

Minutes of the 89th AGM held at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham, 14 March 2014 at 7.00pm
Birmingham & District Invitation Cross-Country League
1926 – 2014.

Apologies for Absence.

These were received from Bob Carey(Past President,Race Secretary), Jim Skidmore (Past President, Official, Dudley & Stourbridge), Ted Schuck(Past President), Graham Heeley (Referee/Sparkhill),Noel Butler, Ray Morgan(Leamington C & AC),Thomas Newman (University of Warwick), Sam Densham (Loughborough Students),George Williams(Official), Andy Prohett(Cheltenham & County Harrier), Vince Carroll (Rugby & Northampton)

Present at the Meeting.

John Mills (Past President,Sparkhill) Dave McNamee (Assistant Secretary, Auditor, Cheltenham & County), Graham Allen (Race Sec,Stafford Harriers), Rita Brownlie (Midland Women's CC Secretary/Broms & Redditch), Martin Ludford, Richard Carney (B'ham Running Athletic & Tri), John Peet, (President, Official, Tamworth AC), Kay Adcocks (Official), Bill Adcocks (Past President/ Official, Coventry Godiva), Peter Banks (Race Secretary/ Coventry Godiva), John Vickers (Official), Steve Marklew, John Fletcher (RSC), Geoff Wheeler, Andy Rea(Centurion),Len Quartly(Broms& Redd),Margery Ewington (Past President /Nuneaton, Official), Barry Ewington (Past President, Official, Nuneaton)Pat Taylor (President Elect, Official/Nuneaton),Terry Taylor (Past President, Nuneaton), Bryan Mills(Tipton Harriers),Andrew Wright(TamworthAC), Colin Thompson,Peter Stark (Wolverhampton & Bilston AC), Noel McKakly (Race Referee Wolverhampton & Bilston AC), Terry Haines(Past President ,Severn AC), Steve Howes(Solihull & Small Heath), Ken Westley (Unattached), Ian Clarke, Natalie Dellar (Stourbridge RC), Brian Shepherd(DASH President) Simon Hudson (Aldridge RC), Martin Smith (DroitwichAC), Betty Downs (Past President, Birchfield Harriers),Eddie Cockayne(Birchfield Harriers), Pam Davies (Offiical),Mike Doyle (Official) David Waldron (Worcester AC),Richard Sannwald(Dudley Kingswinford),Terry Egan, Terry Atkiens(Rugby & Northampton), Rebecca Freeman (Solihull & SmallheathAC), Peter Robinson (Black Country Tri),Rachel Vines, Chris Driskell(CLC Striders) Omar Alim(Gloucester AC),William Blaikle(University of Birmingham), Carolyn Franks (Hon Sec/Treasurer)

Minutes of the 87th. A.G.M.

The meeting accepted the minutes of the AGM and the Executive minutes. Two spelling mistakes were noted one in the AGM under Website – shore replace with short & the Executive minutes Rule 19 change warn to worn.

Matters Arising from the Minutes.

1. The Secretary noted that the matter of electronic payment was not discussed at the Executive as requested. This will be rectified this coming year.
2. Noel McKakly had kindly sent the Secretary the details about the megaphones but as yet they had not been purchased.

ACTION: Executive to discuss electronic payment & Secretary to purchase 3 megaphones.

Statement of Accounts.

Dave McNamee explained that there were 4 clubs who hosted events in the season 2012/13 that are included in these years' accounts & that we had not heard from England Athletics for our affiliation. Bill Adcock's felt that the large number of numbers purchased were reasonable. The meeting accepted the statement of accounts.

Presidents Address.

Firstly, I would like to thank the Birmingham & District Invitation Cross Country League for giving me the honour of being President of this excellent cross country league for 2013-14. I was very proud to attend meetings at all divisions during the season as your President and enjoyed every minute of it.

I came into the sport not as an athlete myself, but because my son joined Dudley & Stourbridge Harriers in 1982 and I soon became involved in officiating both in track & field and cross country events. It has given me many years of enjoyment and friendship with many officials and athletes in the sport, especially cross country - the Birmingham League in particular. Over the years I have always been impressed by the number of athletes who compete and obviously enjoy it, but at the same time are so competitive as they represent their clubs on each occasion.

I am an endurance coach of the youngsters age 9 to 15 years at Dudley & Stourbridge Harriers and very much hope that they will have the desire and ambition to compete at Junior & Senior level in this most excellent league.

BIRMINGHAM & AND DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE

It only remains for me to say once again, thank you very much for the opportunity you gave me and I sincerely hope that the league will continue to go from strength to strength in the years to come.

Brian Shepherd, Dudley & Stourbridge Harriers.

League Secretaries Reports

These had been sent out prior to the meeting. The following point was raised by the Secretary that in the Executive minutes it had been recommended that in Division One & Two there should be 4 clubs to go down & 3 to go; In Division Three it was 3 to go up to try to address the balance of numbers running at each venue. As this was not brought to last year's AGM Richard Sannwald proposed it remains 3 up & 3 down for the coming year but that next year the recommendation is taken on board. This was seconded by Bill Adcocks and was passed unanimously. The meeting also felt that on the website it should state that there will be 3 up & 3 down but in extraordinary circumstances the Executive will decide what movement is necessary.

