

# **OXFORDSHIRE AA ZOOM MEETING 4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Present** – Lyn Hopkins, Will Atkinson, Alan Vincent, Joe Bibby, Hugh Morris, Claire Lacey, Kit Villiers, Kay Reynolds, James Charles, Dene Stringfellow, Neil Preddy, Andrew Garner and Noel Blatchford.

1. **Apologies** – Daniel Bremner, Mike Shipway, Paula Walter (OCAC), Jackie Breslin, Doug Scott and Marina Barlow.

2. **Minutes of the previous Zoom meeting held June 2020** –

Agreed to be a true record of the meeting held.

3. **Matters Arising** –

- a) Item 6 – Numbers at Horspath Track now increased to 20.
- b) Item 7(a) – Eynsham 10k has been cancelled.
- c) Item 4(a) – LH still to get together with DB to sort out the handover of the secretary job.
- d) Item 5© - Cross Country – Claimants for CA events, covered under Treasurer’s report.
- e) Item 5 (a) – Clothing – JC sent info to HM, JC to resend. **ACTION** – JC
- f) Item 6(a) – AV – Track & Field - two Zoom meetings held with representatives from clubs and it was decided that athletes were not ready to compete, and therefore no events would take place in Oxfordshire for the remainder of the season.
- g) Item 7 – WA – Road Safety Groups – advice by Run Britain on their website, excellent material produced.

4. **Communications Task Group** –

a) **Secretary’s Report and Correspondence Received** –

**SEAA/EA/UKA/OAA** –

- Alyson Harvey, CAU – details of the AGM to be held – looking at ways to hold the AGM during the present circumstances. Plus a few responses from other Counties. Forwarded to WA and AV. Replies received from both of them and sent to Alyson. It was felt that the Inter-County Cross Country should take place.
- KR said that the Track & Field has been incorporated into the England Championships over the last few years. High standard, not many from Oxfordshire who could qualify. Nothing has happened since she stopped arranging.
- British Athletics – Home Straight – June issue – Get Exercising Athletics Style – athletics at home. How far can you run in 30 minutes? Get fit and work out with Mo Farah. Summer dates confirmed. Athlete Corner – Polly Maton, Vanes Wallace, Callum Hawkins, Gemili.
- British Athletics – Home Straight – July 3<sup>rd</sup> issue – Best of the Muller Anniversary Games. Foodie Fridays – Desserts.
- EA weekly Club Support emails – access to up to date Club Guidance Documents. Club Leaders Programmes, Club Resources, Webinars.
- EA weekly Club Support – 21<sup>st</sup> August – 2020 Regional Awards, nominations re-opened, close at midnight 31<sup>st</sup> August. Coach Education and Development.
- Tania Spurling – Club Support Manager – EA Restructure – due to this Tania will be leaving her post this week. More details regarding the future will come out from EA soon. AV stated that they are retaining five Club Support Managers nationally. Sarah Gardner has gone as well.

b) **England Athletics / UKA Matters Update** – AV reported –

Regional Council members have had sight of a draft vision statement from EA, but they had not been impressed, finding it too jargonistic.

c) **Local Athletics Network** – KR reported –

Decisions made, prepared documents, need to double check the latest before sending out.

**ACTION** – KR

Money to be distributed between clubs involved and the County, the County portion should be earmarked for coaching.

Remaining shirts to be returned to the County.

WA commented that the LAN was showing as still active on the website, JB will amend this.

**ACTION** – JB

d) **School's** –

JB commented that all is quiet, next fixture would be the County Cross Country in January and at Nottingham in March.

5. **Officers Task Group** –

a) **Treasurer's Report** – HM reported, accounts had been emailed out.

Third update of the financial year and the detail covers 1<sup>st</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> August.

Overall, for the year to date –

- £1,126 more in the 'unconditional' accounts and
- £1,941 less in the 'conditional' accounts

Not a lot has happened because of Covid 19, no income other than bank interest, the rates have been reduced recently.

**General accounts – unconditional** –

With no activity in 2020 other than Cross Country and Sportshall, our reserves will be about £1,000 more at the end of the Financial year.

Exeter Hall have been paid for the 2020 Committee meetings and the ones we did not hold we have been refunded for.

The AGM is still in the diary to be held at Exeter Hall, hopefully we can hold as an attended meeting rather than a Zoom one. They are not taking any bookings at present. If the case, we will probably have to hold in the large hall, which will be more expensive to allow for Social Distancing. We will have to wait and see what guidance is given.

Fee paid for the hire for the Road Race AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> November.

JC and JS agreed earlier in the year to replace some banners and a feather flag £247, plus also to provide some storage boxes for Oxon AA vest stock £60.

**Grand Prix Series** - The Committee need to decide whether the Grand Prix fees should alter for next year. We have already agreed 2021 fees, unchanged from 2020, at the last AGM to enable early notification of the renewal letter. EA have held their fees at the 2020 level for 2021.

