

WESSEX YOUNG ATHLETES TRACK AND FIELD LEAGUE

Annual General Meeting
Sunday December 5th 2021, Andover (1.30pm)

Present: Keith Baker (Newbury AC), Justine Grumplin (IOW), Sarah Kent (IOW), Hazel Bates (Bournemouth), Jemma Bates (Bournemouth), Paula Hine (Wimborne AC), Carol Quinn (Basingstoke), Jacqui Sykes (MADJA), Rachel Jones (NFJAC), Steve Sparkes (Swindon), Nigel Harding (Poole AC), Laura White (Camberley), Alex Caamano (Camberley), Mauriel Cowx (Andover), Rew Dinkele (Andover), Nick Bull (Team Kennet), Cheryl Angell (Team Kennet), Darryn Campbell (Unaffiliated)

Apologies were received from: Tracey Moore (Weymouth), Richard Hart (Oxford), Gary Sprake (SETAFA)

1. Minutes of previous AGM, held on Sunday 17th November 2019

All present agreed they were a true record of events

2. Chairman's Report

The chairman read into the record the report from 2021 highlighting the loss of Tim Wilding, Ray Scovil and Pat Butcher

3. Secretary's Report

No formal report was submitted by the secretary, but Darryn did announce that he was stepping down from the role. He will continue his involvement with the league by maintaining the website, scoring systems and league table.

4. Treasurer's Report

See attached report. Accounts are healthy. No issues raised.

5. Quadkid's Report

No formal report was submitted but Mo gave an overview of Quad Kids performances in 2021, highlighting the competitive nature of the results this year.

6. Welfare Officer's Report

No official reports were received from clubs therefore the welfare officer had nothing to report

7. Election of Officers:

Officers were elected with the following notes:

Darryn is stepping down as secretary, nobody has yet come forward to fill the role. The request at the AGM was to include the responsibilities of the secretary in the minutes:

Secretary role:

- Maintain contact list. Update and distribute as needed
- Maintain master copy of the timetable

- Maintain master copy of the fixtures list
- Responsible for disseminating communication out to the league
- Maintain league constitution and league rules
- AGM agenda
- AGM minutes
- Composite clubs applications to EA
- Maintaining list of second claim athletes

No other league coordinators stepped forward, but it was deemed that the current number of coordinators was sufficient.

Role	Name	Proposed by	Seconded by
President			
Vice President	Nigel Harding		
Chairman	Nick Bull	<i>Darryn Campbell</i>	<i>Cheryl Angell</i>
Vice Chair	Laura White	<i>Nick Bull</i>	<i>Darryn Campbell</i>
Secretary	<i>vacant</i>		
Quad Kids Coordinator	Mo Cowx	<i>Laura White</i>	<i>Cheryl Angell</i>
Treasurer	Cheryl Angell	<i>Jacqui Sykes</i>	<i>Mo Cowx</i>
League Records / Power of 10 / Results	Nigel Harding	<i>Jacqui Sykes</i>	<i>Darryn Campbell</i>
Welfare Officer	Cheryl Angell	<i>Nick Bull</i>	<i>Laura White</i>
League Coordinator	Nick Bull		
League Coordinator	Cheryl Angell		
League Coordinator	Laura White		
League Coordinator	Richard Beck		
League Coordinator	Rachel Jones		
League Coordinator	Andy Holme		
League Coordinator	Mo Cowx		

8. Clubs joining / leaving:

No clubs are leaving the league in 2022

SETAFA AC are joining as a composite team with Havant AC in the following manner:

- SETAFA come in as non scorers in main league 4 athletes per track events and 2 athletes on field and 6 girls and 6 boys in quadkids
- Quad kids team will count in quadkids league with points
- SETAFA are to go to 8 lane track and supply track and field officials

Concern was raised that an additional non scoring team could impact the timetable. The chairman stated there would be minimum impact because we reduced the number of overall non scorers in 2020 compared with previous years.

It was clarified that the 2 non-scoring teams (SETAFA / Havant and Weymouth) would have field duties.

It was clarified that the 2 non-scoring teams would not appear at the same match.

Concern was raised that this would add additional pressure on finding officials for each match

Concern was raised that SETAFA were not present at the AGM to respond to some of the questions in the room

- I (Darryn) later noticed that I had received an apology for absence 30 minutes prior to the AGM, though I did not check my emails in time.

9. 2022 dates and venues:

- a. Round 1 April 10th or 24th
- b. Round 2 June 5th or May 29th
- c. Round 3 June 19th or 26th
- d. Round 4 July 10th or 17th

Some notes from the discussion:

12th June was dropped due to conflict with SAL

29th May & 5th June are both within half term, so attendance may be down for some clubs. June 5th is also a bank holiday.

YDL clashes are April 24th, May 29th, June 26th, all 3 of which are YDL Upper Age Group.

We do not have hosts for all matches in 2022, this precipitated a long discussion:

- Can hosting be split between clubs?
- What can be done about the hosting responsibility always falling to the same clubs?
- Can clubs explore hosting at other tracks if they do not have a home track
- No specific solution was found, it is hoped that the sponsorship deal for the league, detailed under point 10, will lead to more hosts stepping forward.