ACTION: Website to inform the promotion/relegation details for the coming season.

Secretary's Report

It was greatly appreciated having most of the affiliations in by 30th April making the Secretary/Treasurer's job so much easier. The Secretary expressed her thanks to Leamington C & AC for staging the first race of the season again & the new start meant it was easier for the runners to spread out before the narrow sections of the course. As usual she managed to visit all Divisions starting with Stafford who provided a very sticky muddy course over the common. Stafford Harriers did extremely well to cope using very basic facilities. Division Two as usual did the league proud with a well marshalled, undulating and (in places) wet course but were also lucky to have the luxury of the Community Hall for registration/changing/refreshments & results. The first Division race was held on her home patch. Cheltenham coped very well with both the men & the women races. The women were very lucky to have beautiful weather & then the wind & rain came in causing problems for the men as the envelopes disintegrated. Credit must go to Bill Adcocks & Peter Banks for getting a result out on the day. It has been decided by the Executive that waterproof numbers are to be purchased for next season which will hopefully help in adverse conditions. Despite the weather it was an excellent race made all the sweeter to the Secretary as she saw her home athlete Graham Rush win – a first for Cheltenham in Division One!

On a sadder note she reported that at the beginning of next season the League will be applying the 500 point rule which hopefully make all clubs more careful in their knowledge of the rules. The Secretary is grateful for all the support from all the Officials who make the league tick.

Promoting Clubs

A reminder was given that the permit is now obtained from the Midland Counties Athletic Association website & should be sent back to the office. During the season the Secretary had also had the appointed officials contact her for details of races. As a result clubs hosting will be asked to put the information in a named envelope to hand out at the previous meeting & those not handed out to be put in the post. The Secretary was asked to contact England Athletics as it appears they no longer send out reminders regarding affiliation.

ACTION: Secretary to alter the information sent out to host clubs. Secretary to contact England Athletics

Officials for the season

Nineteen officials had replied agreeing to officiate for the coming season with five replies still to be sent in. Peter Lisseman had requested to help at Division Two, Brian Shepherd to go into Division Three & Mike Doyle & Pam Davies into Division One. Bill Adcocks reported that the Division One non-hosting clubs had been a lot better this last season in providing their helper as instructed. It was recommended that Race Secretaries email a reminder to clubs involved in helping. Steve Marklew proposed a penalty be given to those failing to bring a person for the appointed job. This was seconded by Graham Allen. Then Bill Adcocks proposed a review is done at the end of next season which was seconded by Eddie Cockayne. Ian Clarke further suggested that the league carries out a dummy run for the coming season to see what effect this would have on the Clubs not providing officials. The results of the dummy run to give clubs plenty of warning of what penalties they would be likely to incur. The meeting decided to accept this idea with the Secretary to provide a signing in sheet for each division & that Dave McNamee would then place the names of clubs who did provide officials at the end of the results. It was also thought that as some clubs are given a job to do twice in the season while others it is three times that 2 races would be looked at with scoring possibly adding 50 or 100 or 200 points would be added to the team score.

ACTION: Executive to review at the end of the season & to report back to next year's AGM. In order to help clubs the Executive has offered to pay for 3 possible officials to attend a course in September.

ACTION: Clubs to contact the Secretary ASAP.

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ACTION: Secretary to provide Race Referees with a signing in sheet for the non hosting clubs.

Women's Midland Cross Country League.

Rita Brownlie reported that the ladies had over 200 finishers in every race & they had been able to provide officials for each race too. Their AGM is on 28th April at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham. She was not happy with the league informing the Ladies where they can race but it was pointed out that it is very much based on where there are adequate facilities that can cope with both men & women.

Constitution

The following changes were passed by the meeting :-

RULE10a ADD Such a club will be ineligible for an award or promotion from the lowest division for a season.

RULE10b ADD A club relegated under these circumstances will not be eligible for promotion from that division for a season.

RULE 10c ADD but that club will be unable to gain promotion for the next season.

RULE 13 change the date to – 30th April

RULE 20 ADD at the beginning – All athletes must wear their appropriate competitors number on the front of their club vest.

RULE 22 change the wording – This must be filled in and returned to the **Midland Counties Office.**

League Website

The Executive had asked the webmasters to ensure the website was about the Birmingham & District League & that there was information for the Midland Ladies League to refer to the Midland Counties website. It had been pointed out to the Secretary that it is only 10 years to the centenary of the league & there may be some folks who would be interested in preparing a possible booklet etc for this occasion. Bryan Mills informed the meeting that they had been delighted with the response from the clubs with the photos & articles.

Make-up of the League for the 2014-2015 Season.

