



Warwickshire County Athletics Association

**MINUTES OF THE 20th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AT COVENTRY GODIVA HARRIERS' HEADQUARTERS
ON WEDNESDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2009 at 7:30p.m.**

Present at the meeting

Bill Adcocks	Coventry Godiva Harriers
Norma Blaine	WCAA LVP and Birchfield Harriers
Bob Carey	Sphinx AC
Richard Carney	WCAA President and Birmingham Rowheath AC
Alan Edwards	WCAA LVP and Leamington C and AC
Barry Ewington	Nuneaton Harriers
Margery Ewington	WCAA LVP and Nuneaton Harriers
Tony French	Northbrook AC
Ian Gower	Sphinx AC
Stewart Harris	WCAA LVP
Gordon Horne	Coventry Godiva Harriers
Ray Morgan	WCAA Chairman and Leamington C and AC
John Nash	WCAA Team Manager
Doug Paul	Birchfield Harriers
Janet Paul	WCAA LVP and Birchfield Harriers
Mick Petch	Sphinx AC
Keith Richards	WCAA Auditor and Coventry Godiva Harriers
Ian Riley	WCAA LVP and Royal Sutton Coldfield AC
Ann Smith	Coventry Godiva Harriers
Pat Taylor	Nuneaton Harriers
Dave Timothy	Saracens RC

Agenda Item 1

Apologies for absence.

Stewart Barnes	WCAA Treasurer and Coventry Godiva Harriers
Maureen Blore	WCAA LVP and Solihull and Smallheath AC
Mike Doyle	WCAA LVP and Sparkhill Harriers
Rebecca Freeman	WCAA Team Managers Coordinator and Solihull and Small Heath Harriers
Graham Heeley	WCAA LVP and Sparkhill Harriers
Frank Kirby	WCAA LVP
Nick Price	WCAA Vice President and Birmingham Rowheath AC
Margaret Riley	Royal Sutton Coldfield AC

Since the last AGM, Roy England of Coventry Godiva Harriers, Marianne Lingen of Birchfield Harriers and Joan Marshall of Royal Sutton Coldfield have passed away. All three have been long standing loyal servants of their Clubs, the County Association and the sport. Marianne Lingen was a Life Vice President of the County Association. The meeting stood in silence in respect of the three deceased and to reflect on our memories of them.

The following minutes should be read in conjunction with the support notes which were distributed at the AGM and which are attached below.

Agenda Item 2
Acceptance of the minutes of the General Meeting held on Wednesday 26th November 2009 and matters arising.

The minutes were accepted as a true record.
There were two matters arising (see support notes).

Agenda Item 3
The Annual Report by WCAA Chairman, Ray Morgan

Ray Morgan summarised the annual report and highlighted in particular

- The potential consequences of the County Association becoming only a “Competition Provider”
- The situation regarding the two Forums in our area
 - The Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire (CSW) Forum has applied to England Athletics to become the CSW Network
 - The Birmingham area Forum has stalled.
- Concerns regarding Schools Athletics

The meeting unanimously accepted the report.

Agenda Item 4
The Financial Report by WCAA Treasurer, Stewart Barnes

Ray Morgan summarised the Treasurers report, the Income and Expenditure Report and the Balance Sheet as at the end of the financial year.

The County Association no longer receives any unattached levies and consequently, for the first time ever, showed a loss on the previous year. The Officers have adopted a strategy of gradually increasing entry fees for County Championships until the events become self sufficient. That is already the case for Cross Country but the fees for the Track and Field Championships have to be increased further.

The increases have to be gradual for practical reasons and so there may be further losses in years to come but the Association has healthy cash assets.

Tony French asked why the County needs such a large cash balance. Ray Morgan replied that the Officers have considered actions to reduce it but decided against that because the organisational changes of recent years and the current national financial situation are both destabilising and assets give us options to cater for unexpected circumstances.

