

**Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held at Withdean Stadium**

**on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

**Present:** R Garrad, R Hook, P Masters, P Kennedy, M Etchells, N Sutherland, K May, S May,  
L Tullett, J Gill, M Anning

**17-209 Apologies:** G Jessop

**17-210 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record and signed by Roland Garrad.

**17-211 Matters Arising**

PM updated the committee re Sarah Gardiner's visit to Lewes AC on 10<sup>th</sup> October.

**17-212 AGM Update**

The committee briefly discussed the AGM. The draft notes had been circulated by MA.

**17-213 Correspondence & Administrator's Report**

MA reported on the success of the first Endurance session at Camber Sands and reported that the model had changed this year from one person overseeing the four sessions to individual session lead/s who were each offered a fee of £200. There had been issues with the sizing of the tops and more had to be ordered. The suppliers billed these at cost.

The first Track & Field squad had taken place on Sunday - led this year by Kim Milnthorpe. It had gone very well.

PM added that some belated invoices for T&F from 2016 had also been paid. He stressed the need for each lead to provide complete figures so that the income and expenditure

could be tracked. He added that the Endurance squad was cross subsidising the other squads.

Brighton & Hove's Amber Anning had been awarded the British Athletics Supporters Club 'Young Female Athlete of the Year,' which she would receive in Coventry the next day.

Worthing's Ben Hawkes had been shortlisted for the Sussex Sports Awards in the 'Young Sports Personality of the Year' category, which was taking place that evening.

## 17-214 Treasurer's Report

ME reported that balances were healthy.

£1800 was received Harvey Curtis and he was waiting to hear about how that would be distributed.

- £5633 income from squads in total. Expenditure figures not yet complete.
- 29 clubs so far affiliated.
- Graham Jessop is representing Sussex on the CAU. He had submitted costs.
- Goring Road Runners had applied to reaffiliate and had sent in their affiliation form.

*MA to formally accept their affiliation.*

KM asked if Worthing Striders had repaid their subs for this year as many members have moved to Run Academy Worthing. KM said none had competed in the league this season.

ME outlined the issue with Freedom Leisure at Withdean around the cost of stewards. As the stadium has more than 500 seats - whether used or not - stewards must be present. ME had negotiated a reduction to the bill for the Under 13 Championships in July 2017, as the meeting manager had not been informed of the charge. However, going forwards this cost will need to be reviewed and it might mean that events previously held at Withdean stadium would be moved to another track.

ME updated the committee on payments to Chichester AC, some of which were for historical invoices across XC and the U15 league. The committee discussed this at length and ME was to query an invoice for sponsored numbers.

PM and JG spoke about clarifying with clubs the timeline for paying invoices in the future.

ME said that from his records it was not clear whether all of the clubs involved in the U15 League had paid their dues. KM confirmed that the East clubs did not always pay as the events in the East league took place at their clubs (Eastbourne and Lewes). The West clubs paid £90. KM said the East clubs needed to contribute to the final costs at K2. KM suggested that all clubs should pay the same amount and it would then be up to the host club to claim back. The committee agreed that this could be implemented from 2018.

It was also agreed that all clubs would be asked to submit invoices within TWO months of an event otherwise the county might not honour the bill.

RG spoke about the need for a more detailed budget. ME is working on the five-year budget plan.

## 17-215 Sussex Athletics Development Report

**Website** – PM updated the committee on the relationships with Infigo/Netkandi re. retrieval of the archive. Communications had continued to be unsatisfactory. PM and MA spoke about the need to find someone else to host and service the site as Netkandi had lost interest after they were taken over and had not honoured their original agreement to deliver the archive in full.

PK offered to organise a smaller meeting to speak with interested committee members about the possibilities re IT.

PM briefed the committee on MA's replacement as Administrator. He had found a potential replacement - Kate Matthews – however, there would henceforth be two roles; Administration and Marketing.

**Squads** – already updated under Admin report.

**Officials** – PK has taken over from John Gill. PK spoke about his hope to increase and encourage more people to gain their license. He spoke about using soft communication skills and said he intended to connect with clubs and become their 'official' friend.

KM spoke about the rules are becoming stricter and reporting of numbers of officials will be compulsory. MA spoke about the record numbers of people who had participated in courses in recent years but not converted. She thanked John Gill for the excellent work he had done over a number of years.

The committee supported PK's enthusiasm for the role however, noted that volunteer levels across society had gone down. PK also spoke about paying officials. This was discussed.

PM said Lewes AC parents were all asked what they could do to help and that some level of volunteering may be compulsory and aligned to the continued training of their children.

