

Mid Essex Casuals Running Club

MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MID ESSEX CASUALS RUNNING CLUB HELD ON SATURDAY THE 16TH JULY 2022 AT THE 'MUSEUM OF POWER', LANGFORD, MALDON CM9 6QA

Meeting opened at 12:27 immediately after Dave Game's 5 mile Museum of Power Trail Run (10:30 start) & in conjunction with a Buffet.

It was noted that nobody, apart from Jim Goddard (see later) had put themselves forward, from the membership, to be elected for any of the Committee posts. There was therefore a short pre-meeting vote to elect the Club Secretary (proposed by Yan S. seconded by Lorna P.) followed by the rest of the committee (proposed John C. seconded by Lorna P.) for 2022/23.

IN THE CHAIR: YAN STILE (Chair & Membership Secretary.)

MINUTES: JOHN CLARKE (Club Secretary.)

COMMITTEE PRESENT: DAVE GAME (Treasurer)
LORNA PETTIFER (XC & Essex Way Manager.)
WENDY SMALLEY (Kit Officer.)
SUE CLARKE (Vice Chair & Welfare Officer.)
JOHN PETTIFER (Committee Member.)

OBSERVERS: PETER FLANNIGAN
TERESA FLANNIGAN
HEATHER JACKSON
KEITH JACKSON
JOANNE REEVES
ANDY DEBNAM
KAREN SWEENEY
JOHN SWEENEY
RICHARD SIRETT
MALCOLM BAILEY
RON DAWSON
JIM SLATER
JAMES GODDARD

APOLOGIES: PAUL SCRIVENER (Trail & XC Championships Manager.)
KATY REHAL (Committee Member.)
LUCY FERGUSON (Committee Member.)
SIMON FERGUSON (Mid Essex XC league race manager.)
IAN FOSKEW (Committee Member.)

Meeting opened at.....12:27pm

1. CORRESPONDENCE.....No correspondence.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF MID ESSEX CASUALS RUNNING CLUB 16/12/21

2.1 Proposed Lorna P.

2.2 Seconded Wendy S.

2.3 Vote unanimous.....The minutes were accepted as a true & fair record.

(Yan S. signed 16.12.21 AGM minutes for official club copies.)

3a. ACTION POINTS/MATTERS ARISING FROM 2021 AGM MINUTES

3.1 Dave G. signed a copy of the August 2021 committee minutes.

3.2 John C. asked to move "Updating Club Administration" entirely to 3b.

3.3 The club London Marathon Place was discussed. John C. explained that the current London Marathon club place holder has held a EA place since 2020 but has not "used it" for various reasonable reasons. It was believed that the London Marathon organisers, & England Athletics, currently won't issue another EA place until the current holder runs the London Marathon using that place or 'returns' the place. Lorna P. asked if it was possible to contact EA directly concerning the 2020 place. Dave G. pointed out the London Marathon place is currently offered to first claim members & wondered if they should also be EA Registered. John C. said he'd investigate further with Katy R.

(Action: John C. & Katy. R. to investigate further for the 2023 London Marathon club place. Plus look into the rules for distributing the EA London Marathon place.)

3.4. John C. explained why MEC needed to adopt the England Athletics policy templates, available on England Athletics website propose. He explained that delegating the adoption of all England Athletics policy templates, available on England Athletics web site, to a sub-committee of three (Yan S., John C. & Dave G.) in order to make the policies freely available to all Club members, via the club website, & then to formally adopt all policies as Club Policies at the **next** club AGM was a good way forward.

John C. formally proposed the formation of a sub-committee to discuss & align the Club with England Athletics requirements for:

>Constitution

>Committee

>Grievance & Disciplinary Policy

>Data Protection Regulation

>Inclusion & Diversity

>Club Safeguarding Code of Conduct

>Health & Safety

Sue. C. seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

(Dave G. passed a copy of the current MEC Club Rules to John C.)

(Action: John C. to coordinate with Yan S. & Dave G. concerning the Sub Committee.)

4. REPORT FROM CROSS COUNTRY MANAGER & ESSEX WAY MANAGER. (Lorna P.)

4.1 Essex Way Relay.....Last year we fielded 4 teams covering all the 3 categories. A terrific day with probably our best score ever in the Open category and great results across the board.

Everyone turned up and put their all into this.

Our Open team were 6th overall (of 52 teams) – with 7 top 10 finishes including a 2nd for Scott

Our Vets A were 3rd Vets team and 24th Overall

Our Ladies were 5th Ladies team and 34th Overall

Our Vets B were 6th Vets team and 45th Overall.

Too many great performances to mention everyone but them all but a huge shout out to Rebecca McVelia who completed the final 4 miles on a broken ankle!

This year we are suffering from a lot of injuries across our runners and the enthusiasm for the event spreading so that people who previously run for us are joining new entries from their first Claim teams. I have a few runners to find but am expecting us to field 3 teams on 4th September.