Ray Morgan clarified that £2,800 of the balance is money inherited from the partnership account which should be used, if possible, for the benefit of the athletic age group that contributed it. The meeting suggested that it be used to offset the travel expenses of those athletes to the Inter County Championships

The meeting unanimously accepted all three documents.

Copies of the financial statements are available from the Treasurer.

Agenda Item 5
Affiliation Fees for 2008-9.

The meeting unanimously accepted the Treasurer's recommendation not to increase the Clubs' affiliation fee to the County Association.

Agenda Item 6
Election of Officers and Officials for 2008-9

The notes that were distributed at the meeting (see attached below) have been updated to show who was elected.

Ann Smith stands down and has been replaced by Bob Carey as Trophies and Medals secretary. Pay Taylor was elected as Honorary Secretary. Ray Morgan thanked Ann for her efforts and welcomed and thanked Bob Carey and Pat Taylor.

The meeting unanimously elected the Officers and Officials en-bloc.

Ray Morgan has added a category to the list of Officers and Officials of Past Life Vice Presidents for those LVP's who are deceased. He will check the past records of the Association and bring the list up to date as soon as possible but for the time being it only includes Marianne Lingen. Note this has been done since the meeting and the list in the attached notes has been updated.

AGM Agenda Item 7
Constitutional Changes

Ray Morgan presented a draft revised Constitution which takes into account the new role of the County Association as a "Competition Provider".

After a discussion, the meeting agreed to adopt the draft with immediate effect subject to two changes which are

- A renumbering of the sections after the removal of the redundant section 5
- An amendment to section 4 to ensure that the Officers do not accept or reject a new application for membership of the Association until after they have consulted with the existing membership.

WCAA 2008 AGM Agenda Item 8

Any other business

Ray Morgan presented a new selection policy which the Officers have adopted in response to a number of “no shows” by athletes selected to represent the County at Inter County events.

Ray Morgan told the meeting that the Officers have decided to use the T. A. Ellis trophy to recognise a performance of outstanding merit anywhere in the world by a County athlete. It has been awarded for the first time to Marlon Devonish of Coventry Godiva Harriers for his performance at the 2009 World Championships

Stewart Harris informed the meeting that, despite the issues adversely affecting Schools Athletics in our area, there will be a West Midlands Schools Cross County Championships at Coventry on 23rd January 2010 – possibly organised by Sphinx AC. There will be a Warwickshire Schools Cross Country Championship at Princethorpe College on 16th January 2010.

Ray Morgan thanked the Officers and Officials of the Association for the efforts over the last year and in anticipation for their efforts over the coming year. He also thanks Stewart Harris and Tom McCook for their advice to Richard Carney on the award of the T. A. Ellis trophy.

Stewart Harris proposed a vote of thanks, which the meeting unanimously accepted,

- to Ray Morgan for his Chairman’s report on the past year and the AGM documentation
- to Stewart Barnes for the Treasurers report and the financial documents
- to Keith Richards and Cavin Woodward for auditing the Association’s accounts

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m. with thanks to Bill Adcocks, Gordon Horne and Coventry Godiva Harriers for hosting the meeting.

Note that the 2010 AGM will be on Wednesday 24th November.

If you are not already receiving an electronic copy
of “The Bear”
or of news from the County Association
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And/Or visit

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The following pages are the support notes which were distributed at the AGM

THE 20th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AT COVENTRY GODIVA HARRIERS' HEADQUARTERS
ON WEDNESDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2009 at 7:30p.m.

