

**BIRMINGHAM & DISTRICT**

**76TH. A.G.M.**

**CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE.**

**Held at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham**

**on**

**Friday 7th. September 2001.**

## **BIRMINGHAM & DISTRICT INVITATION CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE**

**1926 - 2001**

Minutes of the 76th. A.G.M. held at Alexander Stadium, Stadium Way, Walsall Road, Birmingham on Friday 7th. September 2001 at 7.30pm.

### **Obituary.**

The secretary reported the sad loss of Graham Fenton of Newcastle A.C., who had collapsed and died at the third race of the third division. The meeting stood in silence, in respect for the memory of Graham.

### **Apologies.**

These were received from : Bill Adcocks, Dave McNamee (Past Presidents), Phil & Janet Ramsden , Ted Schuck, (Race Judges), A.Cooke (Hereford Couriers), Rex Tomlinson (Oak Park), Colin Reading (Leamington) & Colin Kirkham (Coventry)

### **Present.**

John Heminsley (President), Betty Downes, Graham Heeley, John Mills, Barry Ewington, Roy Tilling, Tom O'Reilly, Jim Skidmore (Past Presidents), Terry Taylor, Mike Doyle, Pam Davies, Ray Williams, Stewart Harris, Bob Carey, Brian Shepherd, George Williams, Alan Hemsley (League Officials), Stan Haws, Dave Jones (West Brom), Paul Hodgkinson (Staffs. Uni.), Roger Pollard (Royal Sutton Coldfield), Peter Brochleigh (Stourbridge), Roger Szygawski (Cobra), Bernie Myers (Northampton Phoenix), Steven Bazell, Rich Wakeley (Trentham), Colin Thompson, Gordon Harper (Wolves & Bilston), Bob Froggatt (Solihull & Small Heath) Eric Hubbleday (Sparkhill), Ron Payne (Kidderminster & Stourport A.C.), Glen Marriott, Robin Britton (Staffs. Moorland), Martin Smith, Alan Pratt (Droitwich), Margaret Kelcher, Graham Kelcher (Telford), Terry Akiens, Bryan Acford, Craig Webb (Rugby & District), Geoff Wheeler (Centurion), Tony French, Bob Adam, Mick O'Shea (Northbrook), Simon Sheard (Massey Ferguson), Terry Haines (Severn A.C.), Paul Bergin (Sphinx), Peter Banks (Coventry), V.Harry (Broms. & Redditch), G.Powner, D.Loundes (Chase Harriers), John Graves (Tamworth), John Danahay (City of Stoke), Graham Allen (Stafford Harriers), Martin Ludford, Richard Carney, Nick Price (Birmingham Rowheath), Richard Sannwald (Dudley Kingswinford), Ken Westley & C.B.Franks (Hon. Secretary) Sixty delegates signed themselves present for the meeting.

Besides the Clubs shown above the following Clubs were represented either by past presidents or League officials : Birchfield, Cheltenham & Cty Harriers, Nuneaton, Dudley & Stourbridge & Tipton Harriers. Thirty three clubs being represented at the meeting.

### **Minutes of the 75th. A.G.M.**

These were approved as a true record of the meeting, being passed unanimously after being proposed by Glenn Marriott and seconded by Brian Shepherd. The Executive minutes were also approved by those members of the Executive Committee that were present at the meeting, these were proposed by Alan Hemsley and seconded by Stewart Harris.

### **Matters Arising.**

There were no matters arising from both sets of minutes that were not on the agenda for discussion.

### **Statement of Accounts.**

The audited accounts were put before the meeting, the Treasurer explaining each item. The main gist of the accounts was that the League made a surplus of £1460 - 07p. over the year; and that the present balance stands at the bank and Building Society stands at £8729 - 38p.

Some concern was expressed by Bryan Afford with regard to the surplus and the increasing build up of funds. He thought the League should be spending more of it and not be building a surplus. The Treasurer answered by stating he was not against spending some of the money if the right schemes were produced. Several ideas came from the floor, such as tabards for officials, Prizes/ prize money to individuals, Transport fees to Clubs. This brought comment from the Treasurer that he was old fashioned and thought that the payment of prize money would completely change the ethos of the League and was personally against the idea and that the payment of transport fees to fifty plus Clubs would soon run the balance down to zero.

Glen Marriott proposed that if delegates had ideas for spending some of the money they should put their ideas before the next Executive meeting in April 2002. This was agreed and passed by the meeting.

Acceptance of the accounts was then asked for by the President. Bryan Afford proposed and John Mills seconded that the Statement of Accounts be accepted, this was passed unanimously.

### Presidents Address.

The John gave a brief résumé of his year as President, stating that he had hoped to run in most of the races but was unable to do so because of injury problems. However, he thoroughly enjoyed his year, which gave him scope to see divisions other than the lower ones that he had always been associated with.

He thanked the A.G.M. for bestowing the honour of President upon him, stating that he had spent about twenty years as a race secretary in either Division four or five and had thoroughly enjoyed his long association with the League.

### Secretary's Report.

#### First Division

All divisions came together for the opening league fixture of the season at Senneleys Park, Birmingham. The fixture being held for the third year in conjunction with the Birmingham Reebok Cross Challenge. Each year this fixture gains in status and this edition proved to be the best yet.

Thanks go to Sandra Jurkovic and her band of tireless workers from the City's Leisure Services, to Nick Price and his team from Birmingham Rowheath for providing a challenging course, to Graham Heeley and his team from Sparkhill Harriers for setting up the finish and of course to Tim Hutchings and Reebok for their continued sponsorship and advice. Thanks go to many who helped on the day, too many to name everyone, but without you the event would not have been so successful. Thank you all.

