

## HAMPSHIRE ATHLETICS - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2012 - FLEMING PARK, EASTLEIGH

#### **Present:**

Pam Rogers, Mike Williams (Secretary), Colin Goater (Chair), Christine Weeks, Michael Coker, Graeme Lowndes, Mary Goater, Richard Dean, Mike Barratt, Steve Squires (Treasurer), Reg Eade, Betty Tabor, Alan Ive John Lofts, Sheena Fitzmaurice, John Fitzmaurice, Alan Cropp, David Vossier, Barry Kitcher (Bas & MH)

#### **Apologies:**

Christine Benning, Eileen Williams, Terry Williams, Mary Axtell, David Stenson, David Churcher, Doreen Old (Vice Chair),

**Minutes from Meeting on the 13 July 2012:** Accepted.

**Matters Arising:** No matters arising

#### **Secretary: Mike Williams**

Mike reported that we will probably be asked to host the U17's Inter Counties Match in 2013; the competition did not take place this year due to the Olympics.

All Inter counties competition details and dates received are passed onto the relevant team managers, and also are published on the county website - [www.athletics.hampshire.org.uk](http://www.athletics.hampshire.org.uk)

Letter received from Peter Murphy, Chairman of Hampshire Schools AA, raising concerns about the cost of recent coaching courses. This was passed to Michael Coker who will reply.

#### **Treasurer: Steve Squires**

Balance report circulated.

A lengthy and heated discussion took place regarding the way the county manages their finances in the future.

Michael Coker expressed his concerns over the various emails he had received from The Treasurer relating to finances previously agreed. Also how this might affect the events to be supported by Saucony. The Chairman re-assured the meeting that there would be no changes made to the priorities outlined in Michael Coker's report.

#### **Finance and Sustainability Sub Group: Michael Coker**

The Finance & Sustainability Sub Group met on 15 August 2012. The 2012 Saucony Hampshire Athletics events were reviewed. The activities below were discussed as Hampshire Athletics development priorities for 2012/13, with additional funding agreed from the County Association for points **4 & 5**.

1. Continued Business Planning work and development of the commercial partnership with Saucony. Assemble 4 Year Plan for Hampshire Athletics 2013-2017.
2. Financing & sustaining Hampshire Athletics.
3. Organising major events (i.e. Saucony Hampshire County Championship events, Grand Prix events & 10K).
4. Coach and Athlete Development (County Coaching Days, National Coach Development Programme/ Local Coach Development Programme, Coach Bursaries); Disability Athletics (Wheel Chair Race Plan, County Athletic Assessment Days, Athletes integrated into Hampshire Coaching Days and competitions).
5. Officials Development/ Evening Forum.
6. Grow/ strengthen Hampshire Sports Hall.
7. Support to Hampshire Schools.
8. Support to beginners running project.
9. Talented Athletes – further develop opportunities/ pathways into higher competition (Regional, National, International), English Schools, UK School Games, London Mini Marathon etc. Funding support (Hampshire Talented Athlete Scheme etc.).

It was agreed that that Hampshire Athletics needs the continuation of professional Coaching & Performance Officer post to lead the work forward. Sufficient funding is in place for 2012/13, and it was recognised that we need to start planning now for 2013/ 14 and beyond. 'Hampshire Athletics' now fully embraces the County Association and the Network as a single unified entity.

**Report from Barry Kitcher:**

Hampshire 'London 2012' Coordinator  
Culture, Communities and Business Services  
Hampshire County Council

We are in the process of writing an Olympic legacy strategy for the County Council which would include grassroots and just getting people active - right through to Olympic elite performance and how we can support our rising stars. We are also looking at facility provision in the county and how we use our countryside so would welcome ideas and suggestions. At the moment people are open to suggestions so now is the time to at least ask!

**Cross Country Championships 5 January 2013: Pam Rogers - Championship Secretary**

The 2013 Championships are being held on the site of the former golf course at Fleming Park in Eastleigh. We are grateful to Eastleigh Running Club under the leadership of Jon Osman for hosting the Championships and to our partners Saucony for their help in staging the Championships.