- (a) Coventry Triathletes have asked to be re-instated. This was approved unanimously.
 (b) The following will be the make up for all the Divisions:-

Division One	Division Two	Division Three
Birchfield Harriers	Amazing Feet RC	Aldridge RC
Birmingham Running & Tri Club	Bromsgrove And Redditch	
Birmingham University	Cannock & Stafford AC	Black Pear Joggers
Bournville Harriers	Centurion RC	Cobra RC & Tri C
Cheltenham & County Harriers	CLC Striders	Coventry Triathletes
City of Stoke	Dudley Kingswinford	Droitwich AC
Coventry Godiva Harriers	Dudley & Stourbridge H	Kidderminster & Stourport AC
Halesowen AC & CC	Gloucester AC	Massey Ferguson
Kenilworth Runners	Knowle & Dorridge RC	Northbrook AC
Loughborough Students	Leamington C & AC	Peel Road Runners
Rugby and Northampton AC	Newcastle (Staffs) AC	Sneyd Striders
Royal Sutton Coldfield AC	Nuneaton Harriers	Solihull & Small Heath AC
Staffs Moorlands	Severn AC	Sparkhill Harriers
Telford AC	Stratford Upon Avon	Sphinx AC
Tipton Harriers	Tamworth AC	Stourbridge AC
Worcester AC	Trentham RC	West Bromwich Harriers
	University Of Warwick	
	Wolverhampton and Bilston AC	

Affiliation

The affiliation is to remain the same as last year £95. Late payments would incur a further payment of £15. **All affiliations are to be paid by 30th April 2014.**

Dates Fixtures and Venues for the 2014 – 2015 Season.

Division Three only had the offer of Droitwich AC & Sphinx AC both on the 10th Jan 2015. In the absence of a representative from Sphinx AC it was left for the Secretary to contact Sphinx to see if they could do any of the other dates. Plus to contact Division Three Clubs to see any other club would be willing to host a fixture.

	<u>Division One</u>	<u>Division Two</u>	<u>Division Three</u>
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BIRMINGHAM & AND DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE

8th November 2014	*Combined fixture at Leamington C & AC		
6th December 2014	Rugby & Northampton	Severn AC	?????
10th January 2015	Coventry Godiva	Nuneaton Harriers	Droitwich*
7th February 2015	Cheltenham & County Harriers	Wolverhampton & Bilston AC *	Sphinx AC

***Denotes that the club is willing to have one of the three Women's races.**

N.B. Graham Allen informed the meeting that he would see what was possible at Stafford to host one of the Division Three fixtures, with possibly 2 clubs working together to host it.

Election of Officers & Officials.

The Birmingham League Executive proposed Pat Taylor as President of the League for the season of 2014 – 2015.

President Elect: The Executive proposed Graham Allen. This was accepted unanimously.

Secretary/ Treasurer: Carolyn Franks was proposed by Ian Clarke and seconded by Steve Marklew with no other nominations the meeting accepted this proposal unanimously.

Hon. Assistant Secretary: Dave McNamee was proposed by Terry Haines & seconded by John Peet. Dave was elected unanimously.

Auditor : Dave McNamee was proposed by Peter Banks & seconded by Richard Sannwald. This was accepted unanimously.

Representative to the Midland Cross Country Association - Ian Clarke. Proposed by Bryan Mills & seconded by .Bill Adcocks This was approved by the AGM.

Webmasters: Chris Holloway & Bryan Mills are happy to continue in this role.

It was agreed to approve en bloc the officials below

	<u>1st. Div.</u>	<u>2nd. Div.</u>	<u>3rd. Div.</u>
Race Secretary	Bill Adcocks Peter Banks	Graham Allen	Bob Carey
Race Referee	Noel McKakley	Barry Ewington	Graham Heeley
Judges.	Kay Adcocks Derek Harding Pete Lisseman	Rob Mulgrue Alison Mills	John Peet
Timekeepers.	John Vickers George Williams Pam Davies Mike Doyle	David Bennett Margery Ewington Bob Hughes Alison Mills Rob Mulgrue Colin Stone John Turner	John Aylmer Jim Skidmore Brian Shepherd

Any Other Business:

- 1) Ian Clarke suggested that the Juniors should only be eligible for the Junior award. After a discussion Bill Adcocks proposed we leave it as it is at the moment.
- 2) The Secretary had been asked to review with the clubs whether we had just plaques for the Best of Three & or the Best of Four. The meeting agreed to have just plaques for the Best of Three.
- 3) 'B' Team Medals. It was felt these were not really necessary, but instead Ian Clarke proposed that there is just a 'B' Team plaque. This was seconded by Bill Adcocks & was passed by the meeting.

Date and Venue of the 90th AGM

It was agreed to hold next years AGM on **Friday 13 or 20th March 2015 at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham** at 7.30pm to be confirmed.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm

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IMPORTANT: Hosts clubs must also please send a copy of all their event details to the Midland Office **AT LEAST 3 WEEKS BEFORE THE ACTUAL DATE OF THE PROMOTION.**

The Midland office address is:

MCAA, Alexander Stadium, Walsall Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham B42 2LR

AFFILIATIONS FOR THE 2014/2015 SEASON

Don't forget your affiliations are due by 30th April 2014.

A £15 levy will be charge for late affiliations.

The Affiliation is still only £95

Please send Cheques made payable to:

The Birmingham & District Invitation Cross-Country League

PLEASE SEND TO: -

**Carolyn Franks
23 Salisbury Avenue
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL51 3BT.**

Signed _____ Date _____