



## **OXFORDSHIRE AA ZOOM MEETING 29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021**

**Present** – Daniel Bremner, Will Atkinson, Hugh Morris, Alan Vincent, Kay Reynolds, Neil Preddy, Reg Koster, Jackie Breslin, Claire Lacey, Noel Blatchford, Andrew Garner, Joe Bibby, James Charles, Kit Villiers

1. **Apologies** – John Fenning (Headington), Iain Wakefield (Kidlington), Kate Coney (Didcot), Lyn Hopkins (Witney), Mike Shipway (Woodstock)

2. **Minutes of the previous Zoom meeting held September 2020**

Agreed to be a true record of the meeting held – there were one small change raised by Noel. Item 6(a) Michaelmas Cuppers was cancelled.

3. **Matters Arising**

a) Clothing review for kit - JC to find email. **ACTION** – JC

4. **Communications Task Group**

a) **Secretary's Report and Correspondence Received**

British Inter-Counties Senior Mountain Race and Junior Hill & Fell Championships

- Dates & venues for the 2021 British Inter-Counties Senior Mountain Race and Junior Hill & Fell Championships:
  - The Senior British Inter-Counties Mountain Race is organised on behalf of the UK Counties Athletics Union by the Mountain Running Advisory Group Sub-Committee (MRAG) of British Athletics. The 2021 race will be held at Llanberis (North Wales) on Saturday 8th May.
  - The Junior British Inter-Counties Hill and Fell Championships are organised by the Fell Runners Association (FRA) on behalf of the UK Counties Athletics Union. The 2021 race will be held at Meltham (West Yorkshire) on Saturday 29th May.

It is unlikely that these races will go ahead on these dates due to Covid-19 restrictions & no alternative dates have been proposed at present.

**SEAA/EA/UKA/OAA**

- EA weekly Club Support – 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020
  - Latest Guidance
  - Club support window open
  - Run Leader development days
  - Virtual road relay competition 2020/21

**b) UKA & England Athletics**

EA Awards. James Charles was runner-up in the Regional Official of the Year category. The winner in this category was our Bucks colleague, Chris Parkinson. Chris was the shortlisted for the National award, where he was runner-up. The winner was Mary Hodges (Leamington).



Competition. The major indoor meetings have now been cancelled. An event for elite athletes is scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup> at Lee Valley, linked to European selection. Some virtual Endurance events are still being held. The Summer Track & Field season is on hold until at least government announcements in late February.

#### **c) Local Athletics Network**

No longer exists and money has gone into the account.

#### **d) Schools Report**

The County Schools Cross Country Championships were cancelled. At present, the ESAA Cup and Championships are still on the calendar.

#### **5. Officers Task Group**

#### **Treasurer's report**

This is the first update of the new financial year and cover 1<sup>st</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> December 20.

- £143.93 more in the "unconditional" accounts and
- £ 28.00 less in the conditional accounts.

As agreed, I only comment on the movement since the last meeting or any issues raised since then. It has been minimal.

General Accounts (unconditional) XC CC – nothing to report

Affiliation: - As agreed at the AGM we waived the fee for the 2020 paid up members, a couple have paid and have been reimbursed. No new payees.

Grand Prix: – As agreed at the AGM we waived the fee for the 2020 paid up members, one paid in error and has been reimbursed. Thame have now paid.

No payments from previously active clubs, Adderbury, Alchester, Oxford City or White Horse Harriers.

Other affiliated clubs not to have paid are Radley, the two universities, Schools and Great Milton. The last two being juniors so not expected.

Road Relays: - nothing to report

Sports Hall: – WHH paid their fees, events on hold, 2020 venue invoice still o/s. Track and Field – nothing to report.

Medals – We will once an event kicks off reuse the stock and buy new medal centres. Clothing – Restocking of official's kit is still to happen

Bank Accounts – Change of Signatories mandate has been taken to the bank. Will, Daniel and Claire are the other signatories. Not had any confirmation from the Bank. Now been told that, as two signatures required for cheques, a debit card is not available.

Conditional Accounts



Photo Finish – Transaction to reimburse Alan’s September expenses paid in October.

EA Tech Grant: - no financial update

Barrie Strange fund – nothing to report

Oxon AA Training fund: - nothing to report

In light of the above I have not produced the graphs as they would be largely unhelpful.