It was soon apparent that the first team home would come from Tipton or the students team from Loughborough. Over the demanding course the green and white of Tipton (74) seemed to last the stronger over the final lap and indeed opened a small gap of fourteen points over last years Champions (88). Birchfield Harriers (115) finished a clear third. Surprise of the day were newly promoted OWLS (213) who finished a most creditable fourth on their induction to the first division.

At the other end of the League Table, Severn (428), Cheltenham (492) and Stourport (514) occupied the relegation places after the first race.

Loughborough Students reversed the 'A' team result in the 'B' competition by soundly beating their Blackcountry rivals by over 120pts. Telford's 'B' team finished strongly to take third place in this race.

Always close to the front Rob Birchall came out as the individual winner of the League race. Indeed with only a lap to go Rob looked a likely winner of the Reebok race, unfortunately he was caught by a fast finishing Dominic Bannister and a rejuvenated Spencer Duval.

One of the most encouraging statistics of the race was to see thirty under twenty men finish the first race, they were led home by Loughborough's J.McAlister.

The second race held on the fast but testing parkland course at Cheltenham saw M.Miles of Birmingham University get away from a talented group consisting of Birchall, Vaux-Harvey, Warren and Dalkins on the final lap. Rob hung on for second place with Matt Vaux Harvey finishing just three seconds behind to take third place. Interestingly, eight different Clubs were represented in the first nine athletes home. For the second time running J.McAlister led the Under twenty athletes home in a splendid eighth place.

Tipton (78) packing their scoring six into the top seventeen home had a comfortable win over their student rivals from Loughborough (117), opening up a 53 point lead. Birchfield (197) once again finished third. Cheltenham having a better day on their own course finished ninth on the day. However, this was only good enough to move them ahead of Severn and so remained in the relegation zone at the half way juncture of the season.

A fast playing field course at Coventry saw Matt Dalkins of Stoke out-sprint Matt Vaux Harvey of Stourport to win the third race. Ollie Laws (Telford) narrowly claimed third place from Daniel Rowan (Tipton) who was the first Under 20 to finish. Once again eight differing Clubs were represented in the first nine runners home.

Tipton (78) won their third League race of the season, once again from their closest rivals Loughborough (117) building up a lead of 92 points. Surely, the League title was on its way back to the Blackcountry.

Birchfield Harriers were once again solidly third. With Bromsgrove and Redditch having a terrible day and Halesowen below them Cheltenham managed to climb out of the relegation zone.

The final race held at Alexander Stadium and promoted by Birchfield Harriers was a great shock team wise. Loughborough (41) placed their six scoring athletes in the first thirteen individuals home, this easily won the day and indeed the season, with them over coming ninety points plus on the Tipton (213) team who could finish no better than third on the day. Birchfield (106) finished runners up on the day. Despite Tipton having won three out of the four League races, they had been outgunned by the League holders in the last race. This due to an excellent last race by the students and an unusually poor turn out by the green and whites.

A superb last ditch attempt by Stourport to avoid relegation saw them finish in sixth place on the day, however, this was not quite enough as they fell ten meagre points from catching Bromsgrove and Redditch who avoided the drop to Division Two. Stourport were joined by Halesowen A.C. and Severn A.C. in being relegated to the lower division for next season.

Only four Clubs completed a 'B' team in all four races. This competition made up the double for Loughborough (1189) who beat Tipton (1903). Halesowen were third with Bromsgrove & Redditch fourth.

Despite an excellent second win from Rob Birchall, he was unable to claim the best individual award as he had not turned out in the third race. Alan Jackson of Stourport won the award for the leading individual. The Junior award was taken by D.Turvey, Halesowen who won by the narrow margin of two points from D.Webb, Birmingham University.

### Second Division.

The first race at Senneleys Park saw Staffs Moorlands take the division by the scruff of the neck, taking the first three positions and completing their scoring six in twelve. Andy Wilton won the race from Club mates Bailey and Neill. If this was not enough S. Marriott (same club) finished fifth and was the first Junior home.

Staffs Moorlands (42) were followed home by their Staffordshire rivals Trentham R.C. (144), Nuneaton (172) were third. Surprise of the day was Staffs University (474) finishing at the bottom of the table.

More emphatic still, the Moorlanders (46) placed seven in the top eight finishers, once again taking the first three places. This time Wilton had to play second best to B.Gould. R.Deakin finished in third position. Non scoring on this occasion, yet still finishing eleventh S.Marriott was once again the first Under twenty to finish.

It was not surprising on their home course to see Leamington (149) finish third on the day and to move to third overall in the table. What was a shock after their first race débâcle was to see the Staffs University (99) improve to second on the day and seventh overall. At the half way stage the likely relegation candidates were Rugby (877), Northbrook (850) and Royal Sutton Coldfield (928)

As one would expect on their home course at Leek, the relentless Staffs Moorlands squad continued their push for Division One status. This time, however, only taking the first two positions, once again being led home by Andy Wilton.

Staffs Moorland clocked their highest score of the season (60) and were chased home by two other Staffordshire clubs, Trentham (125) and Staffs University (134), moving up to fifth overall. Surely the University could not achieve the impossible after their atrocious start to the season.

N.Goodliffe was the first Junior to finish, followed by the ever consistent S.Marriott.

Messey Ferguson the venue for the final race of the season saw the first non Staffs Moorland individual win, B.Gould of Staffs University took the individual honours on this occasion. However, Staffs Moorlands (61) still managed to place their scoring six in the top seventeen finishers and were convincing winner on the day and even more convincing champions of division two. Nuneaton (137) finished second

on the day but failed in their last ditch attempt to gain promotion. Trentham (156) finished third to gain the second promotion spot, with Leamington (202) and fourth on the day, just hanging on to the final promotion place.

