

**Minutes of the 87<sup>th</sup> AGM held at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham, 9 March 2012 at 7.30pm**  
**Birmingham & District Invitation Cross-Country League**  
**1926 – 2012.**

**Apologies for Absence.**

These were received from Vince Carroll (Rugby & Northampton), Graham Heeley (Past President, Referee, Sparkhill), Betty Downs (Past President), Mike Doyle (Past President, Official), Jim Skidmore (Past President, Official, Dudley & Stourbridge), Pam Davies (Official), Stuart Harris (Past President), Bob Carey (Past President, Race Secretary, Sphinx AC), John Wilson (Northbrook), Viv Richardson (Peel Road Runners) Dave Gresswell (Gloucester AC).

**Present at the Meeting.**

Paul Bergin, Mitch Timms (Sphinx AC), Ted Schuck, John Mills (Past Presidents) Dave McNamee (Assistant Secretary, Auditor, Cheltenham & County), Peter Burns, Graham Allen (Stafford Harriers), Noel McKakley (Race Referee), Rita Brownlie (Midland Women's CC Secretary/Broms & Redditch), Martin Ludford, Richard Carney (B'ham Running Athletic & Tri), John Peet, (President, Official, Tamworth AC) Peter Banks (Coventry Godiva), Kay Adcocks (Official), Bill Adcocks (Past President/ Official, Coventry Godiva), Stan Hawes , Dave Jones(West Bromwich), John Vickers ( Official), Peter Robinson (Black Country Tri Athletes),Dave Long, N. Corber (RSC), Geoff Wheeler, Andy Rea(Centurion),Len Quartly(Broms& Redd), Terry Egan ( Rugby & Northampton), Margery Ewington (Past President /Nuneaton, Official),Barry Ewington (Past President, Official, Nuneaton), Elliot Prince, George Williams(Official/Cheltenham & County Harriers),S. Millington, D. Turvey( HalesowenAC), Rob Andrew (Bournville Harriers), Noel Butler, Dave Blower (Leamington C& AC), Mike Buntin, Phil Hinch, B. Mills (Tipton Harriers),Ian Clarke (Stourbridge AC),Dave Williams (TamworthAC), Colin Thompson ( Wolverhampton & Bilston AC), S. Maguire, Sam Gibbs (Severn AC), Terry Haines(President Elect,Severn AC ), Nathaniel Breakwell, Steph Collings, Colaco ( Warwick Uni), Max Mladenovic , Lloyd Barton(Knowle & Dorridge), Rebecca Freeman,Steve Howes( Solihull & Small Heath), Tom Orton , Derek Bolton (Tamworth), Ken Westley ( Unattached), Brendan Ward, Rachel Vines, Chris Driskell( CLC Striders), Derek Burns,Terry Harvey(Massey Ferguson), Ian Clarke, Natalie Dellar (Stourbridge RC),Dave Eades, Brian Shepherd(DASH), Simon Hudson, Rachel Packer (Aldridge RC), Martin Smith (DroitwichAC), Rex Tomlinson, Martin Gwilliam (Oak Park Pacers), Pete Dimbleby (Birchfield Harriers), Terry Alcock ( Past President Solihull & Smallheath), B. Tipping (University of Birmingham), Carolyn Franks (Hon Sec/Treasurer)

**Obituary**

The President asked the meeting to stand for a minute silence for the following the sad loss of Joe Gripton (Tipton Harriers) who had been a life long member and supporter of the League plus Arthur Blagg.

**Minutes of the 86th. A.G.M.**

The meeting accepted the minutes of the AGM and the Executive minutes with the following changes noted that it should have been Ben Snowball for Loughborough Students & on page 6 to delete Oak Park Pacers. Plus it should have read 15<sup>th</sup> February on the Executive Minutes.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes.**

There were no matters arising.

**Statement of Accounts.**

At this stage we were only able to provide an interim report as we are still waiting for more expenses to be received. A full balance sheet will be sent out in due course. It was pointed out that we have spent more than received and are having to dip into our reserves. The Executive had recommended that the affiliation fee be raised to £85. Bill Adcocks pointed out that at present the affiliation works out at about 80p per person. Terry Haines suggested we look at having charity status & promised he would send in the information for the Executive to look at. After much discussion it was agreed to raise the affiliation to £95.

**Presidents Address.**

In 1948 when the Olympics were held in London and Sydney Wooderson had visited Tamworth I was eleven years old living in a village called Elford. It was in the days before television, very few people had a car or telephone and there was only one bus a week into Tamworth, I decided that I wanted to be an Olympic champion so my lunch times were spent running around the playing field.

At the age of sixteen the real world hit me! Representing Tamworth Youth Club in a one mile track race at Cannock, I was leading for three laps when a red headed fellow from Leek left me for dead, yes it was Roy Fowler.

