

Avon Athletic Association

Minutes of a Management Committee Meeting of the Avon Athletic Association, held on Monday November 22nd 2021, by Zoom, starting at 7.00pm.

Those Present: John Cox (GWR), John Deaton (General Secretary), Kelly Dicks (GWR), Pam Gooding (President), Ray Gooding (Officials Secretary), Penny Mannings (North Somerset AC), Hilary Nash (Treasurer / Bristol & West AC), John Robbins (Chairperson), Jim Strudwick (Avon Schools AA)

Apologies: Debbie Brooks, Ian Macintosh (Life Member), Jim Murphy (Westbury H. / Welfare Officer). Arthur Renshaw (Thornbury RC).

The meeting noted with sadness the passing of Life Member David Hughes and of Elizabeth Wilkins, wife of late Life Member Hugh Wilkins. Elizabeth's funeral is on December 3rd at Haycombe Cemetery.

Minutes of previous Committee Meeting: (20th September 2021): Accepted.

Matters Arising:

1. Intercom Radios: Continuing Minute.
2. Correction: the date of the EA South-West Volunteer Awards evening should have read Wednesday 1st December. October 16th was the date of the South-West Conference but this did not include the awards ceremony.

Officials Secretary's Report: This was distributed in advance (copies available on request).

1. Upgradings: To Level 1 Timekeeper: Paula Casling (Bristol & West AC)
To level 1 Marksman: Robert Mullins
To Level 2 Track Judge: Jason Wyatt (Weston AC)
To Level 2 Track Judge: Carolyn Devereux (North Somerset AC)

Deactivated: Neil Lock (North Somerset AC)

There has been a delay in the issue of physical licences (UKA's area of responsibility).

2. UKA has ruled that nobody under 16 may take part in Level 1 Officiating courses (even on-line)
3. Record of Experience: trainee Field Officials were reminded that duties at two or more events at a single meeting only counts as one meeting for qualification purposes.
4. Ray Gooding was out of stock of Officials Polo Shirts. Possible re-stock to be discussed with John Robbins.
5. UKA has published their UK-Wide Officials Strategy document (available on the UKA website). John Robbins felt that there were many fine words but that they needed to be backed by actions, and particularly with finance. There were two webinars (Friday 26th November, Monday 29th November, places bookable via UKA website), giving interested parties a chance to air their views.

The meeting was concerned that there were (as at November 23rd) no Level 1 courses on any discipline listed on the EA website.

6. Member clubs are reminded that we still had no volunteer(s) to succeed Ray Gooding from the AGM of 2022.

Road Running / Endurance Matters Arthur Renshaw had nothing to report.

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

1. The only financial transaction since the last meeting has been the reimbursement of Ray Gooding of £315.96 for the purchase of a Seiko S149 Printer Stopwatch.
2. The reimbursement of a claim from Thornbury Running Club regarding Coaching Course fees was approved.
3. Hilary Nash is in dialogue with Bristol & West AC and with Yate & District AC about claims for Officials course fees.
4. Hilary reminded clubs that they need to notify him by December 31st of potential claims for 2021, even if the relevant courses will not be completed until 2022.

Track & Field / Sportshall Matters:

1. South-West Indoor T&F Championships: the first portion (some U13/U15/U17 events) will be held on Sunday 5th December at the NIAC at Cardiff. Those involved should note that:
 - 1.1 Entries close on Thursday 25th November at **17.00** (note that for a number of events in Wales, entries close well before midnight on the announced date).
 - 1.2 Spectators and coaches will need to register in advance (applications open in the week commencing Monday 29th November)
 - 1.3 It is hoped that South-West Championships medals can be presented on the day; however this will depend on any rulings on Covid measures imposed by Welsh Athletics and/or the NIAC and/or the Welsh Government.

Entries for the remaining Championships events have still to open (as at 23rd November).
2. T&F athletes and officials are reminded about the new rules about treading on lane lines and the setup of the no-jump indicator on Long and Triple Jump boards.
3. Sportshall: The Avon Schools Sportshall Trials have been arranged for Saturday 29th January 2022 at the Bristol Grammar School Sports Hall.
4. Jim Strudwick has been in discussions with Jeremy Dale about possibilities for the 2022 Avon T&F Championships.

Cross Country / Trail Matters

1. Tri-Counties XC Championships (Sunday 19th December, Bath University): arrangements are in progress. The Entries site is at <https://form.jotform.com/213065811737354> , and close on Saturday 18th December at **12.00 noon**.

The programme includes a Senior Women's race over 6.6km., and an 'Open' race over 10.3km in which both Senior Men and Senior Women would be allowed to take part. The meeting felt that the race publicity and website had not adequately publicised the option for women in the longer race. The meeting agreed to award Avon AA individual medals for women in both races.

John Robbins is contacting the Avon AA clubs to recruit extra marshals and other helpers. John Deaton will need a helper for the earlier part of the day to help with numbers distribution.

2. South-West Inter-Counties XC Championships (Sunday January 2nd 2022, RNAS Merryfield, near Ilton, Somerset): the arrangements will be similar to the cancelled meeting in 2021. The Entries site is at <https://form.jotform.com/203272430245344> , and entries close on Wednesday 22nd December.

There may be problems in getting the Avon AA vest supply to Merryfield.

Note that the Senior Women's race and Senior Men's race are both over 6950m: however these distances were a carry-over from the special requirements for the cancelled January 2021 event, and are not necessarily a commitment on equal distances for future seasons.

Information from Outside Bodies (e.g. MCAA, EA, SW Council): English Schools Athletic Association: changes for the 2022 Championships include the removal of the Under 15s Triple Jump and the replacement of the separate male and female relays with a single mixed relay per age group.

Information from Member Clubs / Associations

It was agreed to accept the application of South Gloucestershire and Stroud College to the Association (proposed: John Deaton; Seconded Jim Strudwick).

Any Other Business: None.

Date of Next Meeting: To be decided.

Meeting Closed at about 8.10pm.