Agenda (support notes for each item are attached below)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Acceptance of the minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 26th November 2008 and matters arising.
3. The Annual Report by WCAA Chairman, Ray Morgan
4. The Financial Report by WCAA Treasurer, Stewart Barnes
5. Affiliation Fees for 2009-10.
The Treasurer and Officers propose no increase in the County fee for the coming financial year - see Treasurer's report in Section 4
6. Election of Officers and Officials.
See support notes below.
7. Any Constitutional Changes.
A new Constitution is proposed
No other proposals received before the closing date.
8. Any other business - at the discretion of the Chairman.
 - a. New selection policy
 - b. The Ellis Trophy
 - c. Items from the floor

Ray Morgan
WCAA acting Hon Secretary

WCAA 2009 AGM Agenda Item 1

Apologies for absence

WCAA 2009 AGM Agenda Item 2

**Acceptance of the minutes of the AGM held
on Wednesday 16th November 2008 and matters arising.**

Tony French (Northbrook AC) asked if the County will consider reinstating the annual road relays which were usually held in March. Ray Morgan replied that there has been very little feedback in favour of the return of the event. Even so the two "Bears" which followed the AGM included an appeal for views on this subject but there were no replies.

A suggestion made by Bill Adcocks (Coventry Godiva Harriers) regarding age groups on the entry form of the Cross Country Championships has been adopted since the AGM. The entry forms for the next Championships to be held at Newbold Comyn, Leamington Spa on January 9th 2010 are available on the County web site. Go to www.WarwickshireCountyAA.co.uk

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WCAA 2009 AGM Agenda Item 3

The Annual Report by WCAA Chairman, Ray Morgan

1. General.

I feel a certain déjà vu when I say that the recent reorganisation of England Athletics has now settled down. We were at that point two years ago then another reorganisation was announced. We now have three Tri-Regions to cover the Midlands and the South West, the North and the South in place of the nine Regions but the nine Regional Councils remain. Stewart Barnes was elected to the Chair of the West Midlands Council.

Generally the changes have worked however I have two concerns. Firstly, the County Association no longer receives any revenue from unattached levies. The accounts for 2008/9 show a deficit for the first time ever and we must increase the entry fees to County Championships to cover the cost of staging them. Secondly, EA would like to see the sport develop through Networks of Clubs which may be backed by EA funding. The CSW Forum has evolved into being a Network (at the second attempt) but the Birmingham Forum has stalled and has no plans to create a network. There will be no funding at all from the governing bodies for Clubs which are not in a Network but there is a limit on the number of networks and even then there is a limit on the funding available.

WCAA has become a "Competition Provider" and the management of the County has evolved to reflect the Associations reduced responsibilities. Some roles have gone (e.g. permits, facilities) and the four management groups no longer exist. Now that the situation has stabilised it is time to update the Constitution to reflect what is actually happening.

Attendance at General Meetings became so poor that the Officers decided not to hold them unless specifically requested to do and so there were none at all in 2008/9. I am fearful that Members are less inclined to participate in an organisation which is a Competition Provider because the relationship changes from one of a "Club of Clubs" to one in which the customer pays for a service. How then will we get volunteers to fill the honorary roles that we need to make WCAA function?

Schools Athletics is the subject that concerned me most over the last year. Sphinx AC now runs the Coventry Schools XC League because there are not enough teaching staff volunteers to run it. The shortage of volunteer teaching staff in Warwickshire almost caused the County Schools Championships to be cancelled. Disastrously, Warwickshire Schools did not send a team to the Schools Inter County and the County team performed poorly at the National Schools Championships. These points are symptomatic of a decline in support of sports in our schools.

The County newsletter, the "Bear" and the County web site www.WarwickshireCountyAA.co.uk continue to provide interesting and topical information to our Members. I regularly get positive feedback on both. Many thanks and well done to Keith Richards and Richard Carney

2. County highlights.

Apologies to anybody I have overlooked but there were a number of highlights over the past year.
In no particular order:-