As suggested previously, the likely contenders for relegation at the half way point of the season failed to progress and therefore Rugby, Northbrook and Royal Sutton Coldfield face the drop to division three.

S.Marriott's consistent good form not only won him the under twenty best athlete award, but also brought him the senior individual award as well.

Five teams completed a 'B' team in every race, with surprise, surprise Staffordshire Moorlands (1394) winning this competition as well. They were followed home by Massey Ferguson (2554) and Leamington (2633)

### Division Three.

Placing six men in the first thirty five home was enough for Tamworth (102) to come home at the head of the division on the tough Senneleys Park course, they were followed home by Chase Harriers (123) and Sparkhill Harriers (172). Despite having Spencer Duval competing, Cannock & Stafford had to do without his services as he was not wearing his Club vest. Partly, as a result of this, and the lack of one other runner Cannock & Stafford failed to complete a team and destined themselves to division four competition for the next season. Bridgnorth A.C. and Centurion R.R. were the other two teams to finish in the relegation zone.

P.Bradshaw (Newcastle) got the better of C.Pearson (Cannock & Staffs) and C.Watters (Chase) in a sprint finish for the line. Just three seconds separating all three. Pearson was also the first Under 20 athlete home.

C.Pearson gained revenge in the second race at Newcastle, reversing the result of the first race, P.Bradshaw finishing second and P.Clamp (Tamworth) third. Pearson once again the first junior home. Tamworth (57) took a tight hold on the divisional title at the half way point of the season, finishing ahead of Sparkhill (168) and Worcester A.C. (177). Despite dropping to fourth on the day Chase(181) held on to second place in the League table. Cannock and Stafford (212) showed what they could do when they finished fifth on the day.

At the other end of the table Centurion had a better run to take themselves out of the relegation position. However, their place was taken by West Bromwich Harriers.

The third race saw Tamworth (87) continue their excellent team running, stretching their lead in the competition. Surely, barring accidents they had assured themselves of promotion and indeed the division three Championship. They were followed home by Chase Harriers (103) and on their home course Sparkhill Harriers (169).

Both Cannock & Stafford and Bridgnorth A.C. failed to field complete teams.

The tables were once again reversed in the individual race with P.Clamp scoring a win over P.Bradshaw and C.Pearson. Pearson, however, had done enough to secure the best Junior award for the season, having been the first Under twenty home at each of the first three fixtures.

With the advent of the Foot and Mouth outbreak the final fixture had to be moved from Malvern to Alexander Stadium, being started prior to the first division race. Tamworth (91) galloped to their fourth team win of the season to take the Third division title. They were followed home by Chase (125) who finished a well deserved second. Worcester A.C. (159) put in a spirited bid to overtake Sparkhill (187) for the final promotion spot, however, they failed narrowly by just 42 points. The Birmingham club gaining the promotion, with perhaps thoughts of the heady days when they were Division One Champions. Cannock & Stafford and Bridgnorth A.C. were joined by West Bromwich in their drop to the Fourth Division. Four teams completed teams in the 'B' team competition with Worcester A.C. taking the honours with Chase second and Sphinx third.

C.Pearson took his second victory and in doing so snatched the first Senior award, away from P.Bradshaw who finished second on the day, who in turn was followed home by P.Clamp. As stated earlier Pearson had already taken the Junior award, giving some consolation to Cannock & Stafford. It is certainly good

to see Juniors doing well in all divisions, something that has been lacking in recent years. Hopefully this is a renaissance of youth back into the sport, something that is sorely needed.

#### Fourth Division.

Through the mud of Senneleys Park there was no match for Nigel Share (Wolves & Bilston) who finished over a minute ahead of up and coming Junior S.Kellie (Gloucester), he in turn had another three quarters of a minute on third place J.Dowen (Lichfield).

With five teams scoring less than two hundred points Gloucester A.C. (139) came out on top, followed closely by Dudley & Stourbridge (156) and Wolverhampton & Bilston (161) third.

Nigel Share continued his superiority by once again taking a victory over S.Kellie, although this time by somewhat under a minute. In third place was another Junior L.Slater (Dudley & Stourbridge).

Over a longish course at Droitwich, Dudley & Stourbridge (83) fielded six in twenty two to score a comfortable win over the emerging Gloucester A.C. (185) and Wolves & Bilston (186). Three teams did not complete a team or did not start, they were Sandwell Valley, Rugeley & District and Shrewsbury.

**The Christmas Break** had certainly been beneficial to the Wolverhampton & Bilston Club (62), who took an excellent victory in this third fixture held at Stafford. Gloucester (128) were second with Dudley & Stourbridge (156) third. With each of these three teams having notched up a victory, everything was left to play for at the final fixture. Only fifty seven points separated all three teams.

Nigel Share looked well on his way to winning the individual award for the season, after his third victory. This time over his club mate D.Brown and Aldridge's B.Aitken. Kellie, in fifth place, had already done enough to take the Junior award.

With host Club Gloucester (56) taking the first three places, pushing Share down to fourth place, it was no surprise to see them take victory on the day. Second were Wolverhampton & Bilston (84), this effort was enough for the Black Country club to take the Divisional title ahead of Gloucester. Moving from first to third on the final promotion was Dudley & Stourbridge (115). It is interesting to note that only seventeen points separated these three Clubs at the end of a long and competitive season.

As predicted N.Share took the individual senior award with S.Kellie taking the Junior award.

Five teams completed a 'B' team in all four races and this competition was won by Gloucester A.C.

