



**SUSSEX COUNTY AA**  
**President: Martin Etchells**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** held on  
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at Withdean Leisure Centre, Brighton

**Present:** S May, K May, J Lasis, N Sutherland, L Tullett, M Stephens, J Gill, J Fenn, T Roberts, J Hughes, B Page, R Penfold, R Hook, P Masters, M Etchells, M Anning, D Buckett, D Leach, M Collison, P Standen and J Boyce.

Martin Etchells was Chairman of the meeting and welcomed members and club representatives, before requesting a moment of silence to remember Sussex official Ken Best MBE and former Sussex Administrator Dawn Piechoczek who had both recently died.

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from G Stephens, J Linfield, P Baker, V Clark, P Selby, R Garrad, J Luxford, G Ashdown, G Jessop, K Donno, P Crowe, T Notman, M Notman, M Miller, R Perry, P Wishart, C Carter, P Legrave, P Cunningham, R Stead, L Stead and S Condie.
2. **Minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting** K May proposed and R Hook seconded the motion to confirm the minutes as a true record. They were agreed and signed by M Etchells.
3. **The Annual Report** summarising the activities within the County during the past year, had been produced and circulated by M Anning. The majority of those present had received an advanced copy and further printed copies were available at the meeting. The report was accepted.
4. **The Treasurer's Report** in the form of a summary of accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 was circulated at the meeting. It showed a deficit for the year of £305.27. Treasurer, M Etchells, commented that whilst the county appeared to have made a loss, the mitigating circumstances were that the bill for the 2013 Cross-Country Championships arrived late and is included in the figures along with the 2014 Championships bill. He reiterated the need for clubs to submit expenses more promptly for accurate annual accounts. He also explained that most of the Road Relay costs and income from early April were represented in the accounts. Money had also been spent on equipment for the county, such as computers and stopwatches and a new PA system. Some interest had been paid to the reserve accounts.

J Linfield had raised a written query about clubs being in arrears for affiliation fees. M Etchells was to check.

P Masters asked for clarification regarding the figures on the accounts, which included Network money. M Etchells clarified the position.

K May stated that Horsham District Council had generously covered the costs of the Tanbridge School Hall used for Sportshall events, for many years, however it was unclear how much longer this would continue.

M Etchells thanked all the event organisers of County Championships and events for the income they brought in.

Financial Inspector, Ros Stephen, at Dorothy Stringer School, had inspected the accounts. R Hook proposed and K May seconded the motion to receive the Treasurer's Report and adopt the accounts. The motion was agreed.

**5. To vote on any Resolutions.** There were two resolutions;

- 1) That Sussex Schools is henceforth formally represented at the County Executive.

The meeting agreed to adopt the proposal to amend the constitution to enable Sussex Schools to be formally represented at the executive.

- 2) That financial support is given to Crawley AC towards the purchase of a photo finish system for use at the K2 track.

On behalf of Crawley AC, D Buckett outlined the background to the request and the financial costs involved to install the system at K2. Crawley AC planned to raise one third of the £27000 needed. The committee discussed the importance of supporting this and P Masters proposed that £5000 is guaranteed now with the possibility of a further injection of funds if necessary. K May seconded this and the proposal was accepted.

**6. To elect the Vice President and Life Members**

There were no new nominations. The current list of Vice Presidents and Life Members who were nominated were elected en bloc.

**7. To elect the Treasurers**

Diane and Martin Etchells were elected.

**8. To elect the Secretaries of the Executive Panel**

- |                    |   |                        |
|--------------------|---|------------------------|
| i) Track and Field | - | vacant                 |
| ii) Cross Country  | - | Phil Baker was elected |
| iii) Road          | - | Bob Page was elected   |

**9. To elect further positions:-**

- |                                      |   |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| i) Race Walking Secretary            | - | Ron Penfold was elected              |
| ii) Officials Secretaries*           | - | Mandy Collison, John Gill & ANOTHER* |
| iii) Cross-Country Champs. Secretary | - | Keith Donno was elected              |

\*It was agreed that the officials' secretary role would be split into three: Database, Courses and Availability. M Collison had volunteered to oversee and update the officials' database, J Gill would continue to organise courses. The third role, which is vacant, is to receive officials responses and ensure meeting organisers have lists of available officials.

The meeting discussed the lack of officials in the county and what was being done to encourage more people to help.

### **To elect the Team Managers**

These were elected en-bloc: -

<i>Track</i>	Under 13 Boys and Girls	-	Terry & Michelle Notman
	Under 15 Boys and Girls	-	Terry & Michelle Notman
	Under 17 Men & Women	-	Steve Jones
	Under 20 Men & Women	-	Paul Cunningham
	Senior Men & Women	-	Craig Cox & Amy Barclay
<i>Cross-Country</i>	Under 20 & Senior Women	-	Vicki Clark
	Under 13, 15 & 17 Girls/Women	-	(Vacant)
	Men	-	David Leach
<i>Sportshall</i>	Boys and Girls	-	Kim Milnthorpe

### **10. To elect the Committee Members**

The following committee members were re-elected: Pete Standen, Mandy Collison, Maureen Stephens, Jenny Hughes, Linda Tullett, Neil Sutherland and Gavin Stephens.

There are five vacancies. Refer to the Executive Committee to fill the remaining places.

### **11. To appoint three Trustees**

Reg Hook, Graham Jessop and John Linfield were re-appointed.

### **12. To appoint the Financial Inspector**

Ros Stephen of Dorothy Stringer School was re-appointed.

### **13. To Discuss proposals to allow changes to the structure of the constitution**

P Masters briefly outlined the background of the Network and its development role and the need to bring the Network and County back together now that the England Athletics Funding for the network has ended. This would combine the development, funding and the websites. R Hook said an agreement was needed now to the principal of merging the two bodies. He proposed that the financial year-end should be the deadline at which point the detail of the merged constitution would have been resolved and agreed. The committee discussed the implications and M Etchells spoke of the benefits of charitable status. When the constitution was written amateur sport did not have charitable status, which it now has within formal education. M Etchells said it was important today to approve of changes, which the Executive could then formalise. The proposal was agreed.

### **Any Other Business**

K May asked for a website update and stressed the importance of offering on-line entry for the Indoor Championships. This would need to be in place by January. M Anning to follow up.

J Gill has organised a multi discipline Officials course at K2 on 1<sup>st</sup> November and to date 33 people had signed up. (*The figure has since increased to 43*).

**The meeting closed at 8:46 PM**

*The next Executive Meeting is on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at Withdean Stadium.*