- Danny MILLS of Nuneaton won the Midland Counties U17 Cross Country at Mansfield.
- Mark O'KANE of Coventry Godiva and Holly SMITH of Birchfield won the 2008 'Most Improved Walker' award for the Midlands. They were joint winners of the International Award for their performances in the Home Internationals at Leamington.
- Michael McKEOWN of Coventry Godiva won the Junior boys at the English Schools Cross Country Championships. Paul THOMPSON of Birmingham Rowheath was 2nd in the Senior Boys and Danny MILLS of Nuneaton was 3rd in the Inter boys.
- Mark O'KANE of Coventry Godiva won the UKA Junior 10k Road Walk title at Shrewsbury and as a result was chosen to represent Great Britain and Northern Ireland in the European Cup of Race Walking at Metz in France where he finished 24th.
- English Schools Track and Field Championships; Michael McKEOWN of Coventry Godiva won the Junior Boys 1500m, Zoey PHILLIPS of Birchfield was 2nd in the Senior Girls High Jump, Naomi RICHARDSON of Coventry Godiva was 2nd in the Junior Girls 800m, Jack GRAY of Birmingham Rowheath was 3rd in the Inter Boys 3,000m
- Rowena COLE of Coventry Godiva was 3rd in the World Youth Games 800m in 2.03.83, an improvement of 2.6 seconds.
- Congratulations to the young athletes of Birchfield Harriers and Rugby and Northampton, who qualified for the National Young Athletes League Final (R&N for the first time). Rugby and Northampton finished 5th and Birchfield 7th.
- Mark O'KANE of Coventry Godiva was 2nd in the Senior Boys 5,000m Race Walk held in the English Schools Walks Championships at Bedford.
- The Rugby & Northampton U17 Women's team won the bronze medal at the recent National XC Relays held in Mansfield. Charlotte INWOOD, Gabriella MORIARTY & Emily WAUGH made up the team which won the club's first ever medals at this event.

Off the track but just as important were the awards given by the West Midlands

- Norma PUGH (Coventry Godiva) was given the West Midlands Performance Coach of the year award.
- Gordon ANISLEY (Birmingham Rowheath) was given an award to recognise his service to Athletics over a number of years
- Lincoln ASQUITH (Birchfield Harriers) and Barry GLADWIN were given an award to recognise their Services to Athletes with a Disability
- Michael McKEOWN (Coventry Godiva) was the U17 athlete of the year (this award covers all age groups up to U17)

And finally

- Coventry Godiva's Marlon DEVONISH added to his already impressive medal haul after an excellent bend and changeover in the 4 by 100m at the World Championships. The GB and NI team took the bronze medal. Marlon becomes the first winner of the Ellis trophy. See sectn 8b.

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3. WCAA Championships

Stewart Barnes recently chaired a meeting of West Midlands Counties to explore further joint Championships. Apart from Warwickshire none of the Counties favour joint Championships of any kind (except possibly for individual events such as steeplechase and pole vault).

The WCAA Officers still very much support joint Championships because they offer the athletes a meeting with a better atmosphere and better competition. It is interesting to note that over half of the County track and field records have been set since we combined with Leicestershire in 2004.

Cross Country

The Championships were staged on January 10th at Cofton Park, Birmingham hosted by Birmingham Rowheath. Our thanks go to the club members and other officials who braved a very cold day to put on an excellent Championship. Special thanks are due to Richard Carney (the County President) and Nick Price (the County President-elect) who are both Rowheath members.

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Phil Hinch won his first County Senior Men's title, with Sue Harrison adding yet another County title (Masters) to her collection finishing overall winner in the combined Seniors/Masters race. Dean Parker won the Masters Men's race giving Bournville the Club's first ever individual title. The Bournville Masters team won too giving the Club their first team title. Royal Sutton Coldfield retained the U13 girls and U15 girls trophies both of which they have held uninterrupted since 2005. The full results and photos are on the County website www.WarwickshireCountyAA.co.uk

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The 2010 Championships will be held on January 9th at Newbold Comyn, Leamington Spa hosted by Leamington C and AC. The entry forms and prospectus are already on the County web site. The Championships return to Cofton Park in 2011.

Track and Field

The first track events were the U17 3000m held at Birmingham Rowheath and so the first 2009 County Champions were Jack Gray of Birmingham Rowheath and Emily Waugh of Rugby and Northampton.