#### Facts & Figures.

	<u>1st.Div.</u>	<u>2nd. Div.</u>	<u>3rd. Div.</u>	<u>4th. Div.</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Race One, Nov. 4th. 2000	179	197	148	197	721
Race Two, Dec.2nd. 2000	160	182	150	190	682
Race Three, Jan. 13th. 2001	155	170	138	188	651
Race Four, Mar. 17th. 2001	145	179	130	173	627
Totals:	<b>639</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>748</b>	
Average per Race	159.8	181	141.5	187	

The low point of the season was the collapse and death of Graham Fenton (Newcastle A.C.) at the third fixture of Division three. The whole League's condolences go out to Graham's family and to his Club mates at Newcastle. May I also record the thanks of the League, to the Red Cross who were on duty that day and did everything that was possible to revive Graham, being at his side within a minute of him collapsing. Indeed the Ambulance and Paramedics were promptly on site as well.

An extremely sad occasion such as this, happens, thankfully, very rarely. However, it does emphasise the requirement of having First Aid available at all our promotions.

Finally, may I thank all the promoting Clubs for their efforts on our behalf and all the League Officials who once again have surpassed themselves with their professional attitudes and judgements, no matter what the weather or circumstances that are thrown at them. Without doubt, they are the backbone of the League, without them no League would exist.

### Risk Assessment / Permits / First Aid.

Midland Cross Country Association had been working on a new permit form for Cross Country the secretary informed the meeting. The present form had very little relevance to Cross Country and was mainly aimed at road running events. This new form was due to take over from the present form in January 2002. However, events had now overtaken the possible issue of this form as UK Athletics P.S.T. for Cross Country are currently looking at the introduction of a common permit form for the whole of the U.K. in the next few months. also in the pipe line is a three page document that if followed would produce a Risk Assessment document for promoting Clubs. So on both fronts permits/ Risk assessments it is watch this space.

The secretary thought that if there was movement soon, the Midlands would start to use their new permit form.

With regards to First Aid the secretary reported that no permit within the Midlands is issued unless the permit form states that St. John Ambulance/Red Cross/ Paramedics or similar body will be in attendance. Bearing this in mind the Executive proposed that the allowance for First Aid at League meetings be increased from £35 to £50. Glen Marriott proposed an amendment to this proposal, stating ' that if only a donation is asked for by the First Aid bodies then £50 should be given. However, if the First Aid bodies invoiced the promoting Club that up to £100 would be paid by the League towards the expenses, this would only be paid to the promoting Club on the receipt of, or photo copy of the invoice. Bob Carey seconded this amendment. The amendment was passed by the delegates present, by a very large majority. The meeting, agreed that each individual promoting Club should fill in their own permit form (Secretary to send permit forms to them). It was agreed that it was wrong for the Secretary to sign his name to an overall permit for the League, as he did not know what first aid cover would be available or indeed what many of the courses were like.

It was also agreed that if the Referees of each division found that no First Aid was available at any venue, then they should call off the fixture. This was agreed by the Clubs almost unanimously, only one delegate voting against.

### Executive Proposal.

The executive proposed that awards for best Senior athletes (First three) in each division should, require athletes to run in only three of the four fixtures and not in all four as in the past. This caused much discussion, Terry Haines being very much in favour of athletes having to do all four races, this way we reward athletes for supporting the League, he said. These sentiments gathered some sympathy within the meeting. Stewart Harris spoke for the motion, arguing strongly that we should be encouraging are better athletes to turn out more often and that this may be one way of inducing them to compete more often. Bill Froggatt then proposed an amendment to the proposal :

That the meeting should go along with the Executive proposal, yet additionally, the League should provide an award for the runner in each division, who has the best aggregate over four races. This amendment was seconded by Simon Sheard and found the approval of the meeting, only six delegates voting against the amendment. Therefore, as from the coming season the three best runners in each division, based over three races will receive a League award. Whilst the athlete (one) in each division with the best aggregate over four races will also receive a league award.

### Reebok Cross Challenge

The secretary reminded delegates that it had been agreed to hold the Reebok Cross Challenge within the first League race. Once again to be held at Senneleys Park, Birmingham, with all four divisions participating. It was generally agreed what a good fixture this had become, winning over many of the doubters, if not all. The vast majority of delegates though it was a great advert for Midland Cross Country running.

### Make-up of the League for the 2001 - 2002 Season.

- a) Only Droitwich A.C. of those Clubs not completing a full team in every race in Division Four reapplied for membership of the League. Rugeley, Shrewsbury had informed the secretary that



they no longer wished to continue their membership of the League. He had heard nothing from Black Country Triathletes and Sandwell Valley.

- b) Saracens R.C. Coventry had made application to join the League. The secretary had been asked to ascertain whether they had enough senior runners to complete a team in every fixture. *The secretary has since been in contact with Saracens and they assure him that they have enough senior men to complete a team in every fixture. Therefore the secretary has added them to Division Four.*

Make-up of the League shall be as follows :

<u>1st. Div.</u>	<u>2nd. Div.</u>	<u>3rd. Div.</u>	<u>4th. Div.</u>
Birchfield Harriers	B'ham Rowheath A.C.	Centurion R.R.	Aldridge R.C.
B'ham University	Chase Harriers	Dudley & Stourbridge	Alvis R.C.
Broms. & Redditch	Halesowen A.C.	Gloucester A.C.	Bridgnorth A.C.
Cheltenham & County	Kidderminster ***	Kenilworth R.C.	Cannock & Stafford
City of Stoke A.C.	Massey Ferguson	Newcastle A.C.	Cobra R.C.
Coventry Godiva H.	Northampton Phoenix	Northbrook A.C.	Droitwich A.C.
Leamington C & A.C.	Nuneaton Harriers	Royal Sutton Coldfield	Dudley Kingswinford
Loughborough Students	Severn A.C.	Rugby & District A.C.	Hereford Couriers
Oadby & Wigston L.	Solihull & Small Heath	Sphinx A.C.	Lichfield R.C.
Staffordshire Moorlands	Sparkhill Harriers	Stourbridge R.C.	Oak Park R.C.
Telford A.C.	Staffs. University	Warwick University	Peel R.R.
Tipton Harriers	Stourport A.C. ***	Wolves & Bilston A.C.	Saracens R.C.
Trentham R.C.	Tamworth A.C.	Worcester A.C.	Sneyd R.C.
			Stafford Harriers
			Stratford A.C.
			Telford Harriers
			West Bromwich H.

