



Essex County Athletic Association

Minutes of the Essex AA Executive meeting held in the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford on Monday 8th April 2024 at 19:30 hours.

Participants:

Andy Catton (Chair) Gerry O’Doherty (Vice Chair), Chris Akehurst (President), Malcolm Bailey (Secretary), John Weir, Claire Levey, Elaine Forrest, June Cork, Ron Dawson, Richard Charleston (President Elect), Kaye Merrywest, Paul Merrywest, Ray Pearce, Rick Thompson, Scott Darney, Michael Wilson, Diane Wooller

1. Apologies for Absence

John Clarke, Allison Gillan, Kerry Marsh, Vicky Trevor, Gary Chandler (Treasurer)

2. Minutes of the last meeting of Monday 5th February 2024.

The minutes of the meeting on Monday 5th February 2024 were **approved** as a true record of that meeting.

Proposed: June Cork

Seconded: Elaine Forrest

3. Matters Arising from last meeting.

Summary of Actions

Agenda Item	Matter	Action required	Update
3	Update on new website	Has the new website launched	See agenda item 15
3	Update on new County Constitution	Constitution sent to all committee members? Date of EGM?	See agenda item 16
3	Chase England Athletics (“EA”) for an acknowledgment of our letter in connection with an athlete complaint	Chase EA for a response	No response received to our chaser email. This was sent to two different parties within EA. Agreed not to pursue any further, noting that there is a paper trail between Essex AA and EA

4	Refund from SEAA Inter Counties XC Champs	Refund received	Matter closed
15	Long Service awards	Should we award Long service awards	See agenda item 17

4. Treasurers' Report

Gary Chandler was not able to attend this meeting. At the recent Track & Field subcommittee meeting he reported the anticipated financial outcome from the Indoor Track & Field championships, which is reproduced below, for ease of reference:-

Indoor T&F Reconciliation

	2024	2024 Essex	2024 Eastern
Income			
Entry Fees	£10,440.00	£5,974.70	£4,465.30
Essex Entries (Eastern Element)		£0.00	£0.00
Entrance Fees	£2,119.68	£1,059.84	£1,059.84
Fine Design/Retailer Commission	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£12,559.68	£7,034.54	£5,525.14
Expenses			
Hire of Lee Valley	£4,030.00	£2,015.00	£2,015.00
Provision of first aid	£640.00	£320.00	£320.00
Printing of programmes	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Prov. of officials lunches	£470.00	£235.00	£235.00
Starters ammunition	£112.80	£56.40	£56.40
Purchase of numbers/(pins)	£115.31	£57.66	£57.66
Pins (paid by eastern)	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Travel expenses for officials by Eastern	£1,078.00	£539.00	£539.00
Travel expenses paid by Essex	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Expenses of Essex champs organisers	£107.48	£53.74	£53.74
EDM Hire	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Photo Finish	£600.00	£300.00	£300.00
	£7,153.59	£3,576.80	£3,576.80
Essex/Eastern Profit/Loss	£5,406.09	£3,457.75	£1,948.35
Travel expenses for officials by Eastern			£1,078.00
Amount Owed to Eastern AA			£3,026.35

For a full report of these championships – please see minutes of the track & field meeting which took place on 11th March 2024.

5. a) Correspondence

Gary Chandler/Andy Catton have been dealing with an invoice that County have received requesting settlement of monies for the use of EDM equipment that was ‘alleged’ to have been hired by us at the 2023 Outdoor and 2024 Indoor Championships. We had not used this equipment. There have been a number of emails between us and the person concerned. The matter, as far as we are concerned has been concluded, and no payment has been made. The party, who raised the invoice, has reluctantly accepted this.

We have received an email to advise us that England Athletics have agreed to host the UK CAU Track & Field Championships for 2024 at Alexander Stadium on Friday/Saturday/Sunday 19th/20th/21st July, within the Senior (U23/U20) 2024 England Athletic Championships.

We have agreed to enter teams to represent Essex.

A request has been received from a Dave Paver in connection with the UKA decision to change the junior age group categories. To debate this matter, he is seeking requests from clubs, counties and affiliated bodies to force a Special meeting. A copy of the email that we have received is attached to these minutes and it has been agreed that as a committee we will debate this at our next meeting. All affiliated Essex clubs are asked to consider this issue.

b). Club & Committee Changes

We have not received any notification to any changes since our last meeting from any of clubs affiliated to Essex.

6. Networking

At the Sportshall final on 6th April held in Stoke, the Essex U15 girls finished second, in a close finish with Surrey. Well done to the Essex team.