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The rest of the Championships were held at Saffron Lane over the weekend of 9th/10th May. A number of records were set but Amit Patel and Amelia Benjamin broke two each. The full results are shown on the event web site www.3CountyAthletics.co.uk

The Jack Hartley Trophy for the best Championship performance was awarded to Rowena Cole of Coventry Godiva for her run in the Senior Women's 800m in 2:06.7. She is a first-year Junior but beat a County Senior record which has stood for 15 years. The Warwick Vase, awarded to the team scoring most points, went down to the wire with Rugby and Northampton edging out Godiva by a mere 13 points (568 to 555) with Birchfield third.

The 2010 Championships will be held at Alexander Stadium. It will be a joint event with Leicestershire and Rutland but not Northamptonshire.

Road

Many thanks to the Clubs and promoters of the races which hosted the County Road Championships in 2009. They were:- The Birmingham Rowheath 5k, The Coventry Godiva 5m, the Two Castles 10k (Leamington C and AC and Rotary of Kenilworth), The Nuneaton Harriers 10m, the Stratford Half Marathon (Rotary of Stratford).

The men's races all went to different winners – Scott Hazell of Coventry Godiva (5k), Paul Andrews of Northbrook (5m), Richard Harper of Leamington (10k), Harvey Speed of Coventry Godiva (10m) and Dean Parker of Bournville (1/2M). There were also five different Champions in the Women's races – Mel James of Bournville (5k), Tina Brown of Coventry Godiva (5m), Monica Williamson of Leamington (10k), Sue Harrison of Leamington (10m) and Sophie Williams of Birchfield (1/2M). In the other age groups John Turner of Stratford and Marilyn Maidment of Centurion both won four of the five races

4. Inter County - WCAA Teams (and athletes).

Cross Country

There were some excellent performances from County athletes at the Inter County Championships at Nottingham. Pride of place goes to Paul Thompson who won the U17 event. Good support from team mates Danny Mills, Jack Mee and Ed Stiles gave them 3rd place in the team event. The U17 Women packed well for 5th place with Rowena Cole in 12th. The U17 Boys also finished 5th. Other top 20 finishers were: Phil Hinch 16th SM, Laura Kenney 8th SW, Luke Scarr 10th U15B, Matthew Rose 16th U15B and Michael McKeown 17th U15B.

Track and Field

At the Senior Inter Counties match at Bedford both the men's and women's teams finished 9th in their group with the highlight being a win in the 3k walk for Coventry Godiva's Brendan Boyce.

It is disappointing that after staging County Track and Field and Cross-Country Championships with lots of competitors that only 4 men were willing to represent the County at Bedford. It is also disappointing that so many who were selected, some of whom specifically requested a team place, did not show up nor had the courtesy to offer the team manager an explanation. This is the latest of a series of frustrating team issues which has prompted a new selection policy which will be discussed further under AOB. See section 8a.

Finishing on a high note, the Warwickshire under 13 and under 15 athletes gained a terrific victory in the annual Inter County track and field match at Nuneaton on September 12th. Warwickshire finished top in all four sections. Congratulations to Kerry Murch of Rugby and Northampton and Kai Williams of Coventry Godiva who won the best performance awards in their age group. Well done and many thanks to the team managers, John Nash and Becky Freeman.

Road

The CAU did not organise any road races in 2009. They might have supported an Inter County 10k if Warwickshire had offered to host it. Given that only 6 teams entered last year it is questionable if the demand justifies the cost and effort.

5. WCAA Development

Note that the County Association is no longer responsible for the general development of the sport but County Officers and County Members are very much implicated. EA prefers that Clubs (and their partners) group together to form a Network which can then apply to EA for funding. For example, a Network in Sussex has been given £37000pa which is used to employ a Network Administrator and a Network Coordinator who, with the Clubs and their partners, develop the sport through a number of initiatives.