\*\*\* These two Clubs  
likely to have amalgamated  
before the season starts.

#### Dates, Fixtures and Venues for the 2001 - 2002 Season.

	<u>1st. Div.</u>	<u>2nd. Div.</u>	<u>3rd. Div.</u>	<u>4th. Div.</u>
3rd. Nov. 2001	Combined Fixture at Senneleys Park, Birmingham - Reebok Birmingham Cross.			
1st. Dec. 2001	Alexander Stadium	Gloucester (Severn)	Northbrook**	Stafford
12th. Jan. 2002	Coventry	Northampton	Princethorpe (Rugby)	Stafford
16th. March 2002	Leek	Nuneaton	Worcester	Droitwich.

\*\*\* It will be noted that in Division Three the Northbrook and Rugby fixtures have been reversed to those agreed at the AGM. This is because Northbrook have agreed to promote their fixture at Warwick University, Coventry and this was the only weekend that the University course was available. Rugby have very kindly agreed to the reversal of fixtures.

#### Election of Officers & Officials.

Alan Hemsley was proposed by the Executive for the post of President of the League. This proposal was passed unanimously by the League. Like his predecessor Alan has been a Race Secretary of the League since 1986. All this time with Division Two.

Alan's first job as President was to award the Presidents plaque to the outgoing President John Heminsley. Alan thanked John for all the hard work over a considerable number of years that he had put into the League; and for his efforts in his Presidential year. With their applause the meeting endorsed these sentiments.

Alan then went on to thank the meeting for honouring him by electing him President of the League. He was introduced to the sport by his father who was an Official with Coventry Godiva Harriers, Alan mentioned that his father had been a good middle distance runner and had been Godiva's Club captain for a number of years in the thirties. At the age of Sixteen Alan actually competed for Godiva in the Birmingham League, yet like so many youngsters, he disappeared from the athletics scene, much to his



fathers disappointment.

'Approaching forty and overweight', he joined Massey Ferguson (He's their Club Secretary). Alan states that he has had twenty wonderful years with the Club. Through the sport he had made many friends, many of them sat within the body of the AGM. Alan finished by thanking his wife Lynda for her support and help with getting the League results out quickly and efficiently.

The Executive Committee proposed Stewart Harris as President Elect, this was endorsed most heartily by the meeting.

Hon. Secretary / Treasurer

C.B.Franks proposed Alan Hemsley.

Hon. Auditor

D.McNamee proposed Jim Skidmore, seconded Tom O'Reilly.

The following League Officials were elected en-bloc :

	1st. Div.	2nd. Div.	3rd. Div.	4th. Div.
<b>Race Secretary :</b>	Bill Adcocks.	Alan Hemsley.	Bob Carey.	Tom O'Reilly.
<b>Referee :</b>	Ken Walklate.	Graham Heeley.	Stewart Harris.	Terry Alcock.
<b>Judges :</b>	Betty Downes.	Bill Aston.	Ron Freeman.	Jack Freeman.
	Janet Ramsden.	Barry Ewington.	John Heminsley.	Dave Johnson.
	Phil Ramsden.	John Mills.	Peter Lisseman.	Muriel Johnson.
	Ray Williams.	Ted Schuck.		
		Terry Taylor.		
<b>Timekeepers :</b>	Ernie Johnson.	Pam Davies.	Arthur Birt.	David Bennett.
	Phil Walker.	Mike Doyle.	Colin Stone.	Brian Shepherd.
	George Williams.	Margory Ewington.		Jim Skidmore.
		Barry Gladwin.		
		Ron Lees.		

Delegate to M.C.A.A. : C.B.Franks.

Delegate to A.A.A. of England : C.B.Franks.

#### Affiliation Fees.

The Executive Committee's proposal that the annual affiliation remain at £50 was endorsed by the delegates at the A.G.M.

#### Any Other Business.

a) The Secretary warned that Foot and Mouth was still affecting some parts of the country and he asked that promoting Clubs remain vigilant to what is happening in their area, with regard to the dreaded disease. The meeting endorsed these sentiments and a suggestion was made that Clubs who did not get a fixture for this coming season, remain on stand-by, just in case any event has to be cancelled due to a Foot and Mouth outbreak.

b) Chase Harriers complained that they were still waiting for extra awards for last season. The secretary informed them that they were on order. One problem is that Clubs can take up to six to eight weeks before they place their orders. The suppliers are not keen on having the order for extra awards placed in drips and drabs. Therefore, the Secretary always waits a couple of months after the season, unfortunately this year he had been out of the country for much of the summer and the ordering of the awards had slipped his mind.

The meeting agreed that all orders from Clubs should be placed with the secretary by the 31st. March each year and that the extra award order should be placed with the supplier soon after.

#### Date and Venue of the 77th. AGM.

This was agreed to be held on Friday 6th. September 2002 at the Alexander Stadium, Birmingham.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40pm. with a vote of thanks to the President.

## **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, President Elect, Three delegates from each Club, Hon. Secretary, Hon Treasurer, also an Asst. Secretary & Treasurer, if the AGM 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 AGM and will consist of the following
  - i) The President
  - ii) President Elect
  - iii) Immediate Past President
  - iv) The Hon. Secretary
  - v) The Hon. Treasurer
  - vi) The Race Secretaries
  - vii) The Race Referees.