7. Regional Reports

Copies of the minutes from the London Regional Council meeting (6th March) and Eastern Regional meeting (6th March) are attached to these minutes.

Key issues discussed:-

- Safeguarding
- Club standards data
- Age group changes
- Race walking (looking at ways to re-invigorate the sport)

- Throws training (a proposal has been lodged that UKA should amend their Code of Practice to allow athletes attain a 'Certificate of Competence' to permit them to train on their own

8. Track & Field

The Outdoor championships are taking place at Chelmsford over the weekend 11/12 May. So far, 320 entries received, with around three weeks before the closing date.

Elaine has applied for a licence; with the support of Hayley Hemmings as we are trying to obtain a World Athletics licence which will enable the U18 & U20's seek qualifying times for entry into the European Championships.

5k track championships – these are being held on Wednesday 12th June at Brentwood. So far, 17 entries received. Closing date at the end of May.

The County 10k & 1 mile track championships are being incorporated into the Chelmsford AC miles of miles event, which is taking place on 29th June. Licence has been obtained. Currently, not much interest in the 10k championships.

Relays. These will take place on Sunday 7th July 2024 at Garon Park, Southend on Sea to be hosted by City of Southend

Multi Events Championships. These will be incorporated into the Eastern Championships. Provisional date 22nd September at Peterborough.

Inter County Championships. The U20's & Seniors Inter Counties Track & Field Championships will take place at Horspath, Oxford on 7th September 2024

The U15 & U17's Inter Counties Track & Field Championships will take place at the same venue on 8th September 2024.

A date for the U13 Championships has still to be announced. Likely to take place at Walton upon Thames.

9. Cross Country

The annual fixtures meeting for the Essex League XC will take place on 15th May at Chelmsford AC clubhouse starting at 7.30pm. All clubs that compete in these leagues will be contacted and invited to attend.

gff

10. Road Running

Dates for the 2024 Grand Prix races

5 miles – Ingatestone (18th August) – entry link
<https://www.entrycentral.com/ingatestone5mileroadrace>

10K – High Easter (16th June) - entries open.

Entry link - <https://www.nice-work.org.uk/e/high-easter-10k-9482>

10 miles - Stebbing 10 (10th November)

Half Marathon – Pleshey (15th September)

Marathon - Halstead. Entries open (12th May)

The first race of the series the Essex 20 took place on Sunday 17th March at Carver Barracks. This event also included an Invitational Inter Counties event.

The Essex men retained the 20 mile Inter County trophy with a win again on Sunday at Calver Barracks.

Pushed all the way by Kent, Pete Robinson of Springfield Striders lead the team home in 1h 47m 47s and in so doing so became three time winner of the event. Josh Entwistle (Woodford Green with Essex Ladies) 1h 50m 43s and Paul Molyneux V40 (Springfield Striders) 1h 50m 44s packed well for 3rd and 4th overall, and Kurtis Swan (Braintree & District AC) was 9th in 1h 53m 50s.

1. Essex 5h 29m 11s
2. Kent 5h 30m 42s
3. Cambridgeshire 5h 42m 37s
4. Suffolk 5h 49m 45s
5. Norfolk 5h 49m 58s
6. Sussex 5h 56m 54s
7. Hertfordshire 6h 02m 36s

Not to be outdone the ladies also won the inter county match, taking the trophy off Hants.

Rosie Wild of Colchester Harriers AC lead the team home finishing second female in 2h 08m 27s, ahead of Springfield Striders team mates Sarah Overington 3rd in 2h 10m 15s and Nicole Frisby 6th in 2h 10m 52s, and Charlotte Bishop (Basildon AC) 15th in 2h 16m 12s

1. Essex 6h 29m 36s
2. Hertfordshire 6h 35m 51s
3. Sussex 6h 37m 50s
4. Suffolk 6h 46m 16S
5. Norfolk 6h 47m 15s
6. Cambridgeshire 6h 50m 03s
7. Hampshire 6h 54m 29s
8. Kent 6h 55m 17s

In the Essex 20 race 36 of the 414 finishers clocked under 2 hours including the first female, Verity Hopkins from Tonbridge AC who was running for Sussex in the Inter Counties, who clocked an impressive 1h 57m 42s to finish 28th overall.

The Road Relay championships (which incorporated the Suffolk Championships) took place on Sunday 7th April at Northern Gateway, Colchester.

Full results can be found using the following link:-

[Essex AA and Suffolk AA County Road Relay Championships \(eventchiptiming.com\)](http://eventchiptiming.com)

Day went well. We were extremely well supported by the Chip Timing Company (Active Training World).