The reorganisation of the governing bodies caused the redundancy of our ADO. Dave Boughey served as Secretary (and driving force) of the CSW and the Birmingham Forums. Since his departure we have lost a lot of impetus, for example, the CAPS squad has been dissolved and the Birmingham Forum has stalled. I would like to thank Dave for his support and hard work and wish him well for the future in his new job and on the track.

We are now supported by Leonie Lightfoot of E.A. (Midlands and South West) who is the CCSO (Club and Coach Support Officer) for Birmingham, the Black Country and Warwickshire. Leonie has been very supportive of the CSW Forum and its bid to become a Network.

The CSW Forum (Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire) continues to flourish. The U11 League established by the Forum has completed its second year during which it introduced the hammer throw to the programme of events. The U11 League is now well established.

The CSW Forum applied to become a Network with EA funding but the application was refused. There was a lot of confusion over Networks at that time because it was a new project and EA accept that the first two phases were rushed. The processes have been revised and the Forum has made a new bid to become a Network which is likely to succeed. Anticipating the acceptance of the CSW application a bid for funding has already been made to support the Endurance Academy based in the Coventry area and managed by Dave Dix of Coventry Godiva. All Clubs are encouraged to make full use of the academy which is intended to serve the whole County.

As well as the Endurance Academy, the CSW Network has two other principal aims:-

- To use the Endurance Academy model to encourage other Academies for other event groups
- To set up a hierarchy of Coaches such that every coach has a mentor and, through that mentor, access to the best expertise in the County.

Sadly the Birmingham Forum has stalled and has not met for some time - nor are there any meetings planned for the near future.

6. WCAA Officials

The next Officials social evening will be on 11th December at Brandon Social Club. All officials and volunteers who have helped at a County promotion over the last year are invited but it is (free) ticket only and you must tell Margery Ewington if you intend to go.

The track season is over now but don't forget to send your Form 10 to Margery Ewington as soon as you can.

7. Footnotes

Many thanks to Colin Kirkham who has promoted many road races for Godiva for the past 12 years. These have given pleasure (and pain) to hundreds of athletes. Colin has decided to take a break from promoting.

Thanks again to Colin and to the many others who have helped me get the lists of “previous winners” on the County web site up to date.

Congratulations to Becky Freeman who has been appointed team manager for the West Mids team in the Virgin Money Mini Marathon to be held on London Marathon day.

Sue Harrison was 9th overall in 223 finishers at Draycote Water in the Rugby 10m in 2008. As first Warwickshire woman she took a County title she had not previously won. Sue has held senior County titles on the track at 800m/1500m/3000m/5000m. Additionally she has won the cross country title on three occasions, has road golds for 5k/5m/10k/10m/half marathon and while representing Warwickshire has won Inter Counties medals for track and cross country. Quite a record.

And finally I must record my personal thanks to my fellow Officers and Officials and Team Managers for all that they have done for the County and the sport over the last year – and many years before that too!

Ray Morgan

Honorary Chairman, November 2009

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WCAA 2009 AGM Agenda Item 4

The Financial Report by WCAA Treasurer, Stewart Barnes

For the first time since taking office in 2003 I have a sad duty to report a loss to the Annual General Meeting. (£1587.54p)

This highlights the enormous loss Counties are experiencing since Unattached Levies were removed from their Income. For Warwickshire this averaged at over £2000 each year between 2003 and 2007. This loss to Counties appears not to have been recognised by higher authorities.

Generally the County's finances continue to be in a healthy condition, although naturally this will need to be watched carefully over the next year or so.

The Cross Country Championships again produced a surplus of slightly less than £2000. Good housekeeping from the local organisers and Promotions Secretary is greatly appreciated. The cost of promoting this event is usually less than the Track and Field event where Stadia hire is high. A decision that spectator facilities are paramount has been made in the light of the very poor weather conditions of 2007. Therefore the costs of these are reflected.

The Three Counties Championships came to an end this last summer with the event showing a loss for Warwickshire of almost £300. The major expense to the County being the medals that we present. The quality however is reflected in the cost, but is something I believe that should not be diminished by reducing the standard of medals and engraving.