Below is a list of the 9 clubs, of 22, that have sent in their affiliation contact details for this year, the ones in RED are outstanding.

Noel will speak to the new secretary at Abingdon – **ACTION** NB

Abingdon Amblers AC
Adderbury RC
Alchester RC
Banbury Harriers
Bicester AC
Cherwell Running Club
Didcot Runners
Eynsham Road Runners
Great Milton
Harwell Harriers
Headington RR
Hook Norton Harriers
Kidlington RAC
Oxford Brooks
Oxford City AC
Oxford Schools AA
Oxford University AA
Radley AC
Thame Runners
White Horse Harriers
Witney Road Runners    part filled
Woodstock Harriers

## 6. **Track & Field Task Group**

### a) **County Championships**

The Oxfordshire AA Track & Field group met on Friday 9th January and came up with the following proposal:

For this year at least, taking into account the probability of continuing effects from the Covid pandemic, we intend to plan a single-day Oxfordshire-only County Championship event, using one day of the designated weekend, 8th – 9th May 2021.



The event would ideally cater for all age-groups, U13 up to Seniors, but not Masters (unless it is possible to include them in Senior events – with Senior specifications only).

In order to accommodate this in a single day programme of about six hours, we envisage some entry and/or competition limitations (eg graded races rather than heats and finals). Work has been done by Kay Reynolds, Jackie Breslin and Claire Lacey on a provisional timetable.

As an adjunct, we should like also to consider a separate Masters' County Championships (possibly as part of the SCVAC Champs which might take place in Oxfordshire and/or as a joint event with adjoining Counties (eg Bucks and Berks).

Bucks have been kept informed about these proposals and are due to consider their own position at a County meeting in mid-February.

Noel Blatchford pointed out that the Town & Gown event is scheduled for Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May. If it does go ahead, it might be best to schedule the Track & Field Championships for the Saturday, although that decision might also depend on any Bucks decision.

b) **Officials** – AV reported

- a. At the beginning of January, Oxfordshire had 11 Officials on the database, of whom 105 were qualified in Track & Field. Three trainees did not yet have a DBS, while 8 officials were due for DBS renewal in the next few weeks. DBS verifiers are still able to operate during the Covid restrictions, but Officials still need to send key documents to their verifiers – in most cases electronically.

c) **Coaching in the County** – WA

- a. Could the county support with assistant coaches and put in touch with mentors?
- b. Assemble a contact list of specialists in the county?
- c. WA wrote to clubs and only three responded
- d. Discussion about who should get coaching – should it be coaches in the early stages of their career who would benefit more rather than coaches with established groups. Kay disagrees and thinks that there is a lot of them that could learn a lot, agreed with by Alan, Claire, and Jackie.
- e. Kay suggested that experienced coaches should continue to learn, and we should signpost them to keep learning and developing.

## 7. **Road & Cross Country**

### **Officials** – WA Reported

- a) Races already cancelled or postponed this year (Chalgrove 10km Goring 10km & Woodcote 10km, Banbury 15, White House Half). Possible Banbury will go ahead later in the year.
  - b) No news on mota-vation (but since the meeting an announcement has gone out and the first two races are cancelled).
  - c) Nothing happening until later in the season.
  - d) WA has been asked about the idea of the Country organising a virtual event, needs to investigate this
- ACTION** WA

### **Cross Country**



- a) Dene was not present; WA will try and contact Dene for an update on XC
- b) Kit raised the equalisation distance for XC and it will be discussed at the next XC AGM.
- c) Kit reports that the BBO has already agreed to equalise distances.

8. **A.O.B.**

- a) WA thanked Joe for the new website and everyone agreed it looked great.
- b) If anyone would like access to be able to edit the website to contact Joe – so far WA and DS have access.
- c) Joe will store the documents that we send on the website (agendas, minutes etc).
- d) We do not have a welfare officer and WA said we could approach someone who is already a Welfare Officer to help support the County. Noel/Andrew will speak to Peter **ACTION**
- e) Kay looked on the new website and could not see any governance (policies and procedures) – why are they not on the website? Need to work out what we have got or have not got and share. **ACTION** WA
- f) Kit asked if we could have more detail about who is on the meeting i.e. club representee, what club they are from or what their function is. **ACTION** DB

Meeting closed at 20:40

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

Decision to be made whether Zoom or actual meeting.