

Avon Athletic Association

Minutes of an abbreviated Management Committee Meeting of the Avon Athletic Association, held on Wednesday April 5th 2023, by Zoom, starting at 7.35pm.

Those Present: Martin Bates, Debbie Brooks (Yate & District AC), John Deaton (General Secretary), Andrea Garcia-Lock (SGS College), Pam Gooding (President), Ray Gooding (Endurance Officials Secretary), Steve Grant (Bristol & West AC/ T&F Officials Secretary), Bob Lavis, Hilary Nash (Treasurer / Bristol & West AC), Arthur Renshaw (Thornbury RC), John Robbins (Life Vice-President / Trustee), Mark Thomas (Team Bath AC).

Apologies: John Cox (GWR), Kelly Dicks (GWR), Roland Gibbard (connection problems), Ian Macintosh (Life Member), James Murphy (Welfare / Westbury Harriers), Mike Strange (Bristol & West AC / Life Member), North Somerset AC, Jim Strudwick (Avon Schools AA)

Chair of Meeting: with no Chairperson elected at the AGM, Mark Thomas was appointed to Chair this meeting.

Minutes of previous Committee Meeting (23rd January 2023): accepted.

Matters Arising:

1. England Athletics South-West Council: John Deaton was re-elected to the Council for a second term; Debbie Brooks was elected for the first time. Paul D'Arcy (Yeovil Olympiads AC) is the new Regional Council Chair.
2. UK CAU Inter-Counties Cross-Country Championships (Saturday 11th March 2023, Prestwold Park, Loughborough): the event went ahead well. The Avon & Somerset turnout of Senior Men and Senior women was disappointing. The arrangements for tent and vest supplies were only finalised a few days before the event.

John Deaton considers that the Avon and Somerset UK CAU XC Championships project needs to be considered as a joint effort between the two County Associations and the active Cross-Country clubs in the two counties, not with virtually everything left to one individual.

John Deaton has passed £305 for Avon & Somerset vest sales to the Somerset AA Treasurer.

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

1. Avon AA Vest purchases were made to top up stock ready for use in 2023.
2. Extra medals have been purchased to a new design; existing medals will be used up.
3. Hilary has reimbursed John Deaton with £215 for the UK CAU Inter-Counties Championships entry fees, and has received half of this sum from the Somerset AA.
4. The entry fees and expenses from the joint Open meeting with SGS College still have to be finalised.
5. The bank mandate has been updated so that we may now make payments on-line.
6. We have allowed Entry Central to retain a float to be available for the refund of entry fees.

(continued)

Officials Secretary's Report: (submitted by Ray Gooding)

1. Upgradings: Pete Davenport to L2 Endurance Official; Valdas Barisauskas and Catherine Killourhey to Level 1 Field (subject to officiating experiences).

No longer officiating (or whose DBS expired some time ago): Andrew Ballentine, Jacques Bouton, Moni Brady, Ruben Brady, Sasha Capel-Spottiswoode, Allan Dent, Darren Havard, Peter Jackson, Jean-Luc Lorenzi, Peter Mainstone.

DBS recently expired: Henrietta Anstey, Christianne McKenzie.

2. Marc Ritchie of England Athletics has created a survey to clarify the recruitment and retention of officials. Local officials are urged to complete the survey if they had not already done so. The survey can be found at https://bit.ly/Officials_Survey , and closes on April 21st.
3. Ray has been trying to persuade EA to set up a Photo-Finish course locally.
4. EA is implementing improvements to the Trinity system.

Arrangements for 2023 Avon T&F Championships

The Championships entry system is almost ready [Post-meeting note: entries are open, at <https://www.entrycentral.com/festival/3551>]. The main problem is a potential shortage of officials and other helpers; member T&F clubs are urged to canvass their members to recruit extra officials and auxiliary helpers.

Any Other Business: None.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 24th May, 7.00pm, via Zoom.

Meeting Closed at about 8.50pm.