

SOUTH WEST ATHLETICS LEAGUE
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT THE EXETER HARRIERS CLUBHOUSE AT
10am ON SATURDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER

- 1. Present in person:** Mike Furse (President – Dorchester AC), Richard Llewellyn-Eaton (Chairman – Taunton AC), David Varney (Divisional Secretary – Newquay & Par AC), Jayne Reed (Armada), Dave Robinson & Sue Howell (Exeter Harriers), Janice Hindle & Mike Hindle (Newton Abbot AC), Geoff Williams (North Devon AC), Peter Impett (Wimborne AC)

Present by “Zoom”: Roger Lee (Treasurer – unattached), Karen Robilliard (Cornwall AC), Steve Blackford (Armada), Bryan Murray (Poole A C), Jacky Brett & Emma Clemo (Newquay Par), Ian Humphries (Mendip)

Apologies: Keith Reed (Armada) & Mark Pauley (Poole AC)

- 2.1 Minutes** Amendments
to AGM minutes of 24th September 2022 – under apologies incorrect spelling Steve Charles S/B Steve Choules, and under 3.5 it should read Poole R R instead of Poole A.C.
- 2.2** After amendments acceptance of the AGM of 24th September 2022 was proposed by Dave Varney, seconded by Mike Hindle and carried unanimously.

3 Reports

3.1 Chairman (Richard Llewellyn-Eaton)

The Chairman welcomed officers and club representatives to the meeting. He told us that 33 years ago Mike Furse & himself started the South West Athletics League. Mike has been president for sometime now and wants to stand down as President and Minutes Secretary. Heartfelt thanks for everything he’s done.

The Chairman then went on to say he thought numbers had picked up and it was a good standard of competition.

Thank you to everyone, officials & volunteers.

3.2 League Secretary (Ian Humphreys)

No report submitted.

3.3 Divisional Secretary (Dave Varney)

Report attached.

Dave thanked Geoff Williams for his help with the records. Re the record of Steeplechase of 4m 12 from years ago to be excluded from records but to keep a copy of it, Dave has all of the previous year's records annually so nothing is lost.

Mike Hindle proposed a vote of thanks to Dave Varney for all his work. Seconded by Janice Hindle and carried unanimously.

3.4 Treasurer (Roger Lee)

Written accounts were presented at meeting.

On the basis of the accounts submitted the treasurer felt that the league was still quite well off but with the increase cost of the awards (£40) and the rising costs of the track, £120 for starting & £200 for refreshments it was felt we should put the fee up to £700.

Dave Robinson offering new name for First Aid to see if any cheaper.

Treasurer thanked all the clubs paying on time and will carry on as Treasurer.

Acceptance of this report was proposed by Dave Varney, seconded by Mike Furze and carried unanimously.

4. Presentation of Awards

The following clubs received age group and overall league trophies.

Under-13 Boys	Wimborne AC
Under 15 Boys	Exeter Harriers
Under 17 Men	Exeter Harriers
Under 20/Senior Men	Armada
Under 13 Girls	Wimborne AC
Under 15 Girls	Cornwall AC Exeter Harriers
Under 17 Women	Poole A C
Senior Women	Wimborne AC
Relays	Wimborne AC
Overall	Wimborne AC

5. Proposals to be discussed

5.1 Confirmation of SM / U20M Competitor Numbers

[Suggested by Armada]

- i) Armada have requested a review of the 2022 decision to restrict the U20M scoring decision

OR

- ii) To formalise the inclusion of an extra SM if one is U20M [Also suggested by N&P] i.e. that 3xSM may compete OR 3xSM+1xU20M (except in events where specific U20 events are included it reverts to 3xSM + 2xU20M)

Agreed to 5.ii unanimously

5.2 U17 Women's Relays

[Suggested by N&P]

That a separate 4x300m Relay is included in the programme in addition to the SW 4x400m.

Thought of favourably but decided to keep as Agenda item for 2024 as in 2025 the age groups could alter.

5.3 Increase in provision for Field Events & Senior competition

[Suggested by N&P]

- i) To increase the competition events for Seniors Men & Women, only, to provide a full range of field events & limited track (not endurance or hurdles races), combining some age groups or adding new 'slots' as shown on the attached suggested 2024 timetable & supplement.

Proposal was accepted on the agreement that the long throws started at 10.45 a.m. & with the proviso that the meeting finish time does not get delayed. This is to be reviewed at the first meeting. This was to be a trial for 2024 & would revert back in 2025 if it didn't work.

Passed by 9 votes to 3.

[Suggested by N&P]

- ii) To revert to three trials plus top THREE having a further three trials in Senior competition only if 5.3. ii) is accepted. This is likely to speed up these competitions.

The proposal ii) was withdrawn by N.P.

[Suggested by Cornwall AC]

- iii) Cornwall AC would like to propose that for age categories U17 and older both the shot and discus disciplines be available on the same program.

The proposal iii) was passed unanimously if we can make it work, Dave will look at programme.

5.4 Application to join League

To consider a request from North Somerset AC to (re)join the league for the 2024 season.

All agreed,

5.5 Miscellaneous League Running Costs

[Suggested by Exeter Harriers]

- i) Exeter Harriers would like to propose a hire fee of £30 per competition for the use of the recently purchased TESS equipment. The monies to go towards maintenance of the equipment.

Proposal i) As part of treasurer's report Roger has said yes. Both YOAC & N&P questioned why there was a cost requested for TESS when half of the purchase was provided by SW Regional Council & EA. The excessive use & cost for maintenance as a result of this was accepted provided ExH purchased back up batteries for the recall, which failed at the final meeting

All agreed

- ii) Exeter Harriers wish to review the long-standing provision of official's refreshments at league meetings in view of changes to the catering franchise at the Arena.

Proposal ii) For officials - £50 for food per meeting.

All agreed

5.6 Age Group Review / Possible Implications

That the SWAL clubs review the Age group changes following the club consultations & agree a response to any proposals.

As the changes will not come in until 2025, the Chairman asked clubs to look at Seminar PowerPoint – Scottish Athletics was the best.

5.7 Rule changes:

- Relay Scores (as agreed 2022 but not implemented)
- Discontinue use of U17W 2000 number series

Passed unanimously.

6. Venues and Dates for 2024 season.

The Chairman presented five possible dates for 2024

May 5 th	June 2 nd	21 st July
July 28 th	September 1 st	

The South West Inter-counties to be held on one of the July dates.

All matches to be at Exeter Arena.

Chairman also pencilled some other dates in with the Arena – July 7th, April 28th and Saturday July 6th.

Richard Llewellyn Eaton has provisionally booked these dates with Exeter Arena but awaiting any changes of National meetings.

7. Election of Officers for 2024

Chairman left meeting to see Exeter Arena staff and passed over to Mike Hindle who is taking over from Mike Furze as President. Mike said it was a privilege to take over from Mike Furze who had always done a great job with a smile on his face.

President	Mike Hindle
Chairman:	Richard Llewellyn-Eaton
League Secretary	Ian Humphreys
Treasurer	Roger Lee
Results Secretary	Dave Varney
Officials Secretary	Keith Reed
Minutes Secretary	Janice Hindle

All nominated candidates were elected unanimously

There being no further business, the meeting closed at approximately 12.45

Following the meeting Peter Impett wished to record a tribute to S W League officials who have departed this year, they are David Little, Dean Exton (Dorchester), John Gregory (starter).

Geoff Williams as Web master for SWAL brought up the subject of complaints by athletes and who would deal with it.