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 for discussion at the next AGM, 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., uk:athletics rules for competition and MCAA shall apply.

8. University Clubs **MUST** comply with Rule 4 First Claim Status (11) in the uk:athletics book Rules For Competition 2000 page 6.
9. That the League be divided into Four Divisions containing Clubs of equal strength. The three Clubs finishing first, second and third in the second, third and fourth divisions to move to the higher Division; and the three Clubs finishing at the bottom of the tables in Divisions one, two and three to move into a lower Division.

Any Club dropping out of the League shall be considered as one of the three teams to be demoted from the division in which they were competing. The correct number of teams for that division and subsequent divisions, shall be made up to the correct strength by promoting an extra team from the division below.

In the case of a tie:

- i) In the result of a tie in team or individual competition, the team/individual who places higher in the fourth race shall be declared the winner.
- ii) Scoring the Junior Individual race will be scored as a separate race. i.e. the first Junior home shall score one point, the second home two points etc. if two Juniors are equal on points at the end of the final race, then two plaques shall be awarded.

The top three teams in each Division to receive League awards respectively; also the top three Individuals, on points, in each Division will receive League awards (scored over three races). An additional award shall be made to the athlete with the best aggregate over the four races. In addition the top three Juniors in each Division will receive a League award (Scored over three races).

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.

Providing Clubs field twelve finishers in each race there will be a 'B' competition with results printed and distributed to Clubs; however there will be no Trophies or awards for this competition.

10. That the distances of races be from 5 to 7 miles, races to be decided on Championship line. All races will start at 2:30pm, unless circumstances decree otherwise, in which case Clubs will be notified.
11. Affiliation fee to be decided at the AGM (at present £50-00.) 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 AGM 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 Marshals, Officials and First Aid Cover for each race. A Disc system of scoring shall be used. Each Club shall provide its own Disc steward.

**Please note :** Referees have been told that they must cancel any fixture where there is no First Aid cover provided. This agreed at the 2001 AGM. It is the host Clubs that is responsible for booking First Aid and checking that St.John Ambulance / Red Cross will be in attendance. Written confirmation of First Aid cover is desirable.

15. Any Club failing to complete a team in all four fixtures shall automatically finish at the bottom of their Division table in the final placings; and will therefore be relegated. Failing to complete a team in the Fourth Division shall mean that the Club must apply in writing (before the next AGM) to the Hon. Secretary for re-election to the League, if the Club 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 AGM 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 their Division, the President, League Secretary, Race Secretary, Referee, Judges and 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 Clubs will be liable to forfeit their League expenses if they fail to comply with the above instructions. To receive these expenses Clubs must furnish the Hon. Treasurer with photo copies of the invoices of costs incurred by the Club in the promotion of their League race. Reimbursement will only be for hire cost of facilities and for First Aid cover up to a maximum of £50 for donations. However, where Clubs are invoiced by the First Aid agencies, the League will pay up to £100 on receipt of a copy of the invoice. *Please note that all promotion expenses must be with the Treasurer by the 30th. April, following the close of each season. Failure to do this will result in the Club forfeiting its claim, and no payment will be made.*
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 League Officials would appreciate if athletes could pin their numbers on the sides rather than top and bottom of the

- number. All four corners would be even better.
20. 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.
  21. Unless otherwise stated in information sent out all races will start at 2:30p.m.
  22. The secretary will provide each promoting Club with a permit form at the beginning of the season. This must be filled in and returned to the secretary in order that a permit for the event can be obtained from the MCCA.

**Clubs please note that your affiliation is now due.**

**Please forward your £50 affiliation to the Hon. Treasurer :**

**Cliff Franks,  
23 Salisbury Avenue,  
Cheltenham,  
Gloucestershire,  
GL51 3BT.**

# **BIRMINGHAM & DISTRICT INVITATION CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE**

Names and addresses of Club Secretaries and League Officials.

**2001 - 2002**

## **Division One**

President:- Alan Hemsley, 272 Browns Lane, Allesley, Coventry, CV5 9EE. (02476 404890)  
Secretary :- C.B.Franks, 23 Salisbury Avenue, Cheltenham, Glos., GL51 3BT. (01242 528548)  
Race Secretary :- B.Adcocks, 90 Frilsham Way, Coventry, CV5 9LR. (02476 674665)  
Referee :- K.Walklate, 31 Werburgh Drive, Trentham, Stoke on Trent, ST4 8SP. (01782 658858)  
Judges :- Mr. & Mrs.P.Ramsden, 26 Shenstone Drive, Balsall Common, Nr.Coventry, CV7 7PH

(01676 534412)

Betty Downes, 172 Perrywood Road, Birmingham, B42 2BH (0121 337 5381)

Ray Williams, 27 Withymoor Road, Dudley, West Mids. DY2 9JZ (01384 562990)

Timekeepers :- E.Johnson, 237 Crewe Road, Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 0PZ. (01270 763589)

P.Walker, 166 Stroud Road, Gloucester, (01452 500841)

G.Williams, 117 Gretton Road, Winchcombe, Gloucestershire (01242 602529)

Birchfield :- M.Millington, 56 Balmoral Road, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, West Mids., B74 4UF.

(0121 353 8273)

B'ham University :- Cross Country Captain, Sports Union, Birmingham University, Edgbaston, Birmingham. (0121 472 3686)

Broms. & Red. :- V.Harry, 36 Campden Close, Crabbs Cross, Redditch, Worcs., B97 5NJ.

