



BRITISH MASTERS ATHLETICS FEDERATION

President: Paul Dickenson
Chairman: Arthur Kimber
Honorary Secretary: Bridget Cushen
Treasurer: Danny Herman

Affiliated to: World Masters Athletics
European Masters Athletics

Website: bmaf.org.uk

Minutes of the 41st Annual General Meeting of British Masters Athletics Federation held on Saturday 25 July 2015 in the Alexander Stadium, Walsall Road, Perry Barr, Birmingham B42 2LR at 18.30.

Present: As per Attendance Sheet.

1. Welcome and Opening of the AGM

The Chairman thanked all the attendees for coming along after their competition. Apologies were received from Walter Hill, Road Running Secretary who is in Wales for the 10km Road Championships on 26th; The Isle of Man VAC and John Hall ex-Race Walking Secretary.

2. Adoption of the Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting held on 9 July 2014.

Barry Roberts, WMAA, Proposed that the Minutes be signed, Seconded by Harry Matthews, NEMAA.

3. President's address

President absent.

4. To Adopt the Reports from the following Officers:

a) Chairman

Arthur Kimber's Report was circulated and accepted. Addressing the meeting he said it was an excellent year for our Members. We were disappointed that Maurice Doogan was not elected to European Masters Athletics Council at their General Assembly in Izmir. He reported that Irene Nicholls retired as Chair of England Masters Athletic Association, a post she has held since its formation. He welcomed Harry Matthews (NEMAA) as EAMA Chair to the AGM. Brian Owen, Editor of Masters Athletics also retired after doing an excellent job. He wished Brian and Irene a long and healthy retirement.

Questions were raised from the floor on whether the inclusion of a W50 400m and an M50 race at the IAAF World Championships in Beijing would be a permanent fixture; the need for more publicity for Inter-Area and the need for using Twitter, Facebook etc. The IT Manager confirmed that he has now set up a Social Media network.

b) Vice Chairman, Policy and International Affairs.

Kevin Dillon thanked Ian Richards for his work on the Contract with the new Clothing Supplier, there were few amendments. If we had to pay a Legal Professional to do that work it would have cost us a lot of money. Report circulated and accepted.

c) Honorary Secretary.

Bridget Cushen reported on UK: Athletics decision to pay the travel cost for Sally Read-Cayton, Virginia Mitchell and David Heath who were selected by World Masters Athletics to compete at the IAAF World Championships in Beijing. They will also be supplied with UKA vests and shorts. Television Production Companies had been in touch with some of our members during the year. Report circulated and accepted.

d) Treasurer's Report

Danny Herman said the Accounts paint a gloomy report this year as we have encountered our biggest loss and membership fell. Net Championships losses were £12,839. The Track & Field lost £4,899. The Overseas Account keeps us afloat. The total loss on Masters Athletics over the years is £11k.

This is his final year as Hon. Treasurer. His Report was circulated and accepted.

Barry Roberts, (WMAA) Proposed a Vote of Thanks to the Treasurer for his hard work.

e) Cross-Country Secretary's Report.

Mel James reported that we are doing really well. The Cross-Country Relays will be held on 31 October in Nuneaton. The Cross-Country Championships may be on Saturday 12 March. His Report was circulated and adopted.

f) Road Running Secretary's Report

Walter Hill's Report discussed. The need for Chip Timing for 5km races raised by Archie Jenkins, NEMAA, following some inaccuracies in the results in Horwich.

Peter Kennedy reported that entry is now On-line for the 1 mile in Cardiff.

Road Running Secretary's Report circulated and adopted.

g) Race Walking Secretary's Report

Ian Richards reported that two Walkers were DQ today. The Walks are held under IAAF Rules. He is trying to recruit new members. The International events are our shop window. We do not have the infrastructure for coaching etc. His Report was circulated and adopted.

h) Track & Field Secretary's Report.

Maurice Doogan reported on the losses at the Championships. The Decathlon/Hept was almost cancelled because the pole vault pit failed a Risk Test; he had to move the event to the Alexander stadium. That stadium is now too expensive for the City to run and it is being sold.

More Officials are needed for the Field events under Risk Rules and they need overnight accommodation. This weekend will cost £7k. Entries were down when we moved to Cardiff.

Pickets Lock is our only option for the Indoor as it also has Outdoor facilities.

Brian Owen, retiring Editor of Masters Athletics, suggested using local Officials through the Midlands AA.

Maurice Doogan replied that there is a shortage of Officials; he has to bring them down from Scotland and up from the West Country.

i) Overseas Entries Co-Ordinator.

Peter Duhig's Report circulated and accepted.

j) BMAF IT Manager

Peter Kennedy reported that 300 more new members had joined, 15 are from Kent. He outlined his plans for increased Social Media communication, sponsorship etc.