As the Counties no longer have governance of Development grants to clubs and associations have stopped. Likewise the Grant that was received from Midland Counties A A for Under 20 athletes (used in the past for the Under 13 and Under 15 Inter County event) has also ceased.

With the Recession and Credit Crunch, so the interest received on the Community Deposit Account has been drastically reduced (£774.03 - 2008 to £188.43 this year!)

There has been a significant reduction in travelling expenses claimed for Inter-County events. The loss of Road Race Championships, at C A U level has contributed greatly to this.

Although this year has seen a considerable loss I do not feel that an increase in Affiliation fees would greatly assist in reducing it so I therefore recommend that they stay the same for 2010 – 2011.

I commend the balance to the meeting with thanks to all who have assisted me throughout the year.

Stewart Barnes
Hon. Treasurer

Copies of the Association's Income and Expenditure report and the Association's balance Sheet are available on request from the Treasurer

WCAA 2009 AGM Agenda Item 6

Election of Officers and Officials for 2009-10

The current Officers and Officials and nominations received to date are listed below.
Nominations can be made during the AGM.

Officers of the County Association.

President	Richard CARNEY
President Elect	Nick PRICE
Hon Secretary	Pat TAYLOR has been nominated
Hon Treasurer	Stewart BARNES
Hon Chairman	Ray MORGAN

Officials of the County Association.

Hon Officials Secretary	Margery EWINGTON
Hon Promotions Secretary	Richard CARNEY
Team Manager Coordinator	Rebecca FREEMAN
"The Bear" Newsletter Editor	Keith RICHARDS
Hon Trophies and Medals Secretary	Ann SMITH is standing down Bob CAREY has been nominated.
Trustees	Ian RILEY and Graham HEELEY
Auditors	Cavin WOODWARD, Keith RICHARDS

Representatives to the CAU

Graham Heeley and Mary Hodges (Chairman elect of the CAU)

Life Vice Presidents.

The following have previously been elected Life Vice Presidents

Maureen BLORE,	Alan EDWARDS,	Norma BLAINE,	Ken BULL,
Winnie DALTON,	Mike DOYLE,	Stewart HARRIS,	Janet PAUL
Graham HEELEY,	Mary HODGES,	Frank KIRBY,	Dyfrig REES
Edna WALKER,	Henry MORTIMER,	John WALKER,	Ian RILEY
Les BARNETT,	Margery EWINGTON	(18 in Total)	

Past Life Vice Presidents Margaret BABBINGTON, Ted CLIFFORD, Ken DARE,
Marianne LINGEN, Peter MILTON, Norman WALKER
(6 in total)

Vice Presidents. Keith RICHARDS, Stewart BARNES (2 in Total)

Team Managers (for information only – they are appointed by the Team Managers Coordinator)

Cross Country	Simon Kinson, Nick Price, Simon Gale, Eddie Cockayne, Robert Pinton, Becky Freeman, Bob Carey and Brian Higson.
Road	Tom and Pauline Dable
On the Track	Becky Freeman and John Nash.
Race Walking	Keith Richards and Ann Smith
Fell Running	Eddie Cockayne

WCAA 2009 AGM Agenda Item 7

Constitutional Changes

The Officers of the Association propose a new Constitution which takes into account the way in which WCAA is now managed. The governing bodies have dramatically re-organised the sport in recent years and all of the County Associations are now simply "competition providers". The Associations are no longer responsible for development, facilities, permits, technical officials and a code of conduct although some of those roles are still performed for the governing bodies by County personnel.

A draft proposal of a new constitution has been posted on the web site and subsequently amended to include feedback from Members. A summary of the changes and the reasoning behind them has also been posted on the web site.

A copy of the proposed Constitution is in a separate document.

