



THE 32nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ONLINE BY ZOOM on Wednesday 17th November 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Attendees

Margaret Murphy(Rugby&Northampton AC), Mary Hodges(Leamington C&AC, LM),
Dave Ashbourne (Leamington C&AC), Stewart Barnes(Coventry Godiva Harriers LM),
Graham Heeley (Sparkhill Harriers LM), John Nash (Leamington C&AC),
Tony Mackness (Northbrook AC), Katie Lea (Rugby&Northampton AC),
Ray Morgan (Chair of the meeting, Leamington C&AC LM),
Alan Edwards (Leamington C&AC LM), Louise Cummins (Leamington Athletics Academy)

Item 1 Apologies for absence

Rebecca Freeman, Bryan Axford, Cath Muth, Keith Richards, Richard Carney, Bob Carey

The meeting paused in silence in memory of two Warwickshire people who have served the sport well but sadly passed away. They are Ernie Eames of RSCAC and Howard Andersen of Northbrook AC and Coventry Godiva Harriers.

Item 2 Acceptance of the minutes of the (2020) AGM held on 24th February 2021.

The minutes were published on the County web site some time ago and we have not received any corrections since them. There are no matters arising. The minutes were accepted as a true record.

Chairman's report

It has been a challenging period for the County with events cancelled and often a lack of clarity about what we were able to do. However, the fantastic efforts of a number of Committee members meant we were able to deliver three fixtures in the last 12 months, the Track & Field Championships, an Open Graded Meeting and a Quad kids competition.

Thanks, in particular should go to Katie Lea and Ray Morgan for the organisation of these events and also to Margaret Murphy for organising all the officials. As a County we recognise we could not put on any competition without officials and volunteers so a big thank you to everyone who has given up their time to support our events.

I would like to express my appreciation to Tony Mackness for the excellent work he does managing our finances. A special mention this year should also go to Keith Richards who is stepping down as Secretary. All members of the Committee have played a vital role in keeping WCAA going throughout the last year with virtual meetings. We look forward to meeting in person over the next 12 months.

On the track we did have representation at the Tokyo Olympics with Elliot Giles in the 800m and Andrew Pozzi in the 110m hurdles. The British Championships saw more success with Elliot Giles taking the title in the 800m and Katie Stainton in the heptathlon. Craig Murch was a further medallist with a bronze medal in the hammer. These athletes and many others will be seeking selection for the World Championships, Commonwealth Games and European Championships in 2022 so they have a busy year ahead.

Looking to the future the Cross Country Championships will take place once again and will be a joint fixture with Worcestershire. It will be held at Newbold Revel, an excellent and very hospitable venue. It will be good to see all age groups racing to represent the County later in the year at the Inter Counties Cross Country Championships.

Plans are already afoot for the Track & Field championships in 2022 so we hope to have a full calendar of fixtures next year. As with everyone involved in our sport, we are all looking forward to a more normal 12 months seeing our county athletes competing in the local Commonwealth Games and other international competitions.

Cath Muth
Chair, WCAA

See also, the report on the track and field championships which follows.

Item 3(b)

Report on the track and field championships

The 2021 T&F Championship held at The Pingles Stadium Nuneaton attracted 760 entries. A small number of Leicestershire and Worcestershire athletes held their 400mH, Pole Vault and Steeplechase championship within our event to get a more competitive experience.

Conscious of Covid, we decided to separate the U11/Quadkids Championships to reduce the number of people in the stadium and so it was held at Edmondscote in Leamington three weeks later. The event attracted 61 entries of school years 3-6.

Despite Covid 19 restrictions there was a good atmosphere at both competitions, especially at the Quadkids, where a family atmosphere made an enjoyable event. The weather was pretty good for most of the competition days with some slight drizzle on the Sunday morning.

It is worth noting the later date of the competition (July/August as opposed to the usual timing of May), did not seem to put off athletes from entering. There were many comments in support of holding the event later in the year.

Eighteen Championship records were broken or equalled which is more than usual and so indicates good quality performances.

We used the Entry4Sports system for the first time. This seamlessly linked entry, registration photo-finish and results to provide an excellent overall service.

There were a few problems behind the scenes and some stadium start-up issues which will be resolved for next year's competition.

The number of officials was impacted by Covid related issues and although it would have been easier to have had a few more, they managed extremely well. A big thank you to Maggie Murphy for her recruitment and organisation of the officials.

