



MINUTES

Annual General Meeting & Quarterly Meeting of the Wiltshire Athletic Association

Held at 7pm on 17/01/24 at Beversbrook Sports Facility, Calne

Attendees: Denise Nott (Chairman) - Calne Running Club, Michelle Coveney (Honorary Secretary) – Calne Running Club, Derek Drewitt (Chairman) – Pewsey Vale Running Club, Alex Copping (XC Secretary) – Team Bath, Rohaise Des Voeux (Junior Secretary) – Chippenham Harriers, Helen Waran – Calne Smartt, Catherine Cole – Calne Smartt, Peter Clardy – Frome Running Club, Simon Nott – Calne Running Club, , Jamie Stokes – Team Bath, Martin Tanner – Royal Wootton Bassett Hounds

Apologies: Richard Biggs (Treasurer) – Corsham Running Club, Simon Gilbert (Road Secretary) – Devizes Running Club, Julia Maddocks (Off-Road Secretary) – Chippenham Harriers, Alwyn Royall (Webmaster) – Chippenham Harriers, Tracy Thompson – St Mary's Calne, Sean Price – Avon Valley Runners

Chairman's Welcome - Denise N opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and commented that the Wiltshire Athletics Association have had a good year following a very successful Track & Field and Cross Country Championships.

Treasurers Report

- The Income & Expenditure report was presented and most notably there was a substantial increase in profit from £991.07 in 2022 to £3928.20 in 2023. Almost entirely this profit came from a very successful Track & Field Championship. The committee agreed that a successor for Fiona Edington must be found as a priority to enable future championships to be held and ensure a vital revenue stream for the Association.
- The committee queried the income figures for the Road Race and Off-Road Leagues. Given that each race organiser pays £50 for their race to be included in the league and there are 8 races in each league, we would expect the income figure for each league to be £400. **DN is to query this with RB.**

Cross Country Secretary's Report

- We had scoring teams in most age groups at the Intercounties Cross Country Championships in March 2023.
- A new gazebo was purchased and has been put to great use at XC meetings.
- The Tri-County Cross Country Championships was hosted by Team Bath in conjunction with the Gloucestershire League. This format saw an increase in athletes from 295 to 569, although the number of Wiltshire athletes remained the same.
- In the SW Cross Country Championships we had teams in all age groups and some excellent performances with Wiltshire winning six team prizes.

- We are struggling to create senior men and women teams and need to consider how best promote the opportunity/experience of being selected to run for the county.
- We need to ensure the online shop is successfully managed going forwards after recent problems getting kit to athletes.

Off-Road Secretary's Report

- Some problems were experienced in finding the final fixture for the 2023/4 league as there was a lack of availability of races in March. The Globe Trot has now been secured as the final fixture, although it is not an ideal choice.
- The Riverbank Rollick was a successful race (see AOB for discussion concerning out of county races)

Road Secretary's Report

- No report was available but a successful 2023 league was held. Wiltshire hosted SW Half Marathon and 10K races with Wiltshire runners placing well and we had strong teams.
- The 2024 fixtures will be announced tomorrow.
- The committee discussed reintroducing an awards presentation for league winners. It was agreed that presenting medals at the last fixture in the league was the best option.

Track & Field Secretary's Report

- The 2023 T&F championship was very successful.
- The committee is very concerned that there is not currently a successor to Fiona Edington. We need to find a successor asap so that they can shadow Fiona and learn what is involved. Unfortunately the role requires someone with expertise in T&F and the only T&F clubs in the county that may have the necessary expertise are Swindon Harriers and City of Salisbury. **DN to put out a message that this year's T&F Championship may be the last hosted by WAA unless we find a suitable successor. DN also to message Rich Ayling & Martin Rush at England Athletics for advice.**

Junior Secretary's Report

- The Junior league, whilst small (we only had 6 races last year), we hope will grow as Frome Running Club have joined and Somer AC will hopefully join this year. Thus we hope to have 8 races in the league.
- We still need more Junior races being organised and would encourage other Wiltshire Clubs to have a youth section.

Inclusion Secretary's Report

- Nothing notable to report, except that this role is currently vacant and requires filling. **DN to advertise vacancy.**

Election of Officers

| | Present | Proposed |
|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| President | Derek Drewitt (Pewsey Vale RC) | Re-elected* |

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|-------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Chairman | Denise Nott (Calne Running Club) | Re-elected |
| Secretary | Michelle Coveney (Calne Running Club) | Re-elected |
| Treasurer | Richard Biggs (Corsham Running Club) | Re-elected |
| T&F Secretary | Fiona Edington (MADJA) | Re-elected |
| Road Secretary | Simon Gilbert (Devizes Running Club) | Re-elected |
| XC Secretary | Alex Copping (Team Bath) | Re-elected |
| Off-road Secretary | Julia Maddocks (Chippenham Harriers) | Re-elected |
| Inclusion Athletics Sec | Vacant | |
| Junior Athletics Sec | Rohaise des Voeux (Chippenham Harriers) | Re-elected |
| Welfare Officer | Deb Gunning (Swindon Harriers) | Re-elected |
| Kitmaster | Matt Jones | Position obsolete** |

* Derek Drewitt agreed to stand for a further year.

** The committee decided that inline with other organisations the role of kitmaster would be outsourced to a kit company. This would provide a better service and simplify the process.
JS will get old kit returned from current kitmaster and liase with new company to take it on. DN to contact MJ to explain Kitmaster role to be outsourced.

Vice Presidents (existing –not subject to re-election):

Geoff Brewer, Geoff Danswan, Mike Stubbs, Bob Townsend, Derek Drewitt and Richard Pearce.

DN to check constitution to see if it is a requirement for the Association to have Vice Presidents as we do not have contact details for the current Vice Presidents and they may not be even aware of their appointment.

AOB

- **Out of county races** - The committee has received a lot of feedback that the Riverbank Rollick was sold out and many members could not gain a place. Furthermore the travelling distance involved was a problem, especially for clubs in the south of the county. This is something we need to consider with future events. **As we have a lack of races to choose from DN to advise JM that perhaps we should ask Redfish events if they would like to include one of their races as a fixture. Also ask Corsham RC whether they would consider moving Hazelbury Hurrah to the winter as a fixture.**
- **WAA Fees** – committee agreed to keep fees at £30, to be paid by 31st March. **MC to send out invoices to member clubs.**
- **Update from Webmaster** – website now up to date with League results with old results and fixtures archived. Our site receives 1500-2000 visits per month. Spam to contacts has been reduced. The site includes links to affiliate clubs and races.
- **Update on Wiltshire Athletics Running Festival** – 6 clubs responded to the questionnaire. 5000m was preferred over 10000m with the event being held on a Sunday morning. Due to the low response rate, there isn't currently sufficient interest

to make it a successful event and Sean Price suggested that we hold off and possibly look at the proposal again in 2025.

Next Meeting – 7pm on 24th April – **MC to book room**

Meeting closed at 8:23pm

Wiltshire Athletic Association
Chairman: Denise Nott
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