### **17-216 Track & Field Executive Panel Report**

KM has agreed to compile the Summer Fixture list which he will finalise when the major event dates are confirmed.

Track and Field panel will be meeting in early January

Sussex Indoor Champs 17-18 Feb –the same day as the British Indoor Champs.

### **17-217 Cross-Country Executive Panel Report**

Phil Baker had sent a written report which was circulated to the committee:

The 2017 – 2018 cross country season has got off to a good start with the Goodwood Relays and two league meetings so far. All three have been well attended with an average of over 600 competitors, the highest ever in recent years. A feature has been how the honours have been spread among the various clubs across the county. At the relays at the end of September there were team wins for Crawley, Brighton & Hove, Chichester, Arena 80, Hastings, Lewes and Haywards Heath. At the league at the same venue in October, there was a record attendance for Goodwood of 630 registered in spite of clashes with other events along the South Coast in what is becoming an ever increasingly congested autumn calendar. Good weather made for a great day's racing and this continued in the most recent league race at Bexhill where heavy overnight rain had relented by the morning and conditions were surprisingly firm underfoot over the majority of the course. The county's thanks must go to Terry Skelton and his band of helpers at Hastings for agreeing to put the fixture on at short notice after the loss of Hickstead as a league venue. Coming up in the next month is the Lancing league fixture on December 2nd followed by the South East Inter-County championships (for all except senior men) at week later at Oxford. Maureen Stephens from Worthing Harriers is asking for extra help for the league fixture, especially as some of her regulars are season ticket holders at the Amex and there is a clash with a premierships fixture on the same day.

Finally there is the excellent news that Stanmer Park, Brighton, has been chosen as the venue for the Southern Cross Country Championships at the end of January. The county is fortunate in having Graham Jessop on the SEAA endurance panel and Graham is working closely with Martin Howard from SEAA in the planning for the event. The county has been asked to help both beforehand in helping to mark out the course and more especially on the day with roughly 25 personnel needed for marshalling and other duties. It is hope that the majority of offers of help will come from the three Brighton clubs but even a couple of volunteers from other clubs further afield would greatly help. For those who remember the two previous recent Southern Championships in 2012 and 2015, it promises to be a great five hours of racing.

The committee discussed the potential parking chaos for the SEAA champs if Brighton are playing at home.

RH reported that the Years 7&8 Schools Inter-Counties would be held at Christ's Hospital on 24<sup>th</sup> March.

### **17-218 Road Running Executive Panel Report**

Elsbeth had organised a second meeting to discuss Road Running in Sussex for the beginning of December.

KM asked if the Road Relays were definitely confirmed for 7<sup>th</sup> April 2018. MA to check.  
*(Update: The relays are on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2018).*

### **17-219 Race Walking Report**

A brief written report from Ron Penfold had been circulated:

Back in September on 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup>, Sussex walkers had mixed fortunes, at the English Schools Road Walking Championships at Boston, and The BMAF 10K Road Walking Championships at Leicester.

The two Lewes AC girls acquitted themselves very well in their first representative race for the Sussex Schools, Lauren Morse coming 6<sup>th</sup> in the Junior Girls U15 in 19-41.58. and Eva Payton-White also 6<sup>th</sup> in the Inter Girls U17 in 17-58.34, both with P.B's. Unfortunately Ollie Hopkins in the Senior Boys U20 race suffered a D.Q. Ollie has been having a few problems style wise as he gets faster, he is working at it though.

There were also mixed fortunes for the Steyning duo at Leicester, Ian Richards after getting a good lead on the rest of the field, suffered a D.Q. at about 4K, Ron Penfold went on to win the M75 race in 65-26.

Peter Selby is working on dates for the development races at Lewes, we are also going to try and get either a 2K or 1K walk in the Sussex Schools Championship.

### **17-220 Mick Jones Throws Trophy**

Roland is to return the trophy to Mick Jones.

### **17-221 Any Other Business**

PM approached about EA doing a review of the councils – England and regional, asking for people to serve on it. PM would like his view represented that it should focus on counties and 'the bedrock' of athletics.

KM is to stay on the Regional council for the moment. Stuart Condie has resigned.

KM said that the regional council had asked for the awards to be somewhere more central and this request had been ignored.

### **17-222 Date of next meeting Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018.**

The meeting closed at 21:30

Future meeting dates 2018 (All Fridays):

20<sup>th</sup> April

20<sup>th</sup> July

21<sup>st</sup> September

**19<sup>th</sup> October – AGM**

16<sup>th</sup> November