10. League fees

The following payment structure was agreed by those present at the AGM:

- League affiliation to increase to £300 for the season (In 2021 it was £200 for hosting clubs and £250 for clubs who do not host)
- Any clubs who host to received back £300 towards costs, per fixture.

The chairman was pleased to announce he had also secured a sponsor for the league in 2022, details below:

- Sponsor name: Colleague Scholarships USA (CSUSA)
- £3200 from CSUSA to the Wessex league, moving up to £4000 the following season if the company is happy to progress with annual sponsorship
 - Opportunity to discuss increasing sponsorship for the 3rd, 4th seasons and onwards.
 - Will also pay for numbers the following season with CSUSA name and logo on (Nick clarified this applied to 2023 onwards)
- A Gazebo at 8 of the fixtures, either those with the highest participation or covering a range of clubs, to be discussed further. With permission to place banners around the track, signage to highlight our position at the event.
- Access to email all registered entries to contact prior to the day, to highlight our presence at the events.
 - For clarity, the company don't want athletes email addresses, they want to forward a letter to the host club informing athletes at that match that they would be there to give advice on scholarship opportunity in USA, and that host club will email it on to the 5 other clubs to email to their athletes. So no emailing from sponsors to get athletes email addresses etc.
- The name "The Wessex league, sponsored by College Scholarships USA" with company logo on emails, website etc. Also, on any official Wessex league signage (company will pay, provide updated signage to the Wessex League)
- Permission to do a "press release" on our website to showcase the company's sponsorship of the Wessex league
- Can provide volunteers to the event if needed / requested

This was discussed and following points were raised:

- Proposal to distribute the sponsorship money to host clubs, on top of the existing money a host receives back. Example: 16 hosting clubs will get £500 back in 2022. This is £300 from league fees (detailed above) and £200 as the share of the sponsorship (£3200 / 16 clubs).
 - This was put to a vote and **accepted**.
- Welfare concern. Do not want children talking to CSUSA without parent's consent
- Want standard set of info / advice sent out to all clubs prior to the day regarding how CSUSA will work at the event.
- Want notice that CSUSA will be there, to give time for example to get permission from the council to erect banners on the track

Proposal to accept the sponsorship was accepted to be reviewed after 1 year.

11. Proposals to ease the burden on field officials (Raised by Swindon Harriers)

- a. Discussed: Reduce the Quad Kids vortex throw by one throw, from a practice throw plus three to a practice throw plus two. In the event each of the two counting throws are foul throws, the Quad Kids athlete will be permitted one extra and final throw.

Decision: Remove the practice throw entirely and move to 3 Vortex throws, all 3 to count. This ONLY applies to Vortex and not to Long Jump, where the practice jump will remain.

- b. Consider an appropriate penalty for the non-provision of match officials. This season has seen a significant drop off from some clubs leaving the burden usually back on the hosting clubs along with those who have made an effort to grow their base of officials

Decision: The league points a club receives will be modified based on the number of officials they supply.

Resolved that:

- 1 field official at level 2 or above (0.5 league points **deducted** if not provided)
- 2 field officials at level 1 or above (0.5 league points per field official **deducted** if not provided)
- 1 track judge at level 1 or above (0.5 league points **deducted** if not provided)
- 1 timekeeper at level 1 or above (0.5 league points **deducted** if not provided)

For a total of 2.5 league points which might be deducted from a team.

Host club to inform whoever is compiling the league tables.

- c. No changes **on the Day** to entries in the Field from any Team when a Club confirms in advance that they have no Field Officials or turns up with NO Field Officials

Decision: Rejected as penalises the athlete rather than the club

12. Proposals on non-scoring events (Raised by Swindon Harriers)

- a. Reinstate the non-scoring relay team per club for 4x100m

Decision: Leave things as they are (No 4x100m N/S on the timetable) and revisit next year as there was not clear best approach.

- b. All non-scoring races are held at the same time as the match races i.e., under 15Boys 100M race A String, followed by B String and then non-scoring races for that age group or filling empty lane in the scoring races with non-scoring athletes depending on numbers.

Decision (after lengthy discussion): Revert back to having 100m and 200m N/S at the same time as the scoring races. Darryn to update the timetable

13. Presentation of awards and league records

Congratulations to Winchester & Basingstoke for winning the main league and to Winchester for winning the Quad Kids.

14. Any other business

There were a number of points of other business:

- Chairman expressed a special thanks to Isle of Wight for making the journey to attend the AGM
- Letters: Clubs are now responsible for purchasing their own letters. Please call Stacey & Son on 01245 474 322 and say these are for use in the Wessex League to receive a small discount.
- 3 club letters are changing in 2022, as follows:
 - Camberley have been reassigned C
 - Dorchester have been reassigned D
 - Woking have been reassigned E
- It was resolved that a league trophy should be created for Tim Wilding. Details will be ironed out following the AGM
- The field officiating timetable has been updated by Laura to make the distribution of responsibilities fairer. Where there are 7 teams (i.e. the matches where the N/S composite teams are competing) the host club is responsible for allocating duties to the 7th team.
- Thank you to Andover for hosting this year's AGM
- Next AGM will be held at Winchester