During the winter of 1954 the International Cross country Championships were held at Castle Bromwich. The Senior race was won by a Frenchman called Alain Mimoun, Ken Norris of England was second. Watching this race paved the way for the rest of my life.

Also in 1954 I joined Sparkhill Harriers, here I met a group of people who treated me as one of their own as they still do today, you have to remember I was a country lad having never been to the city before, it really was a different world.

Cross Country running has always been my favourite part of Athletics, as I never was going to be a top performer, just a dedicated club runner, who believes the Birmingham & District Invitation Cross Country League is rather special. When I first ran in the league founder members from 1925 were still involved.

During the golden years of 1960 to 1980 we were all privileged to be among some of the best distance runners this country has ever seen. They would turn out for their clubs in competition and also they were pursuing their International careers at the same time.

In 1980 whilst running in the Woodstock 12 mile Road Race at Blenheim Palace, I was beaten by a woman for the first time, it did not feel so bad afterwards, when I was told it was Joyce Smith. Later as other women beat me I changed my tactics in mixed races. If you have ever run in a race on a hot summers day along side a woman there is usually a more pleasant aroma than some of the men I have come across.

In 1996 I answered an appeal in Athletics Weekly for course marshals at the National Cross Country Championships at Newark, since then I have been involved as an official to this day. However, this year representing the Birmingham & District Invitation Cross Country as President has been an honour & pleasure and the pinnacle of my career. I have enjoyed attending the different venues where each time the weather was kind to us, making the conditions very good for the competitors. A special thanks to all the clubs who promoted a race, the course marking was always excellent. The League Officials worked as a team doing their various tasks in a professional manner. A special thanks to the committee for all their hard work. I have to thank Graham Heeley, a long life friend, a man who seems to dedicate his life to his club & the sport. Someone else I have

always admired is Bill Adcocks, very few top athletes have put so much back into the sport as he has done. Then there is Carolyn Franks a lady who dedicates more than her fair share of time into the running of the League. Carolyn has been a great help to me during my term as President.

Finally, a thank you to my wife Thelma who has put up with me for 53years.

The future of the league is in your hands, I trust that you will obtain as much pleasure from it as I have.

John Peet.

### **League Secretaries Reports**

These had been sent out prior to the meeting. There were no matters arising and they were accepted by the meeting.

### **Secretary's Report**

This past season we were fortunate enough to have all races run on days when the weather was glorious which resulted in excellent turnouts. Leamington yet again proved a superb set up & it was good to be able to have time to go around the tented area to speak to all the clubs with club flags helping me to recognise each club. We were overwhelmed by the numbers both men & women which has made the Executive re-think how we run the first fixture. Many numbers were lost & as I walked the course I did a good litter pick despite my request on how to pin numbers on as I chatted to clubs. This did cause a huge problem with producing the results. Tyvex numbers will be used next year.

I had the pleasure of visiting Nuneaton (Division 3) & Sphinx (Division 2) & both clubs can be proud of providing excellent courses, facilities & refreshments. I actually did the hosting for the last race for Division One at Cheltenham. It is sometime since I personally organised a race & was surprised by the endless paperwork that is now needed!

For the first time we tried block booking the first aid which proved very helpful for most clubs though not ideal for clubs on the outer areas. We plan to block book again for the coming season.

Apologies were given to some folk who left messages on my answering machine and did not have a reply. A plea was given to everyone - please give your number slowly giving me time to get pen/paper especially as I cannot reply my machine!

A big thank you to all the Race Secretaries/ Officials/host clubs & Dave McNamee for all the work throughout the year that ensures the league is run successfully.

### **Promoting Clubs Risk Assessment / Permits / First Aid – Reminder.**

- a) Risk Assessment/ Permits - Please ensure this form is completed & updated on the day. These can be downloaded from the Midland website.
- b) Permit forms – Promoting clubs must send this form to Rita Brownlie, 15, Three Oaks Road, Wythall, Birmingham, B47 6HE a.s.a.p. **This form must be displayed on the day.**
- c) Host clubs will be informed with all the information sent out to host clubs and if First Aid has been booked for them.

**Women's Midland Cross Country League.** Rita Brownlie reported that it was good to see so many women involved & that if it was thought necessary she would get more officials. She agreed that all the ladies races should now start at 1.30pm due to the increase in numbers. Permit forms were available for collection from her.

### **Constitution**

Rule 10f The Executive had recommended that this rule be deleted but the meeting voted 32 to 20 to keep it in for the coming year but to review it again next year.

Rule 15 was passed & will now read " Promoting clubs must liase with the Honorary Secretary about their First Aid requirements".

