



Minutes of the WCAA Virtual AGM for 2020 held by Zoom
on 24th February 2021

Those present:

Committee: Cath Muth (Chair), Stewart Barnes, Ray Morgan, Bob Carey, Katie Lea, Maggie Murphy, Becky Freeman, Keith Richards, Tony Mackness, Graham Heeley, Becky Freeman

Club Delegates: Cllr. Tony Jackson Stratford A C, Chris Blyth Birchfield Harriers, Mark Baker Northbrook A C, Eric Fowler Nuneaton A C, Tom Gould, University of Warwick, Alan Edwards, Leamington C & AC, Mary Hodges LVP, Richard Carney BRAT, Chris Hitchman and Dave Ashbourne Leamington C&AC.

Note – the paperwork circulated beforehand for the meeting is attached below the minutes.

1. Apologies: Stewart Harris, LVP, Bryan Acford, Rugby and Northampton A C, Dave Goodwin, Massey Fergusson RC
2. The Chair, Cath Muth, welcomed everyone and was pleased that so many Club representatives were listening to the meeting and invited them to participate.
3. News of Friends: The Committee acknowledged the deaths of past Members; Ken Bull of Coventry Godiva Harriers and a Life Vice President of WCAA and Ann Smith of Godiva too who was active in cross-country (member of winning team in National Women's Cross-Country Championships in 1971) and race walking.
4. The Minutes of the 2019 AGM were accepted with no amendments.
5. The Chairman's Annual Report was accepted. See the report below. Looking ahead, EA has released some guidelines for future participation and Stewart Barnes reported that Donna Fraser is working on a revised Fixture List, for issue in 2 weeks' time.
6. Election of the Officials: all post holders were willing to stand for a further period to the next AGM and were duly accepted. See the current position below.

7. Finance: Tony Mackness had circulated the balance sheet beforehand and explained the main details.
8. Tony proposed that affiliation fees are waived for the 2021 season, seconded by Ray Morgan this was accepted unanimously.
9. The election of Becky Freeman and Ray Morgan at the 2019 AGM had not been included and was acknowledged.
10. Awards: The Association President, Bob Carey has decided upon the winners of the Endurance and Jack Hartley Trophies who are Omar Ahmed and Elliott Giles both of Birchfield Harriers. See Bob's report below.
11. New Club: The McCarkiss Endurance Project was elected to the Association.
12. New Bear: new artwork has been produced and shown to the AGM. This will be part of the County vests and County medals when a new batch is ordered. Thanks to Katie Lea and her artist friend. See the image below.
13. County T&F Championships, a discussion ensued as to how much preparation was required prior to holding the Championships after we are allowed. Agreed that at least 5 weeks are required.
14. 2021 AGM: this will be held on 17th November 2021, and will probably held by ZOOM or similar platform.

The meeting closed at 20.06 with thanks to the Chair, Cath Muth for organizing it.



THE 31st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD BY ZOOM
ON WEDNESDAY 24th FEBRUARY 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Supporting documentation

Item 5 Chair's report by Cath Muth

The work of WCAA has been curtailed over the last 12 months with only the cross-country championships taking place. The County recognised the long standing work as cross country team managers Eddie Cockayne, Rob Pinton and Nick Price by presenting them with a commemorative plaque. None of the individuals were aware of the gift and all were delighted and surprised by the award. As a thanks to Newbold Revell for hosting last years' championships we have planted a tree on site.

Some of our athletes did manage to get some competition in the summer and with great success. Craig Murch won his first British Championships and Efe Okoro had a great year running personal bests in the 400m and 400m hurdles, the latter of which meant he was ranked second in the UK.

The Diamond League saw some excellent performances from Andrew Pozzi winning in Rome and also in Monaco where he set a new personal Best. Elliot Giles also shone in top class meetings finishing second in Doha with a new pb of 1.44.56, beating some top international runners in the process.

We are all hoping to see competition get back to normal in 2021 and many of our athletes are training hard as they look towards qualification for the Tokyo Olympics.

Cath Muth
Chair, Warwickshire County AA

Item 5 Cross Country Championships report by Katie Lea

The Championships were held on 4th January 2020 at Warley Woods

A late change of venue to Warley Woods due to the very wet weather did not affect the performance of the athletes on the day and once again there was a good turn-out for the Championships which once again was shared with Worcester.

Entries were slightly down on 2019 but there were some excellent races and the ground conditions were good.

Full results can be found on the website. The Heeley trophy was awarded to Birchfield Harriers as the overall best club performance.

Katie Lea
WCAA Championship Secretary

Item 6 Election of Officers and Officials of the Association

The following were elected.

