



Oxfordshire Athletics Association

Minutes from the committee meeting which took place on Zoom. Friday 12 Sept 2025

Present: Will Atkinson (HRR, Chair), Clare Lacey (T&F and Radley), Jackie Breslin (T&F and Radley), Alan Vincent (T&F and Banbury), James Charles (Banbury), Paul Groves (Bicester), Emma Gould (Bicester & XC), Kit Villiers (Headington).

1. **Apologies:** Annie Fernandez-Jones (Secretary), Hugh Morris (Treasurer)
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting.** Agreed as a true record
3. **Matters arising**
 - Survey of the Oxfordshire Clubs on medical and results services is still ongoing with AF-J & WA. WA apologised that it had been going on so long and commented that he would try to get it done.
 - On Adderbury, JC messaged Doug during the meeting who said his contacts were no longer involved with the club.
 - EG disputed the comment in the minutes that OXL proposals were not circulated adequately before the AGM. Everyone on the email circulation list had been given good notice.
4. **Communications Task Group -**
 - a. *Secretary's report and correspondence received.*
Nothing to report
 - b. *England Athletics/UKA matters to report.*
From AV: EA has announced that from next year officials renewing their licence will be required to complete a DBS and the new free Mandatory Online Training module consisting of Health and Safety, and Safeguarding sections.
PG reported that there was a new SE Club Support Manager who had promised to be active in Oxfordshire.
 - c. *School's Report*
From AV: As more fully reported on our website, the Oxfordshire team performed exceptionally well at this year's ESAA Track & Field Championships at Birmingham on 11/12 July. Five individual medals included two Gold, one Silver and two Bronze. Divine IHEME won the IB 100m in a new record time, while Isla McGowan won the SG 1500m.
Divine and Bisan Musa went on to represent England in the Home Countries International for the Inters category, where Divine again won the 100m in a record time and Bisan came 2nd in the 300mH.

At the Regional Schools' Combined Events meeting, Oxfordshire teams finished 3rd in both the IG Heptathlon and the IB Octathlon. Elysia Chilvers was 2nd individual in the IG Heptathlon and Lola Williams 2nd in the JG Pentathlon. The National Championships take place at Chelmsford on 21 & 22 September.

d. *Website and Facebook page*

WA commented that the website was being kept up to date and that the secretary was ensuring that the Facebook page was updated regularly.

5. **Officers Task Group -**

a. *Treasurer's Report*

Audited accounts are available on the website.

WA has contacted the Oxon XC League to ask if they would consider reducing the £500 they charge us for staging the county championship race. There is an informal policy in the county that each area of the sport should try to cover its costs. XC has a deficit of around £500 this year. EG was concerned that this might jeopardise our relationship with the league. She suggested that this was an exceptional year for XC spending with SEAA champs not being at Horspath. She also questioned the informal policy. WA emphasised that the request to the league was a friendly enquiry and we would accept if it was refused.

6. **Track & Field Task Group –**

a. *Officials Report*

From AV: COFSec's update received on 1 September: Oxfordshire had 112 T&F Officials on the database. Four new qualifications since the last Committee meeting: Paul Groves is now Level 2 SA and Andrew Simpson L2 FJ plus two new L1s.

b. *Coaching in the County*

Nothing to add

c. *Coaching in the County*

From AV: Some ideas floated for next year re: fitting in the events that normally can't be accommodated in the main County weekend.

7. **Road & Cross-Country Task Group**

a. *Cross Country*

From EG: The Oxon League has a full set of venues scheduled for the coming season. Ros Kelling will continue with her county training sessions.

The Chiltern League also has a full set of venues and appears to have a very active committee

b. *Road Racing*

Report from WA: There were ten licenced races since last meeting, including 6 Grand Prix races. In the Grand Prix the men's team competition is the tightest we've seen in years, with Witney and Headington swapping the lead from race to race. Headington are beginning to establish their traditional lead among the women's clubs.

There were no County Championship races in the period. The Long Course championship will be at the Woodstock 12 on 4th October and the Marathon Championship will be at Abingdon on 19th October.

Last month there was a useful RunEvents webinar about Event Adjudication. It included a briefing about Race Refereeing. Unless a referee has been appointed, the race director is the referee, by default, not the Event Adjudicator. For county championships an endurance qualified referee must be appointed. There was also some clarification about the use of bone-conducting headphones. They are only allowed where they are completely off-ear.

8. A.O.B.

The AGM will be on Friday 24th October. After some discussion it was agreed to hold it via Zoom since last year's live meeting was very poorly attended. All the officers present confirmed they were willing to stand again. CL and JB presented their apologies.

Please make a diary note of the AGM meeting date:

Friday 24th October 2025, 7:30pm

The Zoom link will be circulated with the calling notice.