The course has been improved from that last used in 2011, and now offers more variety and especially good viewing for spectators. Thank you to Colin Goater for all his hard work.

We have also added **non-Championship races for Under 11s**. These are open to members of affiliated clubs who are at least nine years of age on the day of the Championships.

**2013 Track & Field Championships:**

Steve Squires has agreed to take on the role of Championship Secretary and Christine Weeks, Mary Goater, Pam Rogers and Michael Coker have volunteered to assist on the sub group. A very proactive meeting took place prior to the main executive meeting, and we are now awaiting recommended dates from UKA for 2013.

**Team Managers:**

The date for the International XC Championships held annually in Coutance, France will take place on the 18 November.

Question received from David Churcher regarding the selection policy criteria. The following policy was agreed at the AGM in March 2013.

Future Cross Country Selection process for the CAU (National) Inter Counties Championships:

All agreed that the following selection policy is applied to all age groups up to and including U17s.

Hampshire Athletics will endeavour to select the strongest teams from available athletes who have competed at the Hampshire Athletics Cross Country Championships.

Athletes wishing to be considered for selection are expected to take part in our cross country championships. However, other athletes who have entered but not competed on the day through illness or injury may also be considered for selection.

Athletes who are unable to compete through non-availability but wish to be considered for selection must notify the team manager preferably before the championships.

The first 4 athletes to finish in the Hampshire Athletics Cross Country Championships will gain automatic selection, the remaining 4 places will be determined on athletes performances in a range of events.

In particular performances at the following events will be assessed.

- Hampshire Schools Championships
- Hampshire League performances
- Inter Counties Southern Championships held in December
- Southern Championships held in January
- UK Cross Challenge events

The starting pen order **will** be determined by the team manager

## Road Running Report: Colin Goater

A meeting of the Road Race Committee took place at Fleming Park on Monday 10 September and the next meeting is at 7.30 pm on November 12, same venue.

The first Road Race fixture of the 2012/2013 Hampshire Road Race League was at the recent Overton 5. After the race The Chairman presented the awards for the 2011/2012 season. The next Championships will be the Victory 5 on Sunday 16 September and the last Championship event would be the Half Marathon at Gosport.

Championship Races will not be held for the year 2013 but instead an award in the form of a Certificate would be awarded to the runner who had achieved the Best Performance at any valid Road Race during the year. This process had worked well for the Marathon distance in 2011.

## Sportshall: Michael Coker

The Hampshire Sports Hall Sub Group met on 21 June 2012, to review the successful 2011-12 season, and plan ahead for 2012/13. Anticipated new entrants to the League include Haslemere. All dates/ venues have been finalised (including a new venue - Andover Leisure Centre booked for the March 2013 fixture), with good rates negotiated/ agreed for facility hire and medals. The 2013 Regional competitions have been confirmed as 13 January (U11) and 14 March (U15/U13) at Burgess Hill. Sports Hall Associates are working with Hampshire Schools to stage 3 Schools Sports Hall competitions for Primary, Secondary and Disability during March 2013.

## Development: Michael Coker

The tremendous excitement generated by the 2012 Olympics/ Paralympics continues, with unparalleled numbers of new athletes flooding into our Track & Field and Road Clubs. 2 Hampshire athletes (Chris Thompson & Robert Tobin) were selected for the GB Olympic team, and 2 athletes (Olivia Breen & Bethany Woodward) both medaled in the Paralympics (Bethany silver in 200m, with both girls gaining bronze medals in the 4x100m relay). There have been a vast range of Olympic related activities in the County including 4 days of the 'torch' relay, schools, Clubs and community events. Barry Kitcher, Hampshire Olympic Coordinator, is heavily involved in 'legacy' activity to ensure the positive spirit and atmosphere continues – BK reported a whole range of potential initiatives for Hampshire, and invited 'bright ideas' for athletics. Particular interest in 'Gamesmakers' and the local 'Sport Makers' scheme as a means of encouraging more volunteers into athletics officiating. In athletics we now have the 2013 Moscow World Championships, 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games and 2017 London World Championships to maintain our focus.

Isobel Pooley, Charlotte Purdue and Robert Tobin represented Great Britain in the European Championships, Helsinki, June 27- July 1 2012. Robert gained a silver medal in the 4x400m relay.

Nick Percy, Emilia Gorecka, Emma Buckett and Shadine Duquemin all represented Great Britain in the IAAF World Junior Championships, Barcelona, July 10-15 2012. Emilia achieved a bronze medal in the 3000m with a Personal Best in the final.

The 3 Year Saucony Partnership effective 1 February 2012 is progressing well, with the 4 key Saucony Hampshire Athletics events successfully delivered. (Cross Country Championships; Multi Events/ Quad Kids/ Hampshire 10K; Track & Field Championships, and Saucony Hampshire Grand Prix). The 'flagship' **2012 Saucony Grand Prix at Basingstoke** (18 July 2012, coincided with the Olympic torch in Hampshire & IOW), and was an immensely successful new innovation with c.480 athletes competing, far exceeding original projections. The meeting was run by many of the 20 appointed 2012 Hampshire Officials, using photo finish and EDM. Despite indifferent weather early in the meeting, it was a very high quality competition with a huge number of Personal Bests. A former Olympian, Tamsyn Lewis won the 400m, and a number of Internationals participated. Full results on:- [www.sauconyhampshiregp.com](http://www.sauconyhampshiregp.com) A lot of very positive feedback was received, with areas for further development identified. Both Hampshire Athletics and Saucony benefitted greatly from 'Athletics Weekly' profile - and the event is the envy of a number of other Counties. Consideration is being given to repeating in 2013 as part of a series (1 event in the South, 1 in the North of the County ?).

Hampshire Clubs had generally good seasons in Senior National League competition with both Basingstoke & Mid Hants and Southampton being promoted to Division 1 and 2 of the British League (regrettably Channel Islands A.C. were relegated to Division 4); Southampton, Portsmouth and Aldershot had good seasons maintaining their positions in the UKWL Divisions 1,2& 3 for 2013.

The Athletics SLD Festival – Portsmouth, 23 May 2012 had 130 athletes taking part in a unique and enjoyable competition.

**Development continued:**

School Games Inclusive competition (formerly Parallel Games), Aldershot, 15 June 2012 – 120 athletes participated. Numbers were down on previous years.

The Hampshire Schools Championships – Aldershot, 16 June 2012 was incorporated again successfully within the School Games. c.650 athletes took part in a competition which enabled a very strong selection for the England Schools competition at Gateshead on 6-7 July 2012. The 60 strong team achieved 14 medals.

The Hampshire Schools Year 5 & 6 Championships – Southampton, 26 June 2012 had a reduced entry with unsurprisingly fewer Schools Sport Partnership teams, and c.200 athletes taking part.

The Hampshire Schools Year 7 & 8 Championships – Southampton, 3 July 2012 was another huge event with c.900 athletes from the 10 Schools Districts teams taking part. Many new talented athletes have been identified and will be linked with Clubs at the 1<sup>st</sup> Winter County Coaching Day.

The UKA 2013 fixture planning continues, with much debate.

The annual Hampshire Talented Athlete Scheme has been launched. This Hampshire County Council scheme provides support services to help Hampshire's most talented athletes reach world-class podiums:- Olympics, Paralympics, World Championships. Richard Dean has added link to website – applications close 12 October 2012.

email:- michael.coker@hants.gov.uk or visit the website:- [www.sportshampshireiow.co.uk](http://www.sportshampshireiow.co.uk)

**England Athletics:**

Comprehensive report circulated:

Please email Christine at: [cbenning@englandathletics.org](mailto:cbenning@englandathletics.org) for any additional information you may require.

**Date of Next Meeting**

**9 November 2012**  
**Park Suite**  
**Fleming Park, Eastleigh**  
**7.30 pm**

**HAA website address: - [www.athletics.hampshire.org.uk](http://www.athletics.hampshire.org.uk)**