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WCAA 2009 AGM Agenda Item 8a

New Selection Policy

Cross country

Automatic selection will be given to the first three athletes to finish at the County Championships. The other places in the team will be allocated to athletes to be chosen at the team manager's discretion but athletes who compete at the County Championships will be favoured

Any athlete who is unable to compete at the County Championships, but who wishes to be considered for selection **must** inform the Team Manager Coordinator or the appropriate Team Manager no later than the day of the County Championships, stating their current form and their reason for not competing at the County Championship.

Senior T&F

Automatic selection will be given to the County Champion provided they have achieved the required CAU qualifying standard in the last 12 months. Athletes who have not achieved the standard or additional athletes for an event will be considered for selection at the team manager's discretion.

Any athlete who wishes to be considered for selection **must** inform the team manager coordinator or the appropriate team manager no later than the Sunday of the County Championships, stating their current form and also their reason for not competing at the County Championship.

Junior T&F, Road Races, Walks events

Selection will be at the team manager's discretion based on performances during the current season.

Athletes who do not compete

Any athlete who is unable to compete following selection should let either the Team Manager Coordinator or the appropriate team manager know promptly so that whenever possible another athlete can be selected.

All selected athletes who can not compete are expected, for courtesy, to explain their non appearance. If an athlete does not compete on the day and does not offer an explanation as soon as reasonably possible then their future inclusion in any Warwickshire County Team will be entirely at the discretion of the team manager even if they are entitled to automatic selection.

Availability

The Team Managers will endeavour to contact athletes but it is in the athlete's interest to ensure that they tell the team manager about their interest to compete and availability.

Team Managers

The current Team Managers Coordinator and the team managers can be seen on the web site under the "Officers" tab on the County web site at www.WarwickshireCountyAA.co.uk

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The Ellis Trophy

The Officers have decided to use the T A Ellis (a Past President) trophy to acknowledge the most significant performance of the year by a County athlete provided it is outstanding.

The recipient will be decided by the President. This year Richard Carney called upon Tom McCook and Stewart Harris to advise him and a summary of their deliberations is shown below

The First Winner of the Ellis Trophy

After very careful deliberation, we agreed that the first recipient of Warwickshire County Athletics Association's Ellis Trophy should be:-

Coventry Godiva Harrier's Marlon Devonish for his continued contribution to British sprinting and specifically for his bronze medal as the third leg runner for the Great Britain and Northern Ireland quartet at the World Championships in Berlin on 22 August. Remarkably this was 33-year old Marlon's fourth World Relay medal since he brought home a silver medal a decade ago from Seville in 1999.

The Coventry Godiva Harrier also has two Commonwealth Relay gold medals and a European Relay gold medal in his extensive medal collection.

Despite his many successes which include being crowned the World Indoor 200 metres Champion at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham and winning an Olympic gold medal in Athens the following year, Marlon has remains a modest and likeable individual who is a very fine ambassador for his club, county and country.

The runner up is Royal Sutton Coldfield AC's Laura Kenny for her continued improvement in Track, Cross Country and Road competition at senior level coupled with her considerable potential to make a significant impact on British distance running. 24-year old Laura who won the European Under 23 5,000 metres title in Hungary two years ago defeated the Commonwealth Games champion Lisa Dobriskey to win the 3,000 metres in a time of 9:04:43 at the Loughborough International meeting on 17 May. Laura dipped under 4 mins 10 seconds for the first time when she clocked 4:09:16 at Stretford on 18 August before running a season's 3,000 metres best time of 8:59:41 in fourth place behind two of Kenya's World champions Vivian Cheruiyot and Linet Masai at the British Grand Prix at Gateshead on Bank Holiday Monday.

We would also wish to make honourable mention of Rugby and Northampton AC's Ellana Ruddock who is a contemporary of Marlon Devonish. Ellana who has intimated her intention to retire as a competitor has given remarkably loyal service over a very long period of time to Warwickshire and her club whilst competing also at national and international level of competition.

Richard Carney, Stewart Harris and Tom McCook