



SUSSEX COUNTY ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION

President: Martin Etchells

Minutes of the Executive committee meeting held at Withdean Stadium

on Friday 22 April 2016

Present L Tullett, S May, R Hook, R Penfold, T Roberts, G Jessop, R Page, M Etchells, P Masters, K May, J Gill

16-93 Apologies: J Lasis, J Hughes, V Clark, J Linfield, P Standen, N Sutherland, and P Baker

A minute's silence was observed in memory of Charles Fogg.

16-94 Minutes of previous meeting

Amendments were made to those present and apologies for absence and also to the Treasurer's report and then accepted as a true record.

16-95 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Trevor Simcox is to speak with Keith May about the role of track & field secretary.

The old website has now been closed down. Some adjustments to the new site are in progress.

The Masters championships date has now been confirmed as 5 June at Ewell.

Unfortunately the entry form for the county championships does not mention the sale of T-shirts etc so a separate advertising programme will be needed. Entries for the main championships have made a slow but steady start.

The Chichester 10k race will have a new base in 2017- Goodwood motor racing circuit.

Crawley AC had invoiced the county for £7000 re the photo finish kit.

16-96 Correspondence and Administrator's Report

The Administrator had previously circulated notes.

Graham Jessop agreed to represent Sussex at the forthcoming UKCAU meeting, and accepted Peter Masters' nomination to stand for election to that committee.

16-97 The new county constitution had been largely completed by Messrs Hook, Etchells and Gill, apart from the mechanism for election, which would be formalised at the next county committee meeting.

16-98 Treasurer's Report

Account for 2015/6 not quite ready because of a couple of unidentified credit items paid on line. Overall the year will show a deficit of around £11,000. This was anticipated and suitably reserved for and the county account is still some £74,000 in credit.

16-99 Income/ Expenditure Projections

The Treasurer presented a projection for the immediate future. Clearly all county events must be run to show at the very least a break even.

There was some discussion about the U15 league and the need to bring it into a more formal organisation with participating clubs to be formally invoiced for membership fees and all expenses properly recorded through the county. M Etchells to write to P Baker and J Long asking them to provide a statement of account for the last two years and to follow a more formal procedure in future.

The likely financial situation for 2016 county championships was discussed. The considerable costs of venue hire and photo finish, coupled with the difficulty at Withdean of ensuring all spectators go through the paying entrance and the omission of kit sales from the entry forms meant a profit may be unlikely this year.

16-100 Commercial and charitable races in Sussex

Concern was expressed about the proliferation of these events in the county, which are crowding out traditional local fixtures, coupled with the loss of the "unattached levy" which had previously been worth up to about £9000 to Sussex AA. It was suggested that all such races should be asked to add a levy of £1 to all unattached athlete's entry fee, this to be paid directly to Sussex AA. P Masters would draft a letter to UKA suggesting this should be a condition of granting race licences, and other counties would be asked to support this initiative.

16-101 Image / Branding

The Sussex AA image needs to be consistent, for example the shield and the six martlets need to be the same style and colour on all products, advertising, letter

heads and so on. Should the image stay “traditional” or move into new ground perhaps through a competition in schools and colleges? The official martlets need to be checked with the College of Heraldry. This will be a main item for the next Network meeting on 17 May. P Masters was thanked for his work on this issue.

16-102 Track & Field Executive Panel report

It was agreed that a meeting with Withdean staff was urgently needed to resolve issues with the throws cage and other matters prior to the County Championships. Entries so far at about 100. An application had been made to EA for a grant of £500 towards county champs costs. It was noted that more volunteer help would be needed at Withdean than has been the case at K2 in recent years.

16-103 Cross Country Executive Panel report

P Baker would be asked to hold his annual meeting as soon as the dates for regional and national races become known.

16-104 Road Running Executive Panel report

B Page queried the accuracy of chip timing when races used more than one mat. He is trying to get this investigated in detail. There seems to be an increase in number swapping. This should be brought to the attention of all clubs. General dissatisfaction was expressed about the inadequate governance of road races by Run Britain.

G Jessop reported seven newly qualified road officials.

It was noted that from 1 June 2017 all road runners will have to be affiliated.**

**The changes in the rules for affiliated runners have greater implication for track & field athletes i.e. all T&F athletes MUST now be individually affiliated or else they will be ineligible. And their result will not count or be recorded. For road runners any runner wishing to compete for their club and count for any team competition under UKA rules must be an affiliated runner but a runner wishing to run as an individual for any club can still participate as an unattached runner.

16-105 Walking Executive Panel report

R Penfold reported a fine effort by Ian Richards in the European Champs

16-106 Any Other Business

It was noted that the new Rule Book contained some errors. Amendments will be sent out soon.

16-107 The next meeting will be 17th June.

The meeting closed at 21.19.