



Essex County Athletic Association

Minutes of the Essex AA Executive meeting held remotely via Zoom Video Conferencing on Monday 3rd August 2020 at 19:30 hours

Participants:

Andy Catton (Chair)
Gary Chandler (Treasurer)
Claire Levey (Secretary)
Gerry O'Doherty (President)
Brigid Wallen (President Elect)
Malcolm Bailey (Minute Secretary)

Apologies for Absence:

Allison Gillan

1. Minutes of the last meeting of 6th July 2020

Approved.

Proposed: Claire Levey Seconded: Andy Catton

2. Matters Arising from last meeting

Agenda Item	Matter	Update
2	Update re potential volunteer to achieve Course Measurer Accreditation	Progressing. Volunteer is working towards accreditation.
2	Contact On line events company to arrange for refunds to be made to the entrants to the (now cancelled) 2020 Outdoor Track & Field and Multi Events Championships	Whilst we have not received formal confirmation that all refunds have been made; we have not received any complaints from anyone saying that they are still awaiting a refund
2	Write to all clubs once on line Officials Courses are available	Still ongoing
7	Volunteer sought to take over the role as County Trophy Secretary	Volunteer still sought

7	Contact Mike Emms to obtain details of current trophy holders and ascertain how point's competitions are awarded	Andy has contacted Mike. Arrangements are being made to collect his stock of County medals and Mike has undertaken to email Andy with a list of all trophy holders.
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3. Treasurers matters

Gary Chandler reported that there have been two financial transactions this month:-

- He received the invoice from the school for the use of their premises as the HQ for the Essex 20;
- He has arranged for a couple of trophies to be engraved.

After payment of these transactions it leaves some £100 in the bank account and Gary will have to transfer monies over from the deposit account the next time a cheque/payment is issued.

4. Track & Field

Andy has received the following update from Diane Wooller:-

“There have been 4 Licenses applied for in the Eastern Region. Two of these were in Essex Colchester Harriers are having a throws meeting and Chelmsford Sports Centre have some sprints Events. The others were in Hunts AC and Norfolk.

At the weekend I officiated at Lee valley at a London inter Club Open Competition. In was great to see Athletes getting some competition. The maximum number in the Stadium was 200 so they had breaks in the track timetable so that some blocks of people could leave before the next group could come in. No spectators. Athletes could all have one guest with them. Limited competitors up to 4 in all track events. There was a lot of sanitising being done plenty of hand wash about.

As an official I did feel safe.

BMC have got there meeting Wednesday night not as many athletes just 800m all in lanes 4 in each race.

SEAA are having a meeting at Chelmsford on 29th/30th August.”

Around the Country some test Track & Field events have taken place and we debated whether it was a possibility about Essex organising any events this season. The situation is constantly changing and it was agreed that it might be difficult.

(The day after the meeting, England Athletics updated their advice about a return to competition and a copy of this is attached to these minutes).

Questions were raised about the Indoor season and whether the 2021 County Championships would be able to take place. It was agreed that contact would be made with Lee Valley (venue). (Contact was subsequently made and their response was:-

“Right now I don’t think they will be allowed to go ahead, if things improve and Government guidance changes then maybe though main headaches will be spectators!”)

5. Essex Cross Country League & Championships

The XC relays are due to take place on 3rd October. It was agreed that we would contact Allison Gillan to ask whether it was possible to defer a decision until our next meeting in September (After the meeting, Allison Gillan was contacted and it was felt that leaving any decision until next month would make it very difficult to organise the event so it was agreed that it would be cancelled. Also, the current system of paper declarations of teams on the day would need a complete overhaul and it would have to go online before the event. There would be insufficient time to set this up) Permits are still only being given for events on private land so it is very unlikely that any event at Weald Park (or indeed any other Country park) will be sanctioned by the licensing authority. The U13, U15 & vets Championships are due to be held on 28th November and this will be reviewed at our next meeting.

6. Road running

Both the Witham Boxing Day 5 and Chelmsford 10k have not yet been cancelled. It is anticipated that Witham RC will make a decision at their committee meeting in September.

A decision had been expected about the 2020 London Marathon on Friday 31st July but we understand that this has been deferred and it is anticipated that the announcement will now be made on Friday 7th August.