(01527 459092)

Cheltenham & County H. :- D.Randall, 3 Fairhavens Court, Pittville Circus Road, Cheltenham, GL52 2QR. (01242 243346)

City of Stoke :- J.Danahay, 19 Waterside Close, Madeley, Crewe, Cheshire, CW3 9TH (01782 751851)

Coventry G. :- P.Banks, 107 Berkeley Road South, Earlsdon, Coventry, CV5 6EV. (02476 712163)

Leamington C & A.C. :- C.Reading, 61 Welsh Road West, Southam, Nr. Leamington, Warks., CV33 0JW. (01926 817088)

Loughborough St. :- X-Country Captain, Union Building, Ashby Road, Loughborough, Leics.

(01509 217766 Ext.40)

OWLS :- W.Walker, 21 Tentercroft Ave., Syston, Leicester, LE7 2EZ. (09738 24638)

Staffs Moorlands :- G.Marriott, 41 Hillswood Avenue, Leek, Staffs. ST13 8EQ. (01538 398581)

Telford A.C. :- Mrs. M.Kelcher, 10 Lillehurst, Abbey Road, Sherrif Hales, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8RL. (01952 604046)

Tipton :- C.Holloway, 79 Underknoll, Peasedown St. John, Bath, BA2 8TY. (01761 420053)

Trentham R.C. :- D.Colclough, 3 Westcliffe Avenue, Westbury Park, Clayton, Newcastle, Staffs., ST5 4JS. (01782 618397)

## **DIVISION TWO**

President :- Alan Hemsley, 272 Browns Lane, Allesley, Coventry, CV5 9EE. (02476 404890)

Secretary :- C.B.Franks, 23 Salisbury Avenue, Cheltenham, Glos., GL51 3BT (01242 528548)

Race Secretary :- A.Hemsley, 272 Browns Lane, Allesley, Coventry, CV5 9EE. (02476 404890)

Referee :- G.Heeley, The Cedars, Sixteen Acres Lane, Bickmarsh, Nr. Bidford on Avon, Warks., B50 4PA. (01789 490112)

Judges :- B.Aston, 82 Yellow Hammer Road, Spennells, Kidderminster, DY10 4RR. (01562 862033).

B.Ewington, 16 Hemsworth Drive, Bulkington, Nuneaton, Warks., CV12 9PE. (02476 314990)

J.Mills, 49 Acheson Road, Hall Green, Birmingham 28, West Mids. (0121 733 6559)

E.Schuck, 86 Stockfield Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham, B27 6BB.

T.Taylor, 12 Staines Close, Nuneaton, Warks., CV11 6EA. (02476 327151)

Timekeepers :- M.Ewington, 16 Hemsworth Drive, Bulkington, Nuneaton, Warks., CV12 9PE. (02476 314990)

M.Doyle & Pam Davies, 415 Barrows Lane, Sheldon, Birmingham, B26 1QQ. (0121 742 4609)

B.Gladwin, 333 Quinton Road West, Quinton, Birmingham, B32 1PL. (0121 421 7357)

R.Lees, Flat 2, 35 Gildas Avenue, Kings Norton, Birmingham, B38 9HS

- B'ham Rowheath :- R.Carney, 21 Whittleford Grove, Castle Bromwich, Birmingham, B36 9SL  
(0121 747 3582)
- Chase Harriers :- D.Loundes, 26 Raymond Close, Walsall, West Mids., WS2 7AG. (01922 614359)
- Halesowen A.C. :- R.Bunn, 4 Pinewoods Avenue, Hagley, Stourbridge, West Mids., DY9 0JF.  
(01562 884207)
- Kidderminster & Stourport:- R.Payne, 76 St.Johns Avenue, Kidderminster, Worcs., DY11 6A.  
(01562 68971)
- Massey Ferg.:- Dr. S.Sheard, Malthouse Farmhouse, 8 Grange Avenue, Kenilworth, Warks., CV8 1DD.  
(01926 864452)
- Northampton :- J.Love, 22 Brixworth Road, Creaton, Northampton, NN6 8NQ. (01604 505579)
- Nuneaton Harriers :- B.Ewington, 16 Hemsworth Drive, Bulkington, Nuneaton, Warks., CV12 9PE.  
(02476 314990)
- Sewern A.C. :- T.Haines, 48 The Triangle, Longlevens, Gloucester. (01452 410885)**
- Solihull & S.Heath :- R.Froggatt, 18 Beacon Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Mids., B73 5SJ.  
(0121 355 3283)
- Sparkhill Harriers :- D.Winter, 5a, Beechwood Park Road, Solihull, West Midlands, B91 1ER.  
(0121 705 8706)
- Staffs University :- Dr. D.Benning, Div. of Sport, Health & Exercise, Leek Road, Stoke on Trent,  
ST4 2DF. (01782 294000)
- Tamworth A.C. :- J.Graves, 34 Park Lane, Bonehill, Tamworth, Staffs., B78 3HZ. (01827 287177)
- THIRD DIVISION.**
- President :- Alan Hemsley, 272 Browns Lane, Allesley, Coventry, CV5 9EE. (02476 404890)
- Secretary :- C.B.Franks, 23 Salisbury Avenue, Cheltenham, Glos., GL51 3BT. (01242 528548)
- Race Secretary :- B.Carey, 106 Oxendon Way, Ernesford Grange, Coventry, CV3 2GR. (02476 455251)
- Referee :- S.Harris, 42 Orson Leys, Hillside, Rugby CV22 5RF. (01788 811871)
- Judges :- R.Freeman, 16 Belgrave Road, Gloucester, GL1 1QZ. (01452 384169)
- J.Heminsley, 34 Talbot Street, Rugeley, Staffs., WS15 2EG. (01889 586692)
- P.Lisseman, 3 Len Davies Road, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, WV12 5UD. (01922 403985)
- Timekeepers :- A.Birt, 43 Wilton Road, Gloucester, GL1 5NJ. (01452 539794)
- C.Stone, 9 Druids Oak, Quedgley, Gloucester, GL2 6YZ. (01452 723878)
- Centurion :- G.Wheeler, 25 Chattle Hill, Lichfield Road, Colehill, Birmingham, B46 1LB.  
(01675 462972)
- Dudley & Stourbridge :- Mrs. B.A.Shepherd, 22 Ashdene Gdns., Stourbridge, West Mids., DY8 5JQ.  
(01384 278968)
- Gloucester A.C. :- Sandra Ennis, 114 Cecil Street, Gloucester, GL1 5HQ. (01452 504630)
- Kenilworth :- R.Wilson, 9 Frythe Close, Kenilworth, Warks., CV8 2SY. (02476 415315)
- Newcastle :- M.Hackney, The Tyroleans, 22 Longbrook Avenue, Blurton, Stoke on Trent, ST3 4BU.  
(01782 315753)
- Northbrook A.C. :- B.Adams, 17 Kenilworth Court, Styvechale, Coventry, CV3 6HZ. (02476 504701)
- Royal Sutton Cold.:- R.Pollard, 19 Sandon Grove, Erdington, Birmingham, B24 9DQ.
- Rugby & District :- T.Akies, 290 Lower Hillmorton Road, Rugby, Warks., CV21 4AE. (01788 844542)
- Sphinx :- M.Petch, 8 Olaf Place, Walsgrave, Coventry, CV2 2DG. (02476 613563)
- Stourbridge :- I.Clarke, 20c Olive Lane, Halesowen, West Mids., B62 8LS. (0121 559 7892)
- Warwick Uni. :- Cross Country Secretary, Students Union, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL.
- Wolverhampton & Bilston:- C.Thompson, 11 Springfield Lane, Fordhouses, Wolverhampton, WV10 6PU.  
(01902 754295)
- Worcester :- M.Hill, 26 Battenhall Rise, Worcester, WR5 2DE. (01905 358562)

