

OXFORDSHIRE AA

MINUTES OF THE EGM HELD FRIDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2019

Present –John Sear (JS - Chair), Will Atkinson (WA - Road Race Co-ordinator), Joe Bibby, Noel Blatchford, Jackie Breslin, James Charles, Michael Collins, Miranda Cook, Andrew Garner, Clyde Goodwin, Richard Hart, Robert Kerr, Claire Lacey, Mark Lewy, Dave Martin, Hugh Morris, Neil Preddy, Pat Read, Doug Scott, Pete Stepney, Dene Stringfellow, Kit Villiers, Alan Vincent (AV, COFSec and Minutes), Iain Wakefield, Erica Woosey-Griffin, Paula Walter.

The meeting observed a period of silence in memory of Alan Woodland, a great supporter of Oxfordshire athletics as a coach and official over many years, who died on 16th November 2018.

1. **Apologies** – Lyn Hopkins (LH), Kay Reynolds, Kate Worrall (KW).

2. **Introductory remarks**

JS summarised the reasons for the meeting – the unfinished business from the AGM held in November 2018, with a number of roles left unfilled.

3. **County Treasurer**

Since the AGM, Hugh Morris had volunteered his services to take over the Officer role from KW. It had been decided to separate off the overseeing of medals and vests. Claire Lacey volunteered to take on this function.

JS referred to KW's last Treasurer's report, detailing a budget balance of £30k+. KW would meet up with Hugh Morris to effect the change-over. The other bank signatories were JS and LH.

4. **Track & Field: Inter- County and other events**

Dates of Inter-County events were confirmed as follows:

- Senior: 14th July, Ashford
- U13: 27th July, Kingsmeadow
- CAU: 27th/28th July, Manchester
- SEAA U15/U20: 7th September, Horspath Road

Re: the Senior Inter-County match, JS asked the track & field clubs to submit the names of potential competitors. If there were insufficient interest, the invitation to compete would be declined.

Richard Hart volunteered OCAC to team manage the U13s' meeting.

Kay Reynolds had volunteered to act as Team Manager for the CAU meeting.

Jackie Breslin and Claire Lacey volunteered as joint Team Managers for the SEAA event.

The Town v Gown date had not yet been decided. JS asked for a volunteer to help him organise this fixture and James Charles volunteered.

5. **Cross Country** – JS reported –

Entry numbers were up for the County Championships, with 450+ entries. But the large number of non-runners created a heavy administrative workload. He proposed that the Oxford Mail numbers were used in the future, with additional runners only to be issued other numbers. There would be a flat fee levy to cover the finances. This was agreed, with any potential problems to be sorted before next year's event.

Teams for the CAU Championships had been selected and team managers appointed. The County banner had been located.

Kit Villiers questioned the substantial increase in entry fees. This had been decided to offset the fact that BMW would not accept a parking charge. JS proposed that a percentage of the fees raised should be paid to the Oxford Mail League, to cover parking costs. Michael Collins saw a need to review the overall logistics of car parking, including the impact of the large numbers of vehicles now involved.

The County Schools Cross Country Championships had taken place and teams selected for the National, in Leeds on 16th March.

6. **Track & Field Championships** – JS reported

The Championships were scheduled for 11th/12th May, with a closing date of 18th April (by mid-day).

A volunteer was sought to assist JS and AV in organising the joint County Championships, jointly with a team from Buckinghamshire. James Charles agreed to take this on.

We needed to comply with the 8-hour day of competition requirement. It was intended to achieve this by taking a firm line on debarring athletes who had not previously competed in an event; by setting realistic starting heights; and by setting entry standards for some events at least. Clubs were asked to support this approach.

The County 10Ks will take place on 2nd June, at Horspath Road, during the mid-day break of the BMAF Pentathlons.

The County 3Ks will take place on 16th June at Little Marlow

No dates as yet for the County Steeplechase events.

A full list of events taking place in the County was available on the Oxon AA website.

7. **Road Relays**

These were provisionally scheduled for 14th April at Abingdon – 2.00 pm start. Despite the clash with an Oxfordshire League fixture, this date was agreed. Women's teams now to be composed of four runners.

8. **Election of Chair**

Temporarily taking over the Chair, AV explained that the election of the Chairman had not been formalised at the AGM. In the absence of any nominations, JS had said that he was willing to stand for one further year, with a caveat about domestic circumstances. JS was duly elected to the Chair.

9. **General Committee**

Andrew Garner, Dave Martin, Dene Stringfellow and Gary Warland were all willing to continue as members of the Committee. Additional members were also elected: Daniel Bremner, Jackie Breslin, James Charles and Claire Lacey.

Sportshall Co-ordinators were confirmed as Clyde Goodwin, Mike Miles and Ann Workman.

10.Any Other Business

JS invited items from the floor.

Michael Collins raised the issue of the Berks, Bucks & Oxon (BBO) Cross Country which was now in its 106th year. The organisers were standing down and it was Oxfordshire's turn to host in November 2019 (with a probable venue of Horspath Road). Dene Stringfellow said that, with County support, he was willing to take over the administration. It was thought possible that the Chiltern League might also be looking at the possibility of taking on the BBO. It was agreed that JS would discuss the matter with the Chiltern League organisers, but also that the County would, in principle, support Dene Stringfellow's taking on the administration. **Action: JS.**

WA reported on outcomes from the Road Race AGM. It had been agreed to reduce the number of County Championship races to three: one short (5K – 10K), one longer (10M – Half Marathon), and the Marathon. This year's races would be Headington 5, Witney 10 and Abingdon Marathon.

As reported above, the number of team members for the Women's County Relays had been increased.

There had also been a discussion on the shortage of Event Adjudicators (EAs). One additional EA had been recruited

Medals would be given out at the end of the Oxford Mail League races.

Michael Collins said that he had just written to all clubs re: the Motivation 2019 series.

DATE OF NEXT AGM – 8th November 2019, 7.30pm at Exeter Hall, Kidlington.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.