Note that there a vacancy for a Team Managers Coordinator which is essentially for the Inter County Cross Country Championships

Officers and Officials

President	Bob Carey
President elect	Graham Heeley
Hon Chair	Cath Muth
Hon Secretary	Keith Richards
Hon Treasurer	Tony Mackness
Hon Officials Secretary	Maggie Murphy
Hon Promotions Secretary	Katie Lea and Ray Morgan
Team Managers' coordinator	<u>Vacant</u>
Website secretary	Ray Morgan and Cath Muth
Hon Trophies and Medals Secretary	Bob Carey
Trustees	Ian Riley and Maggie Murphy
Auditors	Matthew Hargreaves
Hon Endurance Secretary and WRRRL Chair	Dave Goodwin

Life Vice Presidents

The following have previously been elected as Life Vice Presidents

Maureen Blore	Norma Blaine	Alan Edwards	Stewart Harris
Graham Heeley	Mary Hodges	Dyfrig Rees	Henry Mortimer
Ian Riley	Margery Ewington	Richard Carney	Bob Carey
Keith Richards	Les Barnett	Stewart Barnes	Ray Morgan
Rebecca Freeman			

Past Life Vice Presidents

Margaret Babbington	Ted Clifford	Ken Dare	John Walker
Marianne Lingen	Peter Milton	Norman Walker	Frank Kirby
Winnie Dalton	Janet Paul	Edna Walker	Mike Doyle
Ken Bull			

Item 7 Financial report for year ended 30.09.2020 by Tony Mackness

The accounts for the period 1.10.2019 to 30.09.2020 show a net DEFICIT i.e. expenditure greater than income of £202.93.
For comparison during 2018/2019 we recorded a surplus of £2,994.04

Bank balances at year end were:

Lloyds Current Account	£216.98	
Lloyds Entries Account	£7,500.12	£7,717.10
Santander		£18,088.61
TOTAL BANK		£25,805.71

2020 was a very difficult and challenging year for all concerned, in all walks of life, not just athletics.

The highlights of the WCAA would normally be the XC Champs in January, The T&F Champs in May and the Open Graded meetings. Unfortunately during 2020 only the XC Champs survived.

It should be recorded that Anthony Morgan promoted some Virtual races during the lock down period, and it was very nice for the WCAA to receive a donation of £30 from a gentleman in Southend On Sea who had taken part every month in the race series.

The XC Championships Worley Woods 4th January 2020 were held jointly with Worcestershire County Athletics Association. A surplus of £2,198 was generated, which was down by £503 against £2,701 the previous year.
Entries totalled £3,881 down by £635 against last year of £4,516
Entries of 724 down from 800 the previous year Sponsorship from Coventry Runner of £239, which covered the cost of race bibs.

During the year we spent £2,094 on vests.

I recommend that the Association waives the 2021 affiliation fee and the 2021 WRRL hosting fee

Tony Mackness
WCAA Treasurer
December 2020

Item 10 The Ellis Trophy and the Endurance Trophy.

The Ellis Trophy and the Endurance Trophy are the County Association's most prestigious. As the name implies, the Endurance Trophy is awarded to the best endurance performance by a County athlete anywhere in the world and the Ellis Trophy goes to the best performance other than endurance.

The winners for the last season are Omar Ahmed of Birchfield Harriers (Endurance, pictures above) and Elliot Giles also of Birchfield Harriers (Ellis). Congratulations to both lads for winning these awards.

With the 2020 Track & Field season in Britain being pretty much a non-event because of COVID 19, I was not expecting to be able to make any decisions on who I should choose as the winner of the Ellis Trophy. But our best athletes were still able to compete abroad. I have therefore had a very difficult choice between three brilliant Warwickshire athletes.

A previous holder of the Ellis Trophy, Andrew Pozzi competed in many events abroad which included a first place in the 60mts hurdles in Madrid in February, with a time of 7.48s, and a 13.14s 110 metres hurdles for a second place to Spain's Orlando Ortega, in Monaco in August. Elliot Giles, previous four times winner of the British Championship title, ran his PB for 800 metres (1.44.56) when finishing a close second to Kenya's Ferguson Rotich, in the Diamond League meeting at Doha in September. Meanwhile, back on home ground, Craig Murch was able to take part in a socially distant British Championship which was held at Manchester, where he won his first national title, winning the Hammer Throw with 73.24 metres.

Three brilliant performers, and Warwickshire is most fortunate to have such high class athletes but a nightmare to decide who to award the Ellis Trophy to. After much deliberation, I have decided in favour of Elliot Giles to be awarded the Ellis Trophy for 2020, with a big "well done" to Andy and Craig.

The Endurance Trophy this year I found to be a more straightforward decision. COVID 19 put a stop to most events both here in the UK and abroad. So I am left to make the decision based on cross country events held before the pandemic struck. My choice of the athlete to be awarded this trophy is Omar Ahmed, of Birchfield Harriers. Omar was a clear winner of the Warwickshire cross country title, and then he went on to win the Midland title. In the "National", Omar finished in 14th place which is of course a very fine performance. So I award Omar the Endurance Trophy for 2020.

Bob Carey.

Warwickshire County AA President 2020.

Item 12 The new County Bear image

