

OXFORDSHIRE AA

MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD FRIDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2006 AT EXETER HALL, KIDLINGTON

Present – Alan Vincent, Lyn Hopkins, Alan Corfield, Barrie Strange, Mike Shipway, Graham Pickup, Mike Hughes(BAN), Catherine Parkinson (PADO), Alan Roche, Paul Harris(ALC), Clyde Goodwin(BIC), Derek Breaker(EYN), Laurie Hurman(HEAD), Noel Blatchford(ABI), Andrew Garner(ABI), Alan Woodland, Michael Collins(KID) and Richard Skilbeck(HEAD).

1. **Apologies** – Richard Jegou(WHH), Paul Felton(T&G), Kate Worrall(WIT), Peter Chivers(ALC), Colin Mitchell, Christine Benning, Sue Burns(GOR), Tracey McCallion(GOR), John Sear, Steph Cook(THA), Will Atkinson, Jenny McBain(ALC), Paul Kelsey, Ian Robinson(BAN) and Gareth Smith(WHH).
2. **Minutes of the previous AGM held 21st October 2005** –
All agreed to be a true record of the meeting held. Proposed by BS and seconded by AR.
3. **Matters Arising** –
 - a) Item 5(a) – proxy form was returned by LH for the AAA EGM.
 - b) Item 5(b) – Amended Constitution was sent out with the AGM minutes.
 - c) Item 6 – Last years accounts have been audited.
 - d) The County Clock has been repaired.
4. **Chairman's Report** – AV reported -

The Committee has met seven times since the last AGM, with an average attendance of 10 people (this has remained constant over the past three years), although we had two meetings which were very poorly attended. My thanks to our President, Barrie Strange, for chairing one meeting in my absence.

UK Athletics and England Athletics developments have remained an important focus for us. The South East Regional Council is now fully operational. I was elected to represent Oxfordshire on the Council, while Colin Mitchell and I represent the County on the Sub-Regional Management Group (Hants, Berks, Bucks & Oxon). Nearer home, we have put a lot of time into thinking how best to shape the future work of the Association and I shall be reporting on that later on in the agenda.

We have continued to work closely with Christine Benning, who has continued to be very supportive of the Association in her new role of Interim Sub-Regional Manager. We extend our best wishes to Chris who has had to take time off for an operation.

Catherine has put in another excellent year's work as our PADO.

Last year I reported on the attempts to start a new club in an area that has lacked provision in the past, and I am pleased to say that Goring & Wallingford is now fully operational and taking up representation at County Committee meetings.

We have lost some great stalwarts of Oxfordshire athletics over the past year – Cliff Allmond and John Crozier who both gave long and much valued service as senior officials, and Geoff Robinson, the Chairman and driving force for so many years of Banbury Harriers. On a more pleasant note, we had the delightful experience of seeing Eileen Kear honoured with an MBE. The County was pleased to present a special award of its own when Radley held a celebratory event.

In conclusion, I should like to pay tribute to the work of our Officers. Our President has continued to do an enormous amount of work. Lyn Hopkins is a supremely competent Secretary and does a tremendous job in holding us all together. And I want to pay special tribute to Alan Corfield who is standing down as Treasurer after 12 years of very careful husbandry of the accounts. I said last year that he would be a hard act to follow, but I am delighted that we have managed to identify a successor. Once again, we have been fortunate to have excellent people in the other main postholder roles, including Will Atkinson, Pete Chivers, Colin and Diane Mitchell and Peter O'Keefe. We have also recruited Mike Shipway, an excellent Press & Publicity Officer and a new Webmaster, Paul Kelsey. We are sorry to lose the services this year of Diane Mitchell and Peter O'Keefe in their respective roles of County Rankings compiler and Track & Field Championships Co-ordinator. It will be important to replace them with people just as competent.

Overall, it has been another good year, as I am sure you will agree after receiving the other reports.

Proposed by NB and seconded by GP, accepted by all present.

5. England Athletics and the implications for Oxfordshire AA – report by AV –

ENGLAND ATHLETICS - SOUTH EAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

What has been happening over recent months at Regional and Sub-Regional level?

- We now have both a Regional Council and a Sub-Regional Management Group. The Regional Council consists of a single representative from each of the 7 counties (but with no Berks representative as yet). I represent Oxfordshire. The two Interim Sub-Regional Managers (Chris Benning and Elspeth Turner), whose contracts currently only take them through to December, also sit on the Council.
- Council members have taken on portfolio responsibilities. I have taken on Officials and Volunteer Development and Educational Links.
- Andy Neal has been appointed to take forward coaching and related topics and Carol Shuttleworth is looking after projects and supporting the Regional squads. Other tasks are being undertaken through Athletics Services or SEAA.
- Regional Strategy and action plan are underway.
- The Sub-Regional Management Group is composed of two representatives per county, plus Chris Benning as the Interim Sub-Regional Manager.
- So far, there has been one meeting of the new Regional Council and one of the Sub-Regional Management Group.
- There is a Regional Chairs' meeting next week 23/24 October.
- I shall aim to feed back relevant information to the Clubs and the Committee from the Regional Council and Colin Mitchell and I will do the same with the Sub-Regional Management Group.

What is actually happening that affects Oxfordshire athletics?

Regional Technical Event Squad Days

Support for more coach involvement at squad days. New events co-