12 clubs have paid for 2020, should we give a free passport to 2021? Normally the money is spent on trophies, but due to circumstances none to be purchased. Committee agreed to roll over to 2021.

22 clubs affiliated, no change.

**Road Relays** – not held, a small loss expected.

**Track & Field** – not held, a small loss expected.

**Sportshall** – Most clubs have paid up to Round 4, Round 5 was cancelled and no Regional Finals have taken place, Mike and Clyde are going to chase White Horse who did compete, but have yet to pay for their fees.

One venue hire remains to be paid and we refunded the cost of some trophies recently.

The Sportshall team met virtually in August, Clyde said that the remaining of the 2020 Rounds would not take place, 2021 will be decided later. HM has asked for a consultation on fees for 2021 or 2022. The surplus this year is quite high.

**Medals** – As previously mentioned the medals and medal centres have been purchased and a few shields. All the 2020 medal centres will need to be replaced for 2021 or 2022. A timescale needs to be agreed to enable new medal centres to be ordered, event by event if they are needed for 2021.

**Clothing** – Restocking of Official's sit is still to be ordered.

#### **Conditional Accounts** –

**Photo Finish** – We have paid for the insurance renewal and we need to bill Bucks for half of the net costs. HM needs to confirm if there are any outstanding expenses from Chris Parkinson.

**EA Technical Grant** – No financial update.

**Barrie Strange Fund** – No new requests received.

**Travel Expenses** – HM sent a report to all -

If all happy with the report HM will go ahead, any amendments to be sent to him.

The report will go to the AGM for ratifying.

Should Team managers be shown on the website, they are not permanent, they vary from year to year. Once decision made on who will manage what fixture, they could be shown.

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

a) **Officials** – AV reported –

Very little activity and no monthly database reports on officials received from UK since the beginning of July. One new trainee through a virtual training session. Good response for the Michaelmas Cuppers on 24<sup>th</sup> October.

KR – EA tutor on field courses now retrained as an online tutor. Face to face to take place when possible, more accessible to people if online.

b) **Coaching in the County** – WA

What do we do to replace activities in the County that the LAN co-ordinated?

Should we ask Club Coaches to get involved?

We need to decide what we want to achieve?

What do we want in addition to the standard online courses – webinars?

LAN would have identified what courses were required and approach EA. They would have held classroom and practical courses and flying coaches. They are labour intensive, the arranging and booking.

Online courses are being trialled.

AV said that only courses in Kent scheduled for November.

We should have a named coaching contact at each club for communication and ask them what are their requirements before we go ahead with anything. At present the Club Secretaries are the main contacts.

Should we reinstate the position of Coaching Co-Ordinator in the County? Would need to decide what the role would be, it would need to be a person who is very keen on doing the job.

LAN tried to have shared coaching access across the County, but coaches were not inclined to allow their athletes to go to other clubs' coaches.

DS said it should be mandatory that a representative from each club attends the County Committee meetings, but it was agreed that this would be difficult to action.

WA will write to clubs and ask for contact for coaching and ask what services the County could provide? **ACTION** – WA

Track & Field is more of a problem as it has more specialised coaches in various areas, and clubs do not necessarily have expertise, only about half the clubs are involved in Track & Field.

## 7. **Road & Cross Country** –

### a) **Officials** – WA Reported –

No races held since the last meeting in June. Nearly all the races for the season have been cancelled, it is hopeful that the Hooky Xmas Canter will take place.

The Oxfordshire Grand Prix is a write off this year, entry fees paid will be held over to 2021.

Run Britain website has very good information on organising virtual and non-virtual races, so anyone interested in organising should visit the website.

On-line webinars have been circulated to clubs, 28<sup>th</sup> September from 11am to 12 noon.

AV acted as Chief Timekeeper at the series of 5k races held in Milton Keynes on 21<sup>st</sup> August, it was very successful and good Covid 19 compliance, with several Oxfordshire runners taking part. A second event is due to be held in MK on 27<sup>th</sup> September, it is a good venue.

### b) **Cross Country** – DS reported –

The Oxfordshire League - the first two fixtures are cancelled, January is questionable.

The City Council are not prepared to sanction events at Horspath at the moment. Guidance coming out on 14<sup>th</sup> September and test pilot events at the end of the October. Nothing to take place this side of Christmas. There is concern about host clubs covering their costs.

BB&O Championships have been cancelled.

EA Cross Country licence applications open in October.

For now, competition organisers can make their own decision whether they hold events or not.

DS said that Cross Country has a very large attendance, there is no way social distancing could be followed, it would be very difficult to set athletes off in waves. Waiting for further guidance. We would require a lot more volunteers to action.

Clubs could possibly hold their own Cross Country event or hold for certain age groups. It was thought that clubs or the league could not cover costs.

## 8. **A.O.B.** –

- a) JB - Team managers – table to be put on website, there are 3 contacts on HM list, how many should be put on the website? New contacts to be looked at, hold off until contacts decided and willing to be shown.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – AGM 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

Decision to be made whether Zoom or actual meeting.