4.2 Cross Country.....16 ladies and 30 men took part last season and Ben Leeds ran every race in the season with Adam Hemsworth missing just 1 event.

What can I say 2021/22 – What a season we had!

>Essex League: The ladies was a non event with only myself running.
The gents were superstars! The first race of the season we were a runner down and came 7th in Pool B. I have always said that the secret to success was full teams and it certainly was. For the remainder of the season we fielded a full team of men and at every event we were closing the gap. It was down to the last event and unfortunately a very wet Writtle race meant there weren't many runners to celebrate but we were the very proud winners of the Pool B.
Brian Butcher was also 1st Vet 70 for the season.

John C. attended the Pre Season meeting for us – no changes for next season.

Race 1 – 15 October Thurrock AC One Tree Hill
Race 2 – 12 November Chelmsford AC Writtle Uni
Race 3 – 26 November Southend AC Hockley
Race 4 – 17 December TBC
Race 5 - 11 February Ilford AC Hainault Forest

>NESS League: What can I say – in 2021/22 we were the very proud winners of Pool B !
A great season and again the credit goes to all of our runners who turned out. We had full teams at every race. Next season we will be in Pool A and will also need to field additional runners.
The Pre-season meeting has been held. There is a waiting list for Clubs wanting to join the league but we aren't allowing additional Clubs as there is concern re additional parking and that we could lose venues if we expanded further.
Runner fees have been increased to £4 per runner per race and it was agreed that clubs would contribute to the cost of a new junior trophy.

Some provisional dates for next season:

23 October 2022 TBC
6 November 2022 Great Bentley Hilly Fields, Colchester
27th November 2022 Halstead Gosfield
11 December TBC
15th January 2023 Springfield Writtle Uni
19th February 2023 Hadleigh Hares Hadleigh FC

>Mid Essex League: Some great courses in a smaller league.
One race with results for men and ladies and also for vets.
In 2021/22 we came 3rd in Male open, female open and female vets with 2nd place for the Male Vets. No dates have been agreed for next season.

>Other significant events:

Essex XC Relays Sat 24th Sept Weald Park
Essex Vets Champs Sat 3rd Dec Writtle University
Essex Champs Sat 7th Jan Gloucester Park
Southern XC Champs Sat 28th Jan
National XC Champs Sat 25th Feb Harewood House, Leeds

>Finally thank you to everyone who voted for me as Club Member of the year. It was lovely to be the first winner of the award. Thank you.

Dave G. suggested that as NESS League were looking for Sponsors, MEC could sponsor the league & Dave G. volunteered to put on a Trophy Trail Race to raise funds.

Yan S. thanked Lorna P. for all her hard work & "relentless effort". Adding that Lorna deserved her award as we were: "the envy of all other clubs".

5. REPORT FROM KIT OFFICER.

Wendy S. informed us that the club had "sold quite a lot of kit".
Following a Stocktake: Wendy indicated we are short of various sizes.
We need 36 T shirts and vests to get cheaper process. (Wendy S. to get a quote).
Treasurer approved order of 36 vests/t shirts

Club to think about sweatshirts/hoodies for next year. Questions were asked about long sleeve tops.

Yan S. thanked Wendy S. for all her hard work in delivering kit etc

6. REPORT FROM CLUB TREASURER.

Dave G. submitted the Club Accounts:

Accounts for Mid Essex Casuals as at 16/07/22				
MAIN ACCOUNT	B/F	Income	Expenditure	CURRENT
CORE Activities				
membership fees & costs (website, ZA, sundries)	646.17	1,370.00	[RED]-467.13	1,549.04
membership subsidy to XC leagues	0.00	0.00	[RED]-636.00	[RED]-636.00
other income (previous yrs memberships)	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
EA registration of club members	0.00	266.00	[RED]-266.00	0.00
Affiliations (EA,Essex AA,SEAA,LDWA)	0.00	0.00	[RED]-258.99	[RED]-258.99
membership sub total				704.05
ESSEX X/C	50.00	100.00	[RED]-116.80	33.20
NESS X/C	47.50	286.00	[RED]-242.75	90.75
MID ESSEX X/C	50.00	250.00	[RED]-144.43	155.57
Core activities sub total	793.67	2,322.00	[RED]-2,132.10	983.57
OTHER Activities				
Kit	40.00	465.00	0.00	505.00
Trail relays	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Kit & relays sub total				605.00
Trail race entry fees	411.10	3,208.20	[RED]-1,066.00	2,553.30
Charity Donations	1,378.00	0.00	[RED]-3,547.20	[RED]-2,169.20
Trail and Charity sub total #1				384.10
Other activities sub total	1,929.10	3,673.20	[RED]-4,613.20	989.10
Starting Balance (as at 01/09/2021)	2,722.77	5,995.20	[RED]-6,745.30	
Final Balance (as at 16/07/22)				1,972.67
RACE ACCOUNT				
	18.00	0.00	0.00	18.00
fox and hounds	0.00	560.00	[RED]-530.00	30.00
wickham whizz	0.00	376.00	[RED]-376.00	0.00
Chase the mole	0.00	165.00	0.00	165.00
Final Balance (as at 16/07/22)				213.00
SAVINGS ACCO	1,000.58	0.11	0.00	1,000.69
NOTES:	membership fees are used only for the core activities of the club			
	kit is self financing, should it require subsidy it will be provided by trail race income			
	trail relays are subsidised by trail race income			
#1	fees from trails:- eggs £75 ToT'21 £150 DIY £159.10			
I Recommend that	the membership fee remains at £10			
estimates of trans	agm costs £230		NESS trophies £20	
	AGM trail £300			
	Scouts and ToT'22 still to happen.			

