



SUSSEX COUNTY ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION

President: Martin Etchells

Minutes of the Executive committee meeting held at Withdean Stadium
on Friday 17th June 2016

Present L Tullett, S May, N Sutherland, R Hook, B Page, K Donno, John Gill, K May, P Standen, G Jessop, M Etchells, P Masters, M Anning

16-108 Apologies: R Penfold, T Roberts, V Clark, J Linfield, J Lasis, V Clark
R Garrad, J Hughes

16-109 Minutes of previous meeting

This was accepted as a true record.

16-110 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Bob P had not been receiving the administrator's correspondence. *This has now been resolved.*

16-111 Correspondence and Administrator's Report

The Administrator had previously circulated notes, which included the following:

- The additional England Athletics Regional Consultation date on 6th July at Crawley Football Club.
- Changes to inter county team managers including correspondence from Terry and Michelle Notman about their dissatisfaction with the move from letters to email invitations.
- The lack of Sussex officials at the Masters Championships
- The success of the Schools Championships but the disappointing entries above Junior levels to the Schools' Combined Events Championships.

Unfortunately the EA consultation date in Sussex was not a convenient date for most members of the committee.

Vicki Clark is to step down as Women's XC team manager after many years of outstanding service to the county. The committee thanked Vicki in her absence.

She had already spoken with Tom Ulliott of Brighton & Hove AC and the committee unanimously welcomed Tom as Vicki's replacement.

Terry and Michelle Notman were thanked in their absence for their commitment to the U13 and last year U15 inter county teams. They had decided to step down and Melanie Anning (U13) and Vanessa Bristowe and Matt Lethbridge (U15) were taking over these roles this year.

The report ended with the administrator reading out Reg Hook's tribute to Keith and Sue May, which was published after their last county championships in May. Martin Etchells also restated Sussex AA's appreciation of their support, commitment and hard work over many years.

16-112 The draft of the new county constitution - to take forwards to the October AGM - was approved with two amendments - wording to be finalised by RH, ME and JG. P Masters stressed the need for a covering letter to be sent to clubs to ensure the proposed changes to the constitution are clear.

16-113 Treasurer's Report

M Etchells is still awaiting the bill from the May county championships.

P Masters reiterated the need for longer-term projections 3,4 and 5 years. M Etchells agreed to have these in place for the September meeting.

M Etchells discussed the possibility of employing a part time bookkeeper and also the potential of using cloud storage for accounts.

16-114 EA response to Sussex AA Letter

P Masters explained the background to the letter and his view about the response. The committee discussed the ambiguity around the UKA insurance, road races and the need for a Run Britain permit. There had been a rule change in November 2015.

K May suggested England Athletics should go to UKA and ask for a rule change. G Jessop spoke about the importance of getting counties on board re the £1 levy.

16-115 Commercial and charitable races in Sussex

Discussed above

16-116 Image / Branding

At the Network meeting on 17th May the committee unanimously agreed to accept the shield image featured on the new Sussex AA website.

K May spoke about the importance of consistency in use of the image.

P Masters reiterated the need to ensure the design could be adapted to all possible formats and the need to involve a designer, possibly from the athletics fraternity. A couple of names were mentioned as possibilities.

The committee agreed to aim for 1st January 2017 to confirm the new logo.

16-117 Track & Field Executive Panel report

K May thanked everyone who had helped ensure the May Championships took place at Withdean Stadium. He reported 509 individual entries; however spoke of the continuing and disappointing downwards trend in Senior participation.

K May detailed the financial costs of the event and spoke about the advantage of having use of the training room at Withdean. This was a large comfortable area, which was used for athlete registration and T-shirt and Sweatshirt sales.

The September Combined Events Championships' in conjunction with Surrey would include a 3K walk and entries in advance for the Steeplechase (S/C). The committee briefly discussed the S/C as entries over the past few years have been very poor for both counties and at times non-existent.

16-118 Cross Country Executive Panel report

It was reported that Sussex University is applying to stage the British Universities & Colleges Sport Championships (BUCS) at Stanmer Park. *(The event was awarded to Sheffield University and will take place on the 4th February 2017).*

There was a brief discussion led by K Donno about the Sussex Masters XC running at a loss and being subsidised by the main championships.

16-119 Road Running Executive Panel report

B Page requested £150 to pay towards website development costs for the Harvey Curtis Road Race Challenge, as the Bradford Brothers have been funding this themselves.

16-120 Walking Executive Panel report

R Penfold submitted the following report to the meeting: Injuries illness etc. is keeping some of our small band of walkers from competing at the moment, so the results are a bit thin. Ian Richards kept up his winning ways in the EVAA Non Stadia Champs in Portugal in May, winning the M65 10K and 30K races, Ron Penfold struggled round for 5th in the M70 10K.

The Sussex Masters 3K Track Champs at Ewell were poorly supported; Ann Jones won the Women's race and M. Ellis-Martin the Men's race.

Last Saturday Ian was second in the UKA/RWA/I/C 10K at Coventry, last year at this meeting Sussex were second team in the I/C and Steyning won the Club team race, this year we could not get walkers up there.

Peter Selby continues to hold training sessions at Lewes with 4-5 regular athletes.

16-121 Any Other Business

The Sussex EDM will be used by Surrey AA, who are managing the U13 Inter-Counties on 31st July.

B Page raised the issue of an Arena 80 club member who had answered Sussex AA's urgent request for additional volunteers to help at the Schools' Championships, but had been under utilised. The committee briefly discussed the need to ensure all volunteers knew to whom they should report, to ensure this type of situation did not occur again. M Anning agreed to contact the volunteer and hoped he would accept an invitation to help at the U13 Championships in July.

In light of the retirement of Keith May from organising County Championships and the vacancy for the U13 Championships, the committee discussed the possibility of a financial incentive to encourage Event Managers. The principle was enthusiastically welcomed although no firm commitment was made at this stage.

16-122 The next meeting will be the Friday 16th September 2016, followed by the AGM on Friday 21st October 2016.