

Oxfordshire Track and Field League, Virtual Annual
General Meeting: Sunday December 10th, 2023, 7:30pm
via Zoom

Minutes

Present: Ian Robinson (Ban), Annalise Dobson (Rad), Clyde Goodwin (Bic), Richard Hart (OCAC, Chair), Cheryl Angell (Team Kennet), Mike Miles (Witney), James Charles (Banbury) Simon Leech (White Horse Harriers) Josie Brown (Abingdon)

- 1. Apologies:** Great Milton.
- 2. The minutes** from the 2022 AGM were approved.
- 3. Matters arising.** None. Cheryl, Mike and Annalise shared dates for the Wessex League and Heart of England league.
- 4. Treasurer's report.** Ian Robinson circulated the accounts in advance of the meeting. Ian reported on a deficit of £927 for the year, compared to a deficit on the year of £462 in 2022. Affiliation fees have been fixed for two years. They are due for review. Interest is trickling in, match fees @ £2 since 2019. Participation up from 1400 to 1500 athletes. The expenses of Horspath increased, First Aid at Horspath was more expensive, there was EDM at all three matches. We have cash at the bank of £3300. Richard commented on the cost of First Aid. Radley use a First Aider who is much less expensive, but they also have track staff who are also trained. League should decide what level of First Aid is needed – and we agreed that one person should be sufficient, provided that the host club are also happy that they have other first aid trained people present as back-up. Doesn't have to be a company – as long as it is someone dedicated to first aid only.

5. Debriefing of the 2023 Season

Annalise reported briefly and thanked all teams, team managers and officials for the smooth running of all three matches, which all ran to time. 463 athletes took part at Horspath, including 153 Quadkids, and three league records broken. 350 athletes attended Banbury in August, including 130 Quadkids. September's match at Tilsley Park attracted 456 athletes including 166 Quadkids, and was held on a very hot September day. Myles Fleming produced a new QK programme and is working on a new scoring programme. Dec sheets were in on time, and results were produced smoothly. A few small things arose – non-scoring and QK number list is issued for each match, and athletes must wear those numbers and no other. Children should also be made to understand the difference between A and B string! Complaints must be raised on the day, by team managers. Our Quadkids rules say that an u9 should be 8 on the day of competition, but if you happen to be a late August baby then you will get only one competition in the season. There might be a

child who turns 8 late in August and might want to compete twice? How flexible can we be on this? We are restricted to 16 girls and 16 boys per club, which can be in any age group. We agreed to stick to the existing rule.

6. Timetable – Annalise commented that 99% of the timetable works beautifully. Sarah from Banbury had again commented on the running of the girls long jump. @ match 1 there were 29 girls, match 2 there were 29 and at match 3 there were 30. Boys were not quite as problematic. Josie said she had fielded lots of complaints about not being able to get their three jumps, and worries about dovetailing with the 200m. Cheryl commented that these clashes always arise unfortunately. Annalise said the u15 girls long jump is scheduled at 3pm and there is nothing after that on the field, so the officials can take as long as they want. Really it is only the u15 girls 200m that clashes. The best option available seems to be to ask a second field team who are free at 3.30, to join the original team and support them. Athletes and officials to be told that 200m runners should always be allowed to return from their race and get all their jumps. Sadly many of the girls will still be tired from their 200m race. James commented that often not enough time is given to warm ups. He asked if it would help to start 15 minutes earlier (2:45pm), giving the u15s longer to mark out their runups and potentially start the competition before going off to 200m. Richard suggested we might be able to offer an 'open' long jump during the day for anyone in danger of missing their age group.

7. Rule changes. No changes proposed. The new UKA Anti-Doping policy needs to be added to the League website (Richard to ask Myles Fleming). We also need to add policies on Safeguarding and coach conduct as they are updated during the season. Cheryl to supply to Richard and Myles. Need to be in a section entitled Welfare and Policies. Richard to let everyone know when it is done.

Clyde asked what policies are in place to deal with drone filming. Most committee members objected to this. Annalise referred to an incident at Tilsley Park where the operator said he had a licence. At that match a parent filmed his child racing, and Clyde thought this happened at Horspath as well. Mike confirmed that there was unhappiness about the drone use at Horspath. Annalise suggested that we make an announcement at the start of every meeting that photographers have to be registered if using a camera with a lens. Club photographers should wear identifying clothing. Cheryl will ask England Athletics for guidance. And no drone use should be allowed.

8. Dates for 2024 season. Dates were provisionally agreed, subject to Tilsley Park being available in September.

Match 1 – Sunday 28th April (Horspath)

Match 2 – Sunday 11th August (Banbury)

Match 3 – Sunday 1st September (Tilsley Park)

9. Affiliation and Match fees.

Club Affiliation fees have been held at £80 per club for two years. Mike commented that Heart of England has recently increased to £300 from £150. Athlete match fees have been fixed at £2.00 per athlete per match since 2019. Cheryl felt it was time that fees increased. We also want to continue with the vouchers from Fit2Run. Ian agreed. Mike suggested that we increase affiliation to £100 per club, and Cheryl suggested £3 per athlete match fee. That was then proposed and agreed, and again fixed for two years, increasing revenue by about £1500 per year. Great Milton AC continue to pay a reduced affiliation fee which Ian will calculate.

10. Presentation of trophies. Annalise had handed these out at Sportshall on 15 October. 3 still to be handed to Team Kennet.

11. We will continue with vouchers from Fit2Run next season

12. Nomination of Officers for the 2024 Season. The same officers agreed to continue for the 2024 season. Richard expressed his desire to step down from the Chair after 2024, but happy to continue for one more year.

Chairman – Richard Hart

Secretary – left vacant for the time being

Treasurer – Ian Robinson

Match Co-Ordinator – Annalise Dobson

Committee Members – Clyde Goodwin, Tony Lock, Mike Miles, Simon Leech, Josie Brown, Colin Mitchell, Nick Bull, Cheryl Angell, Beth Wilson, James Charles.

13. Any other business. We need to confirm the name of the league everywhere as the **Oxfordshire Track and Field League** - not the Oxfordshire Junior League, which has been routinely used.

Annalise also mentioned that we had **10 records broken** this season, but have not done anything to recognise this in recent years. Do we want to do something this year? Myles Fleming has brought records up to date. Mike said clubs generally provide certificates for club records, and everyone agreed that it would be nice to have a league record certificate. Myles to liaise with Annalise about recognising these records.

Does anyone not need letters next season? Most clubs felt they had enough.

Josie asked about footwear rules. A parent from Abingdon asked whether another athlete was wearing footwear which was of the correct specification. James explained that at higher level matches checks are made, but that in general these checks are not made at lower level matches. And usually there would only be a check on shoe sole depth if someone made a complaint. Cheryl said clubs should be reiterating that athletes should not be wearing head phones or sliders or crocs. James asked if the starter could be given a **lane draw for** each match. Could Myles add one to the competition spreadsheet? Random is good, or can be done on a regularly moving pattern. Richard to ask Myles.

Annalise will email Beth Wilson at Great Milton to ask if they intend continuing.

14. Date of 2024 AGM. Sunday, 24th November, 2024, at 7.00pm
(probably via zoom once again)

The meeting finished at 8.45pm.