A short Q&A followed. Dave G. indicated our finances were in a good position.

Dave G. drew our attention to England Athletics individual membership increasing to £16.

Yan S. thanked Dave G. for all his efforts as Club Treasurer.

7. REPORT FROM MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

140 CURRENT MEMBERS INCLUDING.....

>18 NEW MEMBERS THIS YEAR

>12 MEMBERS THAT DIDN'T RENEW LAST YEAR. (EMAIL 2 REMINDERS THEN REMOVE THEM FROM THAT YEAR'S CURRENT MEMBERSHIP LIST.....ALTHOUGH SUSPECT SOME MIGHT NOT HAVE INTENDED TO LEAVE!)

>87 MEN, AVERAGE AGE 57

>53 WOMEN, AVERAGE AGE 55

>1 JUNIOR

>96 FIRST CLAIM

>43 SECOND CLAIM

Sue C. suggested that it may be more productive to email (as individuals) members who hadn't paid before removing them. Yan S. said he'd try that.

On behalf of the Club & Committee, John C. thanked Yan S. for all his efforts as Membership Secretary (& Chair).

8. REPORT FROM CHAMPIONSHIP SECRETARY

No report. John C. informed the meeting that Paul S. had indicated to him that he wished to resign from the role if there was someone who would volunteer to do the role.

It was noted that Jim G. had volunteered.

John C. proposed Jim G. as Championship Secretary.

Dave G. seconded.

Vote unanimous.

(Action: John C. to contact Paul S. thanking him for his time as Championship Secretary.)

9. REPORT FROM CLUB SECRETARY

John C. informed the meeting we had 16 England Athletics members.

Yan S. thanked John C. for all his efforts as Club Secretary.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESSES:

>10.1 Dave G. started a discussion on aligning club dates for simplicity:

membership year (1st jan - 31st dec)

financial year (1st sep - 31st aug)

England Athletics club membership year (1st April - 31st March FIXED)

cross country season (September – March FIXED)

Dave G. formally proposed adoption of the England Athletics year for membership & accounting.

Sue C. seconded.

Vote unanimous.

(Action: Dave G. to align financial year to England Athletics year (1st April to 31st March).)

(Action: Yan S. to align club membership year to England Athletics year (1st April to 31st March).)

>10.2 Dave G. started a discussion concerning formal rules governing the use of race income.

Dave G. pointed out that as a "Community Amateur Sports Club" no individual member may profit. Income may legally be used for expenses to run the club, or for the provision of an event, or as a donation to a registered charity. Dave G. asked: Do we need formal rules?

John C. suggested that a sub committee may be needed to investigate.

No formal decision was reached.

>10.3 Dave G. started a discussion concerning "Social membership threshold": we are required to ensure that at least 50% (currently 67) of our members are "participating members", i.e. that they take part in the sporting activities of the club on at least 12 occasions per year. These include

- participating in an eligible sport organised by the club
- being a match official for an eligible sport for the club
- coaching club members in an eligible sport
- providing first aid to people playing an eligible sport for the club
- being an accompanying individual for the club
- driving a club vehicle, or a vehicle hired by the club, to transport those persons listed above

- preparing or maintaining club sporting facilities or equipment for use in an eligible sport
- being an officer, or a committee member of the club
- undertaking a relevant training course

Dave G. informed the committee that HMRC may want to see documentary proof that we reach this threshold or we may lose our tax free status. The suggestion is we combine XC & trail championships data, plus race organisers, XC marshals, first aiders and committee members to see where we stand, and maintain some sort of register for the future. Dave G. has made a start on this and we are currently at only 33%!

Following a discussion it was agreed that in future all new members will be asked to "tick a box" on their membership form to agree to do at least 12 training runs per year.

(Action: Yan S. to alter membership form to reflect this.)

>10.4 Wendy S. asked the AGM if we wanted to continue with the Club person of year award? Unanimous "Yes we do" from the meeting. Wendy S. indicated there may be a change to the method of voting.

11. DATE/TIME/PLACE OF THE NEXT MEETING. to be arranged.

Yan S. finished by congratulating everyone who'd helped organised the Trail Run, the Venue & the food. Yan S. especially wanted to thank Dave G. for his ingenuity of linking the Trail Run & Buffet to an AGM!

Meeting closed 1:16pm