Meeting discussed England Athletics registration and the problem for Harrier Clubs that do not have track athletes. Registration is now obligatory.

5. **To decide on the future of Masters Athletics – Website or postal Printed edition**

Deferred for discussion under Item 11.

6. **To amend the Constitution at 3a by deleting:** Northern Ireland Veterans Athletes Association, Northern Veterans Athletic Club and Veteran Athletics Association – North East of England, and replacing with: Northern Ireland Masters Athletics Association, Northern Masters Athletic Club and North East Masters Athletics Association.

Archie Jenkins (NEMAA) Proposed, Seconded by Peter Kennedy (VAC), that the Amendment be accepted. Proposal Carried.

7. **To amend the Constitution at 7a by deleting:** The Council shall consist of the Officers of the Federation together with two representatives nominated by each of the Northern Ireland Veterans Athletics Association, the Scottish Veteran Harriers Club and the Welsh Masters Athletics Association and one representative from the England Athletics Masters Association and each of the remaining constituent organisations, and replacing with:

The Council shall consist of the Officers of the Federation together with two representatives nominated by each of the Northern Ireland Masters Athletics Association, the Scottish Veteran Harriers Club and the Welsh Masters Athletics Association and one representative from the England Athletics Masters Association and each of the remaining constituent organisations.

Barry Roberts, (WMAA), Proposed, Seconded by Harry Matthews (NEMAA) that the Amendment be accepted. Proposal Carried.

8. **To amend the Constitution at 7h and 7i** by deleting: The Council shall have the power to co-opt members from outside the Council; co-opted members shall not have a vote, and replacing with: The Executive shall have the power to co-opt members from outside the Council.
At 7i, replace the word Council with Executive.
Barry Roberts (WMAA) Proposed, Seconded by Kevin Dillon (NMAA), that the Amendments be accepted. Proposal Carried.
9. **To amend the Constitution at 8iii** by deleting “the Northern Ireland Veteran Athletes Association and replacing with “the Northern Ireland Masters Athletics Association”
Peter Kennedy (VAC) Proposed, Seconded by Harry Matthews (NEMAA), that the Amendment be accepted. Proposal Carrier.
10. **To Co-opt the BMAF IT Manager to the Executive.**
As the Constitution changes were accepted, a Vote was not taken.
11. **Proposal from the Treasurer that the Membership Fee be increased by £2 with effect from 1 June 2016.**
Club representatives reported that they did not have sufficient notice. General feeling that the £2 is to offset the losses on the Track & Field Championships that many of their members do not enter as it is too far for them. Sustainability of losses discussed.
Deferred Item 5 **To decide on the future of Masters Athletics – Website or postal Printed edition**, now brought up for discussion.
The Chairman said a suggestion had been put forward by Ian Richards that we adopt the method used by the Race Walking Association that a free copy goes On-Line and a basic hard copy be posted, on subscription, to those who do not have access or prefer a hard copy.
A Proposal from Ian Richards, seconded by Kevin Dillon, that we adopt this method was put to a vote. Proposal Carried.
Peter Kennedy, IT Manager, asked that this message go through clubs to their members.
Meeting agreed that with extra income from Lyon and the subsequent saving on postage from Masters Athletics, an increase should not be necessary.
It was agreed that the proposed increase in Levy should be defer to the Delegates meeting in November when a full analysis of cost savings, new Editor’s remit, Honorarium etc. be prepared.

12. **To Re-Elect the following Officers:**

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| President: | Paul Dickenson |
| Chairman: | Arthur Kimber, SCVAC |
| Vice Chairman, Policy & International Affairs: | Kevin Dillon, NVAC |
| Honorary Secretary: | Bridget Cushen, SCVAC |
| Honorary Treasurer: | Danny Herman, NVAC |
| Cross-Country Secretary | Mel James, Welsh Masters AA |
| Road Running Secretary | Walter Hill & Asst. Secretary David Beattie, SCVAC |
| Track & Field Secretary | Maurice Doogan, VAC |
| Race Walking Secretary | Ian Richards, VAC |
| Publicity/Advertising | Bridget Cushen, SCVAC |

Proposed by Alex Rowe NMAA, seconded by Harry Matthews, NEMAA that they be re-elected en bloc. Proposal Carried.

13. **To confirm the appointment of:**

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| Overseas Entries Co-Ordinator: | Peter Duhig, Eastern VAC |
| BMAF Statistician: | Bob Minting, Ian Richards. |
| Hon. Legal Adviser: | Walter Nicholls |
| Independent Examiner of the Accounts: | To be appointed |

14. **Date of next Meeting**

To be held on the first day of competition at the Track & Field Championships in 2016.