

BIRMINGHAM & DISTRICT INVITATION CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE
(1926 - 1992)

Minutes of the 67th. A.G.M. held at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham
on Wednesday the 9th. September 1992 at 7:30 p.m.

Apologies

These were recieved from :- John Andrews, Rita Bradley, Bob Froggatt, Chris Lockley; Graham Heeley, Peter Miller, Alex Montgomery, Pat Powell, Ted Powner, Tom Talbot, Phil Walker, Ken Walklate, Gail Wilkes & George Williams.

Present

R. Tilling (President); W. Adcocks (President Elect); K. Dare; C. Grant; B. Heatley; D. Johnson; P. Lisseman; J. Mills; J. Skidmore, A. Wright (Past Presidents); D. McNamee (Hon. Auditor); D. Bacon; B. Downes B. Ewington; J. Heminsley; A. Hemsley; M. Johnson; K. Oldfield; P. Pucci; J. Ramsden; P. Ramsden; J. West (League Officials); R. Awcock, R. Barry (Northbrook); M. J. Pearce, M. A. Pearce (Hereford C.); R. Bunn (Halesowen); K. Davies (Wolverhampton R.R.); K. Buckle (Cheltenham & Cty. H.); J. Ward (Rowheath); J. Williams (Shrewsbury); S. Loundes, R. Stanier, A. Jonar (Sneyd Striders); J. Love (Northampton); B. Hughes (Can & Staff); R. Gallier (Telford); D. Freer (Droitwich); E. Johnson (City of Stoke); G. Munford, G. Seddon, G. Hill (Sandwell V.); S. Leeming, D. Keily (Omega); P. Goodfellow, K. Cullis, M. Hackney (Newcastle); G. Ashby W. White (West Brom); H. Mortimer (Leamington); G. Aston (Worcester); G. Barnes (Amazing Feet); C. Ward, C. Weir, R. Potter (R. S. C. A. C.); T. Bramer (Bridgnorth); R. Ashwood (Stourport); E. Huddleday, A. Edwards (Sparkhill); M. Wilson, R. Willis (Nuneaton); A. Jorkowski, K. Jellyman (Rugeley); R. Wagstaff, B. Carey, A. Townsend (Sphinx); P. Churchill, M. Millington (Birchfield); M. Farquher, C. Hunt (Brom. & Red.); A. Carter (Evesham); N. Clarke, N. Jarvis (Massey Fer.); S. Harris, B. Axford, K. Smith (Rugby); R. Cytlau, B. Hughes (Gloucester); K. Wood (Tamworth); G. Taylor (Goodyear); R. Tomlinson (Oak Park); D. Rees G. Allen (Stafford H.); D. Eades (Dud & Stour); T. McIvor (Bor. of Sand.) & C. B. Franks (Hon. Secretary & Treasurer)

Attendance 86, although I believe others were in attendance but did not sign the attendance sheet. A quick count from the front showed an attendance in the mid-nineties. From the attendance sheet 41 of the 60 member Clubs were in attendance at the AGM.

Minutes of the 66th. AGM

The minutes of the above meeting had been circulated and were proposed as a true record by K. Dare & seconded by D. Bacon the proposal was passed unanimously.

Matters Arrising

The Secretary informed the meeting that he could see no matters arrising from the AGM minutes that were not on the agenda. However, from the executive minutes he raised the following points:-

i) Ian Mole Trophy the last time this seems to have been awarded was to a Gloucester lad and the secretary is still checking to find its where-a-about.

ii) The Fred Evans trophy had been wrongly cleaned and was being re-plated. Clubs holding trophies were asked to take them to the first race to show the Race Secretary and Referee in order that any fdamage to Trophies can be assessed. City of Stoke had already shown their Trophy to the Secretary and had been told to get the slight damage repaired and to send him the bill.

iii) The Secretary reminded Clubs that host a fixture that it is their responsibility to provide FIRST AID cover. This is in the Leagues Rules and is a sensible precaution to cover promoting Clubs.

Statement of Accounts

The Treasurer gave an explanation of the accounts, that showed a working profit of £165 - 68p. He explained that this was up this year due to Athletics Today providing the numbers for the first two

Divisions, if the numbers had been bought, it would have left the League with about the same working profit as last year.

The Hon. Auditor David McNamee gave a short statement, saying that he had checked the accounts and had found them to be in order.

After a proposal from David Johnson that was seconded by Phil Ramsden the accounts were accepted by the AGM. A vote of thanks to the Treasurer and Auditor were given by the meeting.

Presidents Address

The President apologised for not attending matches in all Divisions but had found the season very busy and hence there were inevitably fixture clashes with indoor fixtures he was organising on behalf of the B.A.F. However he had enjoyed his year as President.

He went on to congratulate those Clubs that had won Divisional titles and to the runners up for gaining promotion. Congratulations to Tipton who won the First Division and then went on to, once again, win the National Championship.

Promoting Clubs were thanked by the President for their work on behalf of the League. Officials were also thanked for their continued, sterling work on behalf of the Birmingham League. He also thanked the Secretary/Treasurer for his trojan work on behalf of the league Clubs.

Finally he thanked the AGM for electing him President of the League. He had very much enjoyed the honour.

Secretary's Report

1st. Division

Despite Stourport providing the first two home in the opening fixture; last seasons Champions Tipton, got off to a splendid start on the demanding Wolverhampton course. Placing four in the first seven and closing the team in the first 31 home, at the end of the day the green and whites had a 44 point advantage over the second place Club Birchfield who in fact had seven home inside 28. Newly promoted Rowheath had a most promising initiation to the top flight finishing a magnificent 3rd. place. Mark Dalloway managed on the final lap to out-pace his Club mate Tim Rudd by five seconds.

In the second fixture the Stourport duo again filled the first two positions, this time Dalloway having a more comfortable buffer of 14 seconds. However in the Team competition this race in no way mirrored the first fixture. Coventry, running strongly to place their scoring six in 34, to take the race and move up from seventh to fourth in the League. They were chased home by the students of Loughborough a performance that placed them in third position in the League at the seasons half way mark. Birchfield third and Tipton fifth on the day held on to the positions held after the first fixture.

The third fixture saw an end to the domination of the Stourport pair of Dalloway (3rd.) and Rudd (6th.) with Paul O' Callaghan running strongly to narrowly beat Mark Flint by three seconds. This turned out to be the most exciting race of the season with only five seconds covering the first three finishers, indeed only 26 seconds separated the first six home. On the team front Loughborough Students went one better than the last race, winning by the narrow margin of 2 points from Tipton. Tipton, at the three quarter stage still in command and going into the final race with a fifty five point buffer over Loughborough who had overtaken the Birchfield Club.

Tipton never seem to give anything away, despite having a reasonably comfortable lead going into the final race, they were not let up scoring their second team success of the season. Birchfield also finished strongly to overhaul Loughborough and finish in second position in the League. Birmingham University having a very poor season by their past standards joined Halesowen in being relegated to Division Two. With Mark Dalloway not running the final fixture, this left the door open for Tim Rudd who ran very consistently to take the

Individual Title finishing :- 2nd., 2nd., 6th. & 2nd.

The new innovation of a Junior Mens race being incorporated in with the Senior Race was quite successful with :-

16 nominated Juniors - First race; 16 nominated Juniors - Second race
12 nominated Juniors - Third race; 13 nominated Juniors - Final race.
T. Werrett of Birchfield ran well to be the inaugural winner of the individual junior title. The Young Athletes race was non-existent.

2nd. Division

City of Stoke who only narrowly missed promotion last season had a splendid start to their season winning the first three League fixtures giving them a comfortable lead of a 146 points, a score that they had been comfortably inside at all three previous races. However the final race did give them a little hic-up when they finished fourth but this was not to prove fatal and they wound-up easy winners of the Division Two Title. Rugby & District who were newly promoted from Division Three had a splendid season, finishing 2nd., 4th., 3rd. & 2nd. giving them the runner-up promotion spot. Going from Division 3 to Division 1 in two seasons. Cannock & Stafford finished strongly to overhaul Gloucester in the final race and grab the 3rd place.

D. Daniels of Cannock & Stafford had a superb season winning three of the races and finishing third in the other. This performance was obviously enough to easily take the Individual Title.

The Junior Race again was successful :-

14 nominated Juniors - First Race; 18 nominated Juniors - Second Race
13 nominated Juniors - Third Race; 9 nominated Juniors - Final Race
D. Coote of Rugby was the leading Junior Individual.

Out of all the Divisions this is the only one that seems to have a worthwhile number of athletes; in two out of the four races there were over twenty young athletes, whilst the other two had about a dozen.

3rd. Division

This Division most certainly produced the most exciting team race, with a mere 16 points separating the top three teams at the end of the day. Sandwell Valley won two of the races with Sparkhill & Cheltenham winning one race each. It was Sparkhill's third race win that swung the balance in their favour, a victory over Sandwell by 46 points that gave them a buffer over Cheltenham of 14 points going into the Final race with Sandwell another 10 points behind Cheltenham. Sandwell had a cracking last race to overtake Cheltenham for the second promotion spot by seven points. By finishing a close second in the final race Sparkhill hung on well to take the Third division title.

S. Groom of Sandwell Valley ran steadily throughout the season to take the Individual title from B. Mills of Sparkhill.

The Junior Race was once again well contested :-

7 nominated Juniors - First Race; 10 nominated Juniors - Second Race
8 nominated Juniors - Third Race; 12 nominated Juniors - Fourth Race
J. Homer of Dudley & Stourbridge won the Junior Individual award.

The largest number of young athletes in any of the four fixtures was fifteen.

4th. Division

Omega continued their expected charge up through the Divisions by winning all four races. Although they may have had a little scare from Sneyd in the second race who were only seven points behind them, Omega also cut it very fine in this race having only the bare six scorers finishing the race. However, the other three races provided them with comfortable wins. The second promotion spot was looking fairly open with one fixture to go with Sneyd just having the upper hand by 16 points over Shrewsbury. The final race brought a shock with Warwick University coming strongly through to take second place on the day, Shrewsbury, however were a close up third and took second position in the Division. Sneyd had what was for them, a poor race and just missed out on promotion.

C.Poulter of Omega ran strongly all season to win all four League races and easily took the individual Title.

Junior Races :-

7 nominated Juniors - First Race; 6 nominated Juniors - Second Race
7 nominated Juniors - Third race; 5 nominated Juniors - Final Race
K.Cross of Tamworth ran very well to take the Junior Title.

In the young athletes Races the fields were very small, indeed in the final race it was non-existent.

Fifth Division

Newcomers to the League Oadby & Wigston look a very formidable team, winning all four fixtures and totaling only 116 points for the whole season. The real battle in the League was for second spot and was between Stone Master Marathoners and Rugely. Stone who finished the season strongly, grabbed the second promotion spot from Rugely who finished a close up third.

G.Deacon of Oadby was in a class of his own and won all four races to take the Individual Title.

The Junior Race was not very well supported in this Division.

The Young athletes race was non-existent.

The secretary ended his report by thanking the following for their work and support over the past year :-

Promoting Clubs

Race Secretaries

All the Officials

Executive Meeting

Finally on a personal note he thanked the President Roy Tilling for his support and backing throughout the year.

Young Athletes League

The AGM thought that the proposal from the Executive that 'each Division should vote on whether they hold Young Athletes races or not in their Division' was out of order, and that the decision should be taken by all delegates and their decision should be upheld throughout all Divisions.

The vote gave a very large majority in favour of keeping the Young Athletes Races in all Divisions. Only three delegates voting against this decision.

The President closed the discussion on this topic by saying it was now up to the Clubs to get Young Athletes to compete in the League in order to avoid these races becoming a complete fiasco.

Cost of Promoting Fixtures

The Executives proposal that recommended that the annual subscription to Clubs be raised to £30 and that the donation to Promoting Clubs be increased from £15 to £40; caused much elongated discussion from the delegates. Bill Adcocks most eloquently spoke on behalf of the promoting Clubs, believing that they should be fully reimbursed for their out of pocket expences incurred in promoting a race on behalf of the League. These were in some cases as much as £150 and rising due to the Government instigated LMS, in Schools, that some Clubs hire for putting on Birmingham League races. He ended by putting an ammendment to the Executive proposal that 'Subscriptions to Clubs be raised to £50 and that the costs of League fixtures be covered by the League'.

This ammendment was lost by a large majority with only two in favour.

The Executive proposal was passed, four delegates voting against the proposal.

Host Clubs were asked by the President to send in copies of their accounts for putting on this years League fixtures, to the Secretary, in order that the problem can be looked at by the Executive next season. They should be sent in at latest by the 1st of April 1993.

Dual Fixtures

Due to several complaints from member Clubs the Executive put a proposal to the AGM that 'No dual fixtures shall be held in future and that if there are not enough Clubs to host all fixtures then that Division shall have only those fixtures that it can host i.e 3 or 2 in place of the four fixtures'. This proposal brought much consternation from delegates when they realised their Club could end up with fewer fixtures. The proposal was thrown out with only 8 delegates being in favour. Therefore dual fixtures will still be run where no other venue can be found.

The AGM, however did agree to a Droitwich A.C. proposal 'that if a Club from a Division was prepared to put on two fixtures in order that a dual fixture did not take place it would take precedence and be awarded the fixture.

Clubs who had promoted dual fixtures were thanked for the extra work that incurred from promoting two races.

Junior Team Race

The AGM agreed to continue with the Individual Junior race but thought that it was still too early to, include a Junior Team race. However, Peter Lisseman proposed and Ray Potter seconded that two individual plaques be awarded for both senior and junior individuals in each division. This proposal was passed with a large majority, only 3 against.

Promotion/Relegation

A proposal from the Executive and Rugely & District A.C. that 'Promotion and relegation between the fourth and fifth division be increased to three instead of two' was lost with only eleven delegates in favour.

Make up of the League for the 1992 - 93 Season

The Secretary informed the AGM that Royal Doulton had not reapplied for membership of the League.

Staffordshire University had applied for membership of the League. Their application was accepted with a large majority and they will be invited to take up a place in Division Five for the coming season.

1st. Division.	2nd. Division.	3rd. Division.	4th. Division
Birchfield H.	Birmingham Uni.	Bridgnorth A.C.	Amazing Feet
City of Stoke	Brom & Red.	Cheltenham & Cty.	Bor. of Sandwell
Coventry God.	Can & Staff.	Dudley & Stour.	Dudley Kingswin.
Loughborough	Centurion R.R.	Hereford Cour.	Michelin A.C.
Rowheath H.	Gloucester A.C.	Leamington A.C.	Oadby & Wigston
Rugby & Dist.	Halesowen A.C.	Newcastle A.C.	Sneyd Striders
Stourport A.C.	Massey Ferg.	Northbrook A.C.	Sphinx A.C.
Telford A.C.	Northampton P.	Nuneaton H.	Stafford H.
Tipton H.	Potteries Mar.	Omega R.C.	Stone Master M.
Wolves & Bil.	Royal Sutton C.	Shrewsbury	Tamworth A.C.
	Sandwell Valley	Solihull & S.H.	Warwick Uni.
	Sparkhill H.	West Brom. H.	Worcester A.C.
		5th. Division.	
Aldridge R.C.	Alvis R.C.	Chase Harriers	Coleshill R.C.
Droitwich A.C.	Evesham R.C.	Goodyear R.C.	Merry Hill St.
Oak Park Pacers	Peel R.R.	Rugeley & Dist.	Staffs. Uni.
Stourbridge R.C.	Wolverhampton R.R.		

Dates, Fixtures & Venues

	1st.Div.	2nd.Div.	3rd.Div.	4th.Div.
7th. Nov. 92	Rugby	Northampton	Shrewsbury	Tamworth
28th. Nov. 92	Stourport	Massey Fer.	Nuneaton	Bor of Sand.
23rd. Jan. 93	Birchfield	Gloucester	Leamington	Sphinx
13th. Feb. 93	Telford	Royal Sutton	Northbrook	Michelin
		Division Five		
7th. Nov. 92	28th. Nov. 92	23rd. Jan 93	13th. Feb. 93	
Rugeley	Droitwich	Evesham	Aldridge	

Election of Officers

Roy Tilling the outgoing President proposed that Bill Adcocks be elected as the new President, this proposal was passed unanimously by the AGM.

Bill Adcocks was an athlete of supreme quality and ability, being one of Britains greatest marathon runners. 1966 saw him gain a silver medal in the Commonwealth Games in Jamaica. Two years later he was to gain a magnificent 5th. place in the rarified atmosphere of Mexico City being Britains leading competitor in that high altitude Olympics.

Although better known for his Road Running, Bill was always to the fore in Birmingham League races, turning out regularly for his Club Coventry Godiva from the late 50's right through the 60's

Since his retirement as a top athlete, he has been a most hard working Official for his Club. Always speaking up for 'grass roots athletics'. He has been a leading light in the Birmingham League Promotions put on by Coventry Godiva Harriers over the past ten years or so.

Two years ago he became the Race Secretary for Division One, taking the Division into the computer age. He is to carry this job on with the help of some of his Coventry Team mates.

Bill's first job as President was to award the Presidents Plaque to the outgoing President Roy Tilling, in doing so he thanked Roy for his work as President and for the past work that he had done on behalf of the League.

The President then thanked the delegates for electing him. He was honoured to be President of the best Cross Country League in the Country.

A proposal from the Executive that Barry Ewington be elected to the post of Vice President was unanimously accepted by the AGM.
Hon. Secretary/Treasurer :- C.B. Franks proposer Bill Adcocks (President)
Hon. Auditor :- D. McNamee Proposed D. Johnson, Seconded K. Dare.

	1st. Div.	2nd. Div.	3rd. Div.	4th. Div.
Race Secretary :	B. Adcocks	A. Hemsley	B. Ewington	T. O'Reilly
Referee :	K. Evans	G. Heeley	M. Johnson	M. Conn
Judges :	P. Lisseman	J. Mills	D. Johnson	D. Conn
	K. Walklate	E. Schuck	T. Taylor	M. Northolt
	J. Mountford		K. Dare	
	B. Downes			
	P. Ramsden			
	J. Ramsden			
Timekeepers :	E. Powner	C. Grant	G. Williams	J. Andrews
	C. Lockley	A. Birt	P. Walker	J. Perkins
	P. Pucci	B. Hussey	D. Bacon	M. Perkins
	T. Talbot	P. Hussey	K. Oldfield	
			M. Ewington	

Division Five

Race Secretary :	J. Heminsley	Referee :	E. Hutchings
Timekeepers :	J. Skidmore	Judges :	J. Freeman
	R. Bradley		J. West

Delegates to M.C.A.A. :- D. Bacon & W. Adcocks.

Delegates to M.C.C.A. :- B. Heatley & C.B. Franks.

Delegates to B.A.F. AMG :- C.B. Franks.

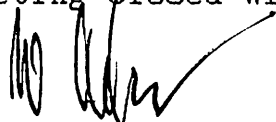
Affiliations

As stated above the affiliation fee for the 1992-93 season is £30
CLUBS PLEASE NOTE THAT THE AFFILIATION MUST BE PAID BEFORE THE FIRST LEAGUE RACE. BY NOVEMBER THE 6th. 1992.

Any Other Business

There being no further business, the date of the 68th. AGM was arranged for Wednesday the 8th. September 1993 at 7:30p.m. The meeting to be held at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the President at 9:40p.m.



Birmingham & District Invitation Cross-Country League

RULES

1. That the name of the League be the Birmingham & District Invitation Cross-Country League.
2. That the objects of the League be the promotion of combined races, allowing any numbers of runners to compete.
3. All Member Clubs **MUST** be affiliated to the MCAA for Cross Country Running.
4. That the management of the League be vested in a President, Presidents Elect, Three delegates from each Club, Hon. Secretary, Treasurer, also an Asst. Secretary & Treasurer, if the A.G.M feel that these Assistant Officers are necessary, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting each year with the Past Presidents.
5. An Executive Committee shall be elected at the A.G.M. and will consist of the following:-
 - i) The President. ii) President Elect.
 - iii) Immediate Past President iii) The Hon. Secretary/Treasurer
 - iv) The Race Referees.
 - iv) The Race Secretaries.

This Executive should be instructed to meet once a year after the close of each season to discuss relevant matters from the preceding season. Duties of this Committee shall be to make recommendations for items of discussion at the coming A.G.M. if thought necessary. Also this Executive would have the powers of an Appeals Committee and as such could be asked to meet, at the discretion of the Hon. Secretary, if any problem should arise through-out the season. This committee shall have the power to co-opt members if it deems necessary.

6. That the Headquarters be a suitable venue in the Birmingham & District area, where meetings may be held.
7. Races to be confined to FIRST CLAIM MEMBERS of member Clubs.

NO GUEST RUNNERS.

Athletes must have reached the age of Seventeen years by August 31st./September 1st. at the commencement of the coming Cross-Country Season. The rules of the E.C.C.A. & M.C.A.A. shall apply.

8. University Clubs **MUST** declare all eligible athletes at the beginning of each season to the M.C.A.A. and to the Secretary of this League. Failure to do this before the first race will make their athletes ineligible to compete.
9. That the League be divided into Five Divisions containing Clubs of equal strength. The two Clubs finishing first and second in the Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Divisions to move to the higher Division, and the two Clubs at the bottom of the tables in Divisions One, Two, Three & Four to move into a lower Division. Winners and runners-up in each Division to receive League Awards respectively also the Individual winner, on points, in each Division to receive a League Award. In addition the first two Junior men to finish in each Division of the Senior Race will be eligible for a League award.
Awards may be purchased through the League Secretary, if Clubs require extra plaques. However, only those athletes that have scored in one or more fixtures shall be eligible for an award, purchased or not.
10. That the distances of races be from 5 to 7 miles, races to be decided on Championship lines.
11. Affiliation fee to be decided at the A.G.M. (at present £30 - 00.) per Club per Annum. Numbers and results sheets to be supplied by the League.

12. Any Club which fails to pay its Affiliation Fee prior to the first race after the A.G.M. shall have their invitation to compete in the League withdrawn.
13. Each race shall be in the charge of an appointed Referee whose decision shall be final. League Judges and Timekeepers for each Division shall be appointed by the A.G.M. and will be responsible for giving and recording the Official placings and Times at each Race. The races will be started by an appointed Starter.
14. The Hon. Secretary of the Promoting Club shall arrange for Marshalls, Officials and First Aid Cover for each Race. A Disc System of scoring shall be used. Each Club will provide its own Disc Steward.
15. Any Club failing to complete a team in all four fixtures shall automatically finish at the bottom of the League Tables in the final placings, and will therefore be relegated. Failing to complete a team in the Fifth Division shall mean that the Club must apply in writing (before the next A.G.M.) to the Hon. Secretary for re-election to the League, if it wishes to retain its membership of the League. A Club not completing a scoring team in at least one of the four fixtures, no matter which Division, shall forfeit its membership of the League. Any Club in this position would have to re-apply for membership of the League; if re-admitted would take up its place in the lowest Division.
16. The dates and venues of all League Races shall be decided at the A.G.M. and those Clubs giving written application to stage a League Fixture shall be given preference when choosing venues for the coming season.
17. The Hon. Secretary of each Promoting Club MUST inform all Clubs in his Division, The President, Hon. Secretary, Race Secretary, Referee Judges, Timekeepers as to the Venue, Travel Directions and the type and distance of the Course at least FOURTEEN (14) DAYS before the Race is to be run. Host Club's will be liable to forfeit the Leagues promotion donation (£40) if they fail to comply with the above instruction.
18. Club Colours MUST be worn. The Referee will disqualify any athlete who does not comply with this rule.
19. Safety pins are not provided by the League for athletes numbers, this is the responsibility of individual Clubs to provide. The Leagues Officials would appreciate if athletes could pin their numbers on the sides, rather than top and bottom of the number.
20. The Young Athletes Race shall be for boys who are over 13 years of age, but under 17 years of age on the 1st. September prior to the first League Race of the season. The distance of the Races shall NOT exceed three (3) miles.
21. The responsibility for the up to date engraving of the Leagues Trophies, is that of the holding Club. Clubs MUST return League Trophies to their Division Secretary by the THIRD RACE of the season.