2021 Grand Prix events – it was agreed that the races scheduled for the 2020 championships will be nominated for the 2021 Grand Prix series. These are the Pleshey 5, Chelmsford 10k, Witham 10, Pleshey Half, Essex 20 and the Halstead Marathon. (Host clubs to be contacted)

7. Any Other Business

EA London Regional monthly meeting took place on 23rd July. Copies of the minutes for this meeting are attached.

EA Eastern Regional monthly meeting took place on Friday 9th July. Copies of the minutes for this meeting are attached.

Agreed that the next Essex meeting will be held via the Microsoft teams’ platform. Claire will set this up. This will be a trial for the October meeting where it is anticipated that we will invite all committee members to attend. Unsure at the moment whether we will be able to hold the AGM on 7th December at Chelmsford AC and this also might have to be held via Teams.

Summary of Actions

Agenda Item	Matter	By Whom
7	Arrange September meeting using the Microsoft Teams platform	Claire Levey to send out invitations

Next meeting will take place on Monday 3rd August 2020 at 7.30pm (via Teams)

Meeting finished at 20:28

Draft Agenda

1. Minutes of the previous meeting – 3rd August 2020.
2. Matters Arising
3. Treasurers Matters
4. Track & Field
5. Cross Country
6. Road running
7. Preparation for AGM on Monday 7th December 2020.
8. Any other business

(For further information please refer to EA website)

Return to Competition - summary of guidance update (4 August)

4th August 2020

England Athletics – Return to Competition update: Guidance for competition from August 8th 2020. (Information released on Tuesday 4th August 2020).

Following careful planning, consultation with medical input and other sports and logging the information with DCMS/Sport England we are pleased to announce a further step forward in the competition guidance for events from 8th August 2020. We will continue to monitor government advice and work to proceed safely back to more normal competition. We will keep everyone updated with or without any change on a regular basis.

Please note, small and local competitions are encouraged and England Athletics announced a fund to support these (with applications closing 8 August) –

Explanation of changes

DCMS have asked sport bodies to base their return to play around three factors; droplet transmission (from breathing), fomite transmission (surfaces) and population; in each event and in the whole competition. Different events in track and field present challenges in different areas e.g. throws can maintain social distancing (droplet transmission) but use equipment (fomite transmission).

Medical advice and the adaption of the team sport framework to a track and field competitive setting has enabled the sport to take a further step forward to return to competition. The social distancing requirements can be reduced within a Covid-19 secure competition environment for relatively short periods of time based on a medical assessment of droplet transmission and the nature of each event. With sprint track events taking place in lanes of 1m+ width and capping **middle distance events** at 3000m including steeplechase the sport can, **with limited fields, up to 6 athletes**, at this point in time, adopt standard format racing. This is based on a balanced assessment of droplet, fomite and population transmission, in line with wider government guidance on numbers of individuals gathering from different households. Track racing numbers are lower than road racing numbers because of the nature of track racing and the reduced likelihood of athletes being able to spread out on the track compared to the road.

In the **jumps** events **up to 6 athletes can compete in a group**. Cleaning according to the guidance is to be carried out after each group of up to 6 competitors.

In the **throws** events **up to 12 athletes can compete in a group** due to the ability to social distance and use own equipment. Cleaning and hygiene requirements currently remain the same as before. Competition organisers should also ensure they can manage the social distancing requirements in a particular throws 'zone'. The potential total time of throws events should also be considered with larger fields.

Headline updates for IN COMPETITION from 8th August 2020:

- Sprint racing can take place in lanes, with up to 6 athletes. (See explanation above)
- Middle distance racing can take place in groups of up to 6 athletes from 800m up to 3000m/3000mSC. (See explanation above). **Note: While current guidelines, based on medical advice and sport frameworks, limit middle distance racing to the 3000m distance, British Athletics are accepting 3000m times for entry consideration to the BA Champs 5000m (scheduled for 4-5 Sept).**
- Throws events can have groups up to 12 athletes maintaining social distancing and cleaning protocols. (Standard competition size group)
- Jumps events can have groups up to 6 athletes maintaining social distancing ensuring cleaning protocols after every group of 6.

We will continually review this guidance and update it accordingly.