Winners of the Senior Team Championships – Female Colchester Harriers Male Havering AC

Fastest times – Female - Lizzie Wellstead (Colchester Harriers) 16:01

Male – Alex Gladley (CATS) 14:29

The next Grand Prix event is the Halstead Marathon. Currently circa. 200 entries into the championships. Closing date for Essex champs – 28th April 2024.

11. Fell running

The Fell Running Inter Counties Race, which is being held on 21st April at Keswick in the Lake District.

Teams have been selected to represent Essex.

Ladies

Sharon Skidmore

Sharon Bolister

Amelia Davison

Lucila Ashton

Male

Mick McTernan

Tom Grimes

Rhys Gillard

Roger Maidment

Good luck our athletes.

12. Trophies

Nothing to report.

13. Walking

This post is vacant on the Executive committee and a volunteer to take over this role is sought.

We have been invited to hold an Essex walks championship over 3000 metres as part of the Combined Counties Championship which is being held at Ridlins End, Stevenage on 6th May. We have accepted. Entries via the following link:-

<https://meets.rosterathletics.com/public/competitions/details/about?id=24834>

14. Officials

Rick Thompson is still trying to recruit officials to cover the Outdoor Track & Field Championships. Currently, very short of field officials. We may have to cancel some of these events as we will not be able to provide sufficient volunteers to officiate. This has previously been highlighted as an issue to all clubs.

Sufficient officials have volunteered to support the 5k track championships.

15. Update on new County Website

This is ready to be launched. Scott Darney will contact Dave Keeley re integrating the old site into the new site.

16. New County Constitution

The proposed new Constitution has been sent to all committee members. Chris Akehurst raised one issue (Interpretation of England Athletics in our Constitution – we had covered UKA).

It is proposed that an EGM will be called for to take place before the start of the next Executive meeting on 3rd June. All affiliated clubs will be invited to attend.

17. Consider how we award Life Memberships/Long Serving awards

There was support to award Long Service awards to those that have supported Essex athletics over a number of years. Andy Catton to investigate likely cost.

18. Schools Liaison

Essex Schools Track & field Championships are taking place on the 8th June.

(Report received from Sebastian Cirillo – Schools representative after the meeting.

“English Schools results, an overall successful day for Essex.

In the Junior Girls, we had 3 in the top 10 (4th Summer Smith, 6th Ava King, 7th Ezra Harold). In the Inter Girls, Olivia Forrest was the overall winner, one of very few athletes to win English School as first year in her age group. In the Intermediate Boys, Jacob Hurrell came 8th.

All of these athletes qualified for the SIAB event in Dublin to represent England and performed admirably, with Olivia Forrest replicating her individual success and the England teams winning the team awards.”

19. Any other business

Paul Bailey has stepped down as Essex XC Team Manager (Men & Boys). He has been in this role for over 12 years. He has been thanked for all his time, effort and dedication in this role. He will be missed.

A volunteer is sought to take over this role.

The next team manager duties that will need to be covered are the:-

- Eastern Counties XC champs in October/November
- SEAA Inter Counties in December 2024
- CAU Inter Counties in March 2025.

20. Date of next meeting

Date (all Monday's) 2024	Meeting
3rd June	Executive
1 st July	Executive
29th July	Track & Field*
2 nd September	Executive
7 th October	Endurance*
4 th November	Executive
2 nd December	AGM*

- All clubs invited to send a representative(s) to these meetings

Meeting finished at 20:32.

Summary of Actions

Agenda Item	Matter	Action required	By whom
13.	Vacancy as County Race Walking Secretary	Volunteer sought to take on this post.	Clubs to advertise this position within their membership
16.	New County Constitution	EGM to be called to agree new proposed Constitution	Secretary to contact clubs to invite them to an EGM which will be held on Monday 3rd June at Chelmsford AC clubhouse starting at 7.30pm.
17.	Long Service Awards	Investigate costs of issuing awards	Andy Catton
19.	Vacancy as County XC Team Manager (Men and Boys)	Volunteer sought to take on this post.	Clubs to advertise this position within their membership

AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 3rd JUNE AT CHELMSFORD AC CLUBHOUSE. START TIME 7.30pm.

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the previous meeting – Monday 8th April 2024.
3. Matters Arising
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Correspondence
Club & Committee Register Changes
6. Networking
7. Regional Reports
8. Track & Field
9. Cross Country
10. Road running
11. Fell running
12. Trophies
13. Walking
14. Officials
15. Update on new County website
16. Awarding of Life Membership/Long service awards
17. School's Liaison
18. Any other business