It is proposed to hold the 2022 event at The Pingles Stadium again. The event will be held over 2 days incorporating the Quadkids as in previous years (girls on one day and boys on another to make numbers manageable) which will keep the family atmosphere in the stadium.

Katie Lea and Ray Morgan
WCAA Championship organisers

Item 4 The Treasurer's report for year ended 30.9.2021

The accounts for the period 1.10.2020 to 30.9.2021 show a net **SURPLUS** (i.e. Income greater than expenditure) of £ 511.54 For comparison, during 2019/2020 we recorded a **DEFICIT** of £ 202.93

Bank balances at year end were:

Lloyds Current Account	£270.33	
Lloyds Entries Account	£7,956.52	£8,226.85
Santander		£18,090.40
TOTAL BANK		£26,317.25

For the second year running our finances were severely impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic. The WCAA committee made a decision to suspend both the club affiliation fee of £20 and also the WRRL promoters' fee of £30. This wiped out income of £460 and £330 respectively. We did however still have to pay England Athletics our £150 affiliation fee.

The highlights of the WCAA year would normally be the XC Champs in January, the T&F Champs in May and the series of Open Graded meetings. Unfortunately, the 2021 XC championships were cancelled, but, we did hold a T&F championship, and one open graded and one quad kids meeting.

The Track and Field Championships were held in July / August at The Pingles, Nuneaton, where we recorded a surplus of £909.80. The number of entries was down from 882 in 2019 to 757 in 2021.

Only one Open Graded meeting was held on 26th August 2021. There were 138 entries which generated a surplus of £265.22. One quad kids meeting was held 25th August 2021 which broke even.

With interest rates continuing to fall, we only earned £1.79 interest, despite maintaining a healthy balance in our Santander account. Although interest rates have been tumbling since prior to Covid we were previously earning just over £105 in interest per year.

We made charitable donations to The Salvation Army and Crisis of £25 each. Our auditor does not ask for payment, and we are more than happy to make these donations to his chosen charities in recognition of his services provided. The accounts have been audited by Hargreaves-Ward Limited, and I'm happy to say that there were no significant findings, and the accounts have been signed off as a true and fair view of Income, expenditure and surplus for the year reviewed and of the financial position at the year end.

For the forthcoming year the treasurer and committee propose the Club Affiliation fee remain at £20 per club and the WRRL Promoters fee at £30 per race.

Tony Mackness, WCAA Treasure

The meeting unanimously accepted the proposal to maintain the current affiliation fees.

Item 5 Election of Officers, Officials, Trustees, Auditors, Vice Presidents,

The Chair thanked Keith Richards who is standing down as Hon Secretary, for his service to date for the County and particularly as Hon Secretary. We all hope to see him around the circuit in future.

The Chair asked that all Clubs solicit their members for somebody to take on the roles of Hon Sec, Cross Country team managers' coordinator and the (proposed) new role of Social Media Secretary.

The following were elected as Officers and Officials.

President	Bob Carey
President elect	Graham Heeley
Hon Chair	Cath Muth
Hon Secretary	VACANCY
Hon Treasurer	Tony Mackness
Hon Officials Secretary	Maggie Murphy
Hon Promotions Secretary	Katie Lea and Ray Morgan
Team Managers' coordinator	VACANCY
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 WRRL Chair	Dave Goodwin

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			

The following are 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 6 Any Constitutional Changes.

The meeting agreed to create a new Officer to manage the Association's social media – Social Media Secretary.

Item 7 Application for membership by the Leamington Athletics Academy

The LAA's supporting information has been circulated to all Clubs in the Association.

There were two comments regarding the LAA although at this stage nobody from the LAA was in the meeting.

DA : How would we handle grant applications from a company limited by shares to ensure that they did not just improve the company's financial situation?

RM : Objected to EA regarding the name change from 365 to Leamington AA because the new name conflicts with Leamington C&AC. EA did not object.

Louise Cummings of the LAA joined the meeting at this point.

There were no questions for Louise and no objections to the LAA becoming a member and so the application was accepted.

Item 8 The Ellis Trophy and the Endurance Trophy.

Bob Carey was not able to join the meeting so the winners of these two trophies will be announced later.

Item 9 Any other business - at the discretion of the Chair.

Graham Heeley offered to process the licence application for the next County cross country championships in January 2022. Katie Lea accepted the offer extremely quickly.

Date of the 2022 AGM- Wednesday 16th November 2022