England Athletics
4th August 2020

Draft Minutes of the London Regional Council

Meeting Held on Thursday July 23rd 2020

Online 7.15pm – 8.00pm

Present: Elected Councillors: Ellie Brown (EB) - Chair, David Clarke (DC) Tony Ganio (TG) Mark Purser (MP); Ben Noad (BN), Nadia Williams (NW), Co-opted Members: Jamie Giles (JaG),

In attendance: Paul Merrywest (PM- Essex), representing Chair, Essex County AA, John Gandee (Representing SEAA), Amy Bryant EA, David Ralph (DR) representing Kent County AA

Apologies: Ivor Wiggett, Adrian Day – Deputy Chair (AD),

1. Declarations of interest. None given

2. Minutes of Meeting 25th June – Agreed

3. Club Support Report.

AB gave a brief outline of current EA webinars & events

4. Education; Coaches and Officials.

Online courses now available.

5. Volunteer Awards

The window to nominate has been extended. We are yet to have an update from EA.

6. Comms/Social Media

A huge thank you to the comms team for getting the Facebook page up and running. A special thank you to Nadia for her input.

Discussed introducing the council members on the page – agreed this would be a good idea. You can add yourselves along with a picture (📷) and a little bio about yourselves. If you don't do facebook, let the comms team (Nadia/Ellie/Adrian) know and we can put something up for you.

London Athletics website. We have contacted EA in regards to having this site live.

9. Black Lives Matter

Discussed EA having had a racial equality discussion with Board members, EA executive and EA employees. Was agreed that the plan going forward was not to be hurried; needed to get it right.

Discussed the diversity and inclusion of the members of the council.

It was suggested inviting the winner of the young volunteer awards to observe at a council meeting with hopefully inviting them to become a co-optee. This could be a position held for a year and then each year inviting the next young volunteer winner.

EB has contacted Ismal, the winner of the 2019 young volunteer with a view to observe at the next council meeting.

9. Area and County Reports

Areas had made their reports in the Competition Planning meeting.

10. Chair and Council member updates

TG had attended an EA webinar which he found disappointing.

Battersea Park – getting busier.

Sutton – Re-opening

Wimbledon - Open Tues/Thurs/Sunday no funding from London Marathon.

Norman Park – open

BN – back to coaching

JG – thanked the Council and EA for their of the South London Round Table.

EB – thanked EA for all the work they have been doing over the last four months and thanked AB for her support.

11. AOB

Next meeting, we will be in a better position to discuss X country and road running.

It was agreed that the London Council would continue to meet monthly for the time being. It was noted that as long as the Council felt this was valuable.

Meeting finished at 8.05pm

Date of next London Council Meeting – 7.15pm August 27th 2020

Minutes from Eastern Region meeting of 9th July

[Return to comp](#)

The on line portal for competition licencing should open on the 25th July. On 'sending' the request a copy will go to uka and the relevant regional council. Our sub-group will quickly need to review the submission and provide feedback to uka expediently. I have a run through meeting on this on Wednesday and will therefore arrange a zoom meeting with the sub-group for next weekend. Paul, Paul, Matt, Matt, Diane – any date / time preference ?

Competition guidelines are in place and are expected to be issued once feedback from this weekend's trial events has taken place and been included.

Potentially licenced competitions will be able to take place from early August.

A number of road running events are being planned (Duxford) that are not licenced. England Athletics / uka plans are still not clear. Ideally, as T and F comp guidance is released road running would happen at the same time. Tania agreed to find out current status and advise

Track opening

With the Government guidance that leisure centres can open from the 25th July it is hoped that most tracks will be available from 1st August. Local circumstances will play a part in any opening schedule.

Regional awards

32 nominations received in the East. The awards may be re opened with a new deadline of the end of August. This will give a little time for some competition and hopefully a few further nominations. Across the country nominations are 50% down on last year. The national awards may be presented at matches during the indoor season.

RJT

The decision was made to defer until the end of the year / early 2021 – pending how things develop between now and then.

AOB

On line officials courses have been well received – are there plans to further expand the offering in this area ? Tania agreed to further information

Date of next meeting - I'm thinking the 31st as by then a lot of activity will potentially be happening.