#### **FOURTH DIVISION.**

- President :- Alan Hemsley, 272 Browns Lane, Allesley, Coventry, CV5 9EE. (02476 404890)
- Secretary :- C.B.Franks, 23 Salisbury Avenue, Cheltenham, Glos., GL51 3BT. (0242 528548)
- Race Secretary :- T.O'Reilly, 26 Silverbirch Road, Erdington, Birmingham, B24 0AS. (0121 682 2848)
- Referee :- T.Alcock, 27 Water Orton Road, Castle Bromwich, Birmingham, B36 9ER. (0121 747 9694)

Judges :- J.Freeman, 21 Paradise, Dudley, West Midlands, (01384 259182)  
 Dave & Muriel Johnson, 18 Summerfield Avenue, Halesowen, West Midlands

Timekeepers :- D.Bennett, 16 Weaver Close, Pensnett, Brierley Hill, West Mids. (01384 278968)  
 B.Shepherd, 22 Ashdene Gdns., Wordsley, Stourbridge, DY8 5JQ. (01384 278968)  
 J.Skidmore, Trelawney, The Green, Wordsley, Stourbridge, West Mids., DY8 5BN.  
 (01384 288219)

Aldridge :- D.Smith, 'Woodglade', 12 Wood End Way, Aldridge, Nr. Walsall, West Midlands,  
 WS9 8SF. (01922 865938)

Alvis :- D. Lawlor, 16 Brockhurst Lane, Monks Kirby, Warwickshire, CV23 0RA. (01788 832146)

Bridgnorth :- K.Banyard, 5 St. Nicholas Crescent, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV15 5BN. (01746 766653)

Cannock & Stafford :- R.Hughes, 3 Clematis Close, Great Bridgeford, Stafford, Staffs., ST18 9QF.  
 (01785 282676)

Cobra :- S.Fletcher, 33 St. Kenelm Avenue, Halesowen, West Mids., B63 1DW. (0121 550 7256)

Droitwich :- M.Smith, 20 Nuffield Drive, Droitwich Spa, WR9 0DJ. (01905 770991)

Dudley King :- R.Sannwald, 3 Newfield Drive, Kingswinford, DY6 8HY. (01384 273650)

Hereford Cour. :- A.Cooke, c/o 18 Danesfield Drive, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8HP.

Lichfield :- J.Dowen, 6 Bell Close, Lichfield, Staffs., WS13 7TW. (01543 262310)

Oak Park :- R.Tomlinson, 620 Aldridge Road, Great Barr, Birmingham, B44 8NG.  
 (0121 360 3829)

Peel :- J.Yardley, 1 Crestwood, Amington, Tamworth, B77 3AD. (01827 55487)

Saracens R.C. :- Debbie Sanders, 38 Deerdale Way, Coventry, CV3 2EQ. (02476 617566)

Sneyd :- R.Drew, 47 Ganton Road, Bloxwich, Walsall, WS3 3XQ. (01922 409518)

Stafford Harriers :- G.Allen, 18 Harcourt Way, Tillington, Stafford, ST16 1QY. (01785 259376)

Stratford :- P.Hawkins, 52 Pembroke Gdns., Wellesbourne, Warwick, CV35 9PX. (01789 842681)

Telford H. :- J.Strange, 43 Acer Close, Telford, Shropshire, TF3 5DD. (01952 401628)

West Bromwich :- S.Hawes, 8 Harrold Avenue, Rowley Regis, Warley, West Midlands. (0121 561 3519)

**REMEMBER YOUR AFFILIATION MUST BE PAID BEFORE THE FIRST RACE  
 ON NOVEMBER 3rd. 2001. Failure to do so will result in your Club being  
 eliminated from the League. Affiliation Fee is £50.**

**Please send your affiliation to :-**

**C.B.Franks  
 23 Salisbury Avenue  
 Cheltenham  
 Gloucestershire  
 GL51 3BT.**