### **League Website**

Dave McNamee reported that he was pleased to be able to get all results on the website by the Sunday evening. He was also pleased to report that Chris Holloway & Brian Mills have now taken control of the website & archives which also has a new look for which we will be pleased to have any comments. Terry Haines thanked Dave McNamee on behalf of the League for his work in this area.

### **Fred Evans Cup**

Past President John Andrews has asked the Secretary if it is known where this cup is & the meeting were asked if anyone could throw any light on this item.

### **Make-up of the League for the 2012-2013 Season.**

- (a) Aldridge RC & Droitwich AC have asked to be re-instated. This was approved unanimously. ( NOTE Solihull & Small Heath also needed to reapply & have done so)
- (b) Coventry Triathletes have applied to the join the league. This was accepted by the meeting. Therefore the League make-up for the coming season is as follows:

#### **Division One**

Birchfield Harriers  
BRAT  
Birmingham University  
Bournville Harriers  
Cheltenham & County Harriers  
City of Stoke AC  
Coventry Godiva Harriers  
Halesowen AC  
Kenilworth RC  
Loughborough Students  
Royal Sutton Coldfield AC  
Rugby & Northampton AC  
Staffs Moorlands  
Tipton Harriers  
Wolverhampton & Bilston AC  
Worcester AC

#### **Division Two**

Amazing Feet  
Bromsgrove & Redditch AC  
Cannock & Stafford AC  
Centurion RR  
CLC Striders  
Dudley & Stourbridge Harriers  
Gloucester AC  
Knowle & Dorrige  
Leamington C & AC  
Newcastle (Staffs)  
OWLS  
Severn AC  
Sphinx AC  
Stratford upon Avon AC  
Tamworth AC  
Telford AC  
Trentham  
Warwick University

#### **Division Three**

Aldridge AC  
Black Country Tri  
Cobra RC  
Coventry Triathletes  
Droitwich AC  
Dudley Kingswinford RC  
Kidderminster& Stourport AC  
Massey Ferguson  
Northbrook AC  
Nuneaton Harriers  
Oak Park RC  
Peel Road Runners  
Sneyd Striders  
Solihull & Small Heath AC  
Sparkhill Harriers  
Stafford Harriers  
Stourbridge RC  
West Bromwich Harriers

BIRMINGHAM && AND DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE

**Affiliation**

It was proposed by Noel Butler & Seconded by Lloyd Barton that it had been agreed to raise the cost of affiliation to £95 and is due by the 1st July. Failure to pay by that date will result in a £10 levy but for clubs to note that it will be raised next year.

**Dates Fixtures and Venues for the 2012 – 2013 Season.**

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

	<b><u>Division One</u></b>	<b><u>Division Two</u></b>	<b><u>Division Three</u></b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> November 2012</b>	*Combined fixture at Leamington C & AC		
<b>1<sup>st</sup> December 2012</b>	*Bournville Harriers	Severn AC	* Nuneaton Harriers
<b>12<sup>th</sup> January 2013</b>	Tipton ( Sandwell)	* Sphinx AC	*Droitwich( with Stourbridge AC)
<b>9<sup>th</sup> February 2013</b>	Birchfield *	*CLC Striders Cheltenham	*Northbrook

**HOST CLUBS –PLEASE provide a mobile phone number as a contact on the day.**

**Election of Officers & Officials.**

The Birmingham League Executive proposed Terry Haines as President of the League for the season of 2012 – 2013.

President Elect: Executive proposed Brian Shepherd. This was accepted unanimously.

Secretary/ Treasurer: Carolyn Franks was proposed as by Ted Schuck and seconded by George Williams with no other nominations the meeting accepted this proposal unanimously.

Hon. Assistant Secretary/ Auditor & Webmaster: Dave McNamee was proposed by Mike Buntin & seconded by Graham Allen. Dave was elected unanimously.

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

It was agreed to approve en bloc the officials below

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

**Any Other Business:**

- 1) Bill Adcocks outlined to the meeting the problems that may beset the league regarding first aid as a result of a death of an athlete in the Middlesex championships. If problems do arise the meeting requested that the Executive met to discuss the implications. Graham Allen pointed out that host clubs must ensure that the postcode that gives access to the course is imperative for including in the info provided to first aid.
- 2) The Midland Women's Cross Country League AGM is on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2012. Contact Rita Brownlie for the venue.

**Date and Venue of the 88<sup>th</sup> AGM**

It was agreed to hold next years AGM on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham at 7.30pm**

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm

**WOMENS MIDLAND LEAGUE VENUES**

It was discussed and agreed at the Executive that the Birmingham League would select suitable venues.

Hosts clubs please send a copy of all details to the Midland Office – **AT LEAST 3 WEEKS BEFORE THE ACTUAL DATE**

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

**Don't forget your affiliations are due by 1<sup>st</sup> JULY  
A £10 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.**