on Saturday 30th April. This would normally have been held at the end of January but Covid prevented that. However the South-West and UK Championships went ahead, so the Avon event is a free-standing event.

### **Cross Country / Fell / Trail Matters**

1. Fell Running: There will be Avon and Somerset representation in both UK CAU Inter-Counties Fell Running Championships. The Senior event is on Saturday 7th May at Llanberis (team coordinator: Owain Jones and the Junior event on Sunday 15th May in North Yorkshire (team coordinator Mrs. Mel Lowe).
2. John Robbins will shortly open discussions with the Wiltshire AA and Somerset AA about the format of the 2022-23 season's Tri-Counties Cross-Country Championships.

**Information from Outside Bodies (e.g. MCAA, EA, SW Council):**

EA Volunteer Awards 2022: some changes have been proposed: there will be seven awards (previously, nine), although some may be available for more than one recipient per year. EA hopes that regions will be able to return to in-person awards events.

**Information from Member Clubs / Associations**

1. The new Secretary of Bitton Road Runners is Shelley Stiff, [shelleystiff\\_brr@yahoo.com](mailto:shelleystiff_brr@yahoo.com) .
2. The Midland Counties AA have moved their office to Suite F, Radclyffe House, 66-68 Hagley Road, Birmingham B16 8PF. The phone numbers and e-mail addresses are unchanged.

**Any Other Business:** The Secretary had circulated John Robbins's AGM statement to the Secretaries of each of the Avon AA Clubs and Associations, asking them to draw the attention of their respective Committees to the document.

**Date of Next Committee Meeting:** Around late June / early to mid-July, depending on there being enough business to justify a meeting.

**Meeting Closed** at about 8.10pm.