

HAMPSHIRE ATHLETICS - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 11 MAY 2012 - FLEMING PARK, EASTLEIGH

Present:

Pam Rogers, Mike Williams (Secretary), Steve Squires (Treasurer), Colin Goater (Chair), Christine Weeks, Reg Eade, Michael Coker, Alan Cropp, Graeme Lowndes, Betty Tabor, Doreen Old (Vice Chair), Mary Goater, David Vossier, David Churcher, Tim Wilding, David Howells (Wessex RR)

Apologies:

Richard Dean, Christine Benning, Mary Axtell, Mike Barratt, David Stenson. Alan Ive, Eileen Williams, Terry Williams, John Lofts, Sheena Fitzmaurice, John Fitzmaurice, Tom Frost (Liss RR)

Minutes from Meeting on the 13 January 2012: Accepted.

Matters Arising: Colin Goater agreed at the AGM in March to stay on as Chairman for another year, and was duly elected.

Correspondence:

An email received from a parent with complaints about the multi events championships, and in particular the organisation and the lateness in the staging of the high jump competition for U13 and U15 girls, which resulted in the last event having to take place at 7pm. Mike Williams to reply.

Details received regarding forthcoming T & F inter counties matches; information has been passed onto the relevant team managers.

Treasurer:

Income and Expenditure Account report circulated.

A survey has been sent to all clubs regarding the increase to the affiliation fee from 2013, 18 clubs have responded so far. Steve Squires will be reporting back at the next meeting with the analysis. Steve also circulated details of how other counties set their fees.

It was pointed out that clubs should be made aware of what they gain from affiliating to the county, details are outlined below.

Clubs who pay their affiliation fee to Hampshire Athletics gain access to a broad range of high quality and well organised competitions, along with experienced Hampshire Technical Officials being provided to assist at the many road races that take place throughout the year along with the Cross Country and Track and Field events. This includes:-

Hampshire Athletic Sportshall League (4 matches)
Hampshire Athletics Cross Country Championships
Hampshire Athletics Road Race League
Hampshire Athletics Track & Field Championships
Hampshire Athletics Quad Kids Championships
Hampshire Athletics Multi Events
Disability Athletics Competitions
Inter- Counties Competitions

- Officials provided for Club, Open, League & County competitions
- Officials provide for Road Races
- Hampshire Athletics web site - Directory/ Contacts, Club Information, Links, Event Calendar
- Beginners Running Programmes
- Officials Evenings / Mentoring
- Coach Mentoring
- Coaching Days
- Coaching Bursaries
- Coach Workshops and Education
- Flying Coach Visits
- Links to Hampshire Schools

Finance and Sustainability Sub Group:

Although the Sub- Group have not met in the last 3 months, we have been very busy implementing the agreed Business Plan actions to ensure the future viability of Athletics in the County. Specifically:-

We were re- named 'Hampshire Athletics' from April 2012. The necessary re- branding changes have been made to our web- site.

The Club affiliation fee was doubled to £50 per annum in 2012, and will be further uplifted to £75 in 2013.

The 3 Year Partnership with Saucony effective from 1 February 2012 is progressing very positively. The 4 jointly identified events areas of mutual interest were:- **Cross Country Championships** (the January 2012 event had a record 663 entries); the **Hampshire Multi Events** (record 67 entries), **Quad Kids** (45 athletes) and **10K** (168 runners) - a total of 280 athletes; **Track and Field Championships** (624 athletes entered), and the 'flagship' **2012 Saucony Hampshire Athletics Grand Prix** event at Basingstoke on 18 July 2012 coinciding with the 2012 Olympic 'Torch Relay' visiting Hampshire, IOW and the Channel Islands. The Grand Prix will hopefully be a high quality event including many top athletes and many of our 20 appointed 2012 Officials, using photo finish and EDM, and. The planning team have met on 3 occasions Entry Forms have now been distributed.

Multi Events Championships, Quad Kids & 10k Road Race: Monday 7 May:

Regarding the Multi Events, there had been a problem with the lateness of the last events and both the athletes and officials had a very long day, in spite of this though the championships had been a great success. The timetable for 2013 will be looked into and changes will be implemented. The Quad Kids competition and the 10k Road Race were well supported and successful.

Alan Ive is stepping down as T & F Championship Secretary, he has done a tremendous job over the last seven years, and so a huge thank you must go to Alan. Steve Squires agreed to stand as the new secretary; the vote was unanimous in accepting this offer, thank you Steve!

Alan Cropp again pointed out that Hampshire Athletics T & F Championships should include events for disabled athletes. The new T & F Secretary will be taking advice on what events will be held in 2013. Open events for disabled athletes will be included in the Grand Prix taking place at Basingstoke on the 18 July, they are: - 100m, 200m, Shot and Discus.

Track and Field Championships: Saturday / Sunday 12 & 13 May, Portsmouth:

Another excellent entry received for the championships which will be taking place over the next two days.

Change of Venue for T & F Championships 2013 and onwards:

This was discussed in full, but it was pointed out no other track in the county have the same facilities as the Mountbatten Centre, Portsmouth. However the hire costs are high and a meeting will be arranged by the new T & F Secretary to discuss with the management of the centre to see if any savings can be made for 2013.

Cross Country Championships for 2013:

Pam Rogers will be contacting clubs regarding the staging of the event. Colin Goater did request that Pam looks into the possibility of staging the championships in Eastleigh again.

Team Managers:

Team managers were elected at the AGM in March. Every age group for both XC and T&F has a nominated manager.

Joint Officials' Report from Eileen and Terry Williams:

Our apologies for not attending this Committee meeting but we will have an early leave tomorrow for Portsmouth.

We held our annual Officials 'Get Together' on Friday 30th March at Basingstoke Hockey Club with over 60 present. The Hockey Club once again did us proud with the buffet and our Guest Speaker was Chris Cohen from LOCOG who updated us on progress at the Olympic Stadium and particularly the Paralympics. Another excellent evening and once again our thanks to Michael Coker for arranging the sponsorship from the Hampshire Athletics Network.

As you will be aware the Multi Events/Quad Kids/10k Road race took place last Monday. We were stretched for Officials and the incoming Championships Secretary will need to look closely at the order of events especially the U13/15 Girls High Jump which caused problems. This has been mentioned in the past. We have emailed our thanks to all the Officials who made it all work.

With the main Championships this weekend the number of Officials available has dropped from previous years and in particular for the Sunday for reasons as yet unknown although, from enquiries, this appears to be quite a widespread problem. We have even had to resort to just one Field Referee on this day which does put a lot of pressure on that person. There are additional problems in particular with seeding. It should be realised that covering seeding does not come under the Officials Secretaries responsibilities.

We have obtained some promotional from UKA and hope to have a desk manned in the stadium to try to attract potential new Officials.

We have had meetings with Michael Coker and representatives from Saucony re the organisation of the Grand Prix on 18th July and hopefully this will be a resounding success.

Hampshire Athletics Officials: Basingstoke and Mid Hants:

It was with much sadness that Reg Eade reported that Roger Hazell had passed away recently. Roger was a wonderful ambassador for athletics, and he will be greatly missed by all of his friends and colleagues throughout Hampshire.

Road Running:

The Hampshire Athletics 10k Road Race took place on the 7 May, in spite of the weather the event was successful, and the feedback from the runners had been very positive. Colin Goater reported that Gerry North had assisted him with the course set up on the day; this was a lot of very hard work for just the two of them, so a huge vote of thanks must go to Gerry, his support had been superb. Colin went on to state that if the race is to be staged in 2013, there must be a much larger team of active volunteers appointed to assist on the day with both the set up and marshalling the route! A suggestion was also made that perhaps this event could be held in conjunction with the road race league, this to be looked into.

For full and up to date HRRL details, including race results, visit: www.hrri.org.uk.

Sportshall:

The Hampshire Sports Hall League increased to 4 matches in 2011- 2012, and was our most successful season to date. Match 3 was held at the Mountbatten Centre with the other 3 meetings being held at Fleming Park. Participation increased markedly from previous years with 9 Clubs and 1 School - new entrants to the League were Overton and New Forest Juniors. Approx. 720 children participated in total across the 4 matches- a record attendance. Good rates were negotiated for facility hire and medals, ensuring the League returned to profitability. The unprofitable and poorly attended County Championships were deleted for 2012.

Aviva Sports Hall UK Finals - 21 April 2012, NEC, Birmingham. This was a totally fantastic experience for everyone from Hampshire involved. In total 49 English Counties, and all the Counties from Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland had participated in the preliminary Regional rounds, with only the winners proceeding through to Saturday's finals. Hampshire emerged with the U13 Girls winning the National title by nearly 200 points, and the U13 Boys finishing 3rd! Whilst we have previously finished 2nd on a few occasions, Hampshire have never won an age-group before! Every single athlete rose to the big occasion with so many Personal Bests in individual events, and we were not far from achieving a complete 100% record in the relays! The team spirit and support for each other was tremendous, and was a major contributor to our successes.

Development:

52 athletes and 11 coaches attended the third and final 2011/ 12 Winter Coaching Day at Winchester Stadium on 24 March. The overall theme was planning for the 2012 Track and Field season ahead. The glorious sunshine may have contributed to the excellent spirit and atmosphere!

There was an excellent annual Hampshire Officials Evening at Basingstoke Hockey Club on 30 March 2012 attended by 60+ Officials. The visiting speaker was Chris Cohen CBE, with a key 2012 Paralympics role, and former Chairman of the International Paralympic Committee.

The South East Regional team were overall winners of the London Mini Marathon, 22 April 2012 with many Hampshire representatives.

Sport England have approved a grant to encourage 1100 new adults into 'running' in Hampshire by April 1st 2013. An 'activator' (Clare Wareham) has been appointed and work has started with our 30 Running Clubs, Leisure & Community Centres to initiate new beginners classes.

email:- michael.coker@hants.gov.uk or visit the website:- www.sporthampshireiow.co.uk

England Athletics:

Please email Christine at: cbenning@englandathletics.org for any information you may require.

AOB:

'Congratulations' and a belated 'happy birthday' were given to Doreen Old who recently celebrated her 90th birthday. Doreen has been involved in athletics for many many years for both her Club and Hampshire; Doreen was a founder member of HAA women's section, is currently the President and President Emeritus for Southampton AC, and is the vice chair of Hampshire Athletics Executive Committee.

Email received from Richard Dean in which he asked for guidance as to what policy he should adopt regarding the Event Calendar on the website. It was decided that in future only clubs affiliated to the county should be publicised, along of course with charity events. However all agreed that Richard should use his discretion as to what is published!

Date of Next Meeting

13 July 2012
Park Suite
Fleming Park, Eastleigh
7.30 pm

HAA website address: - www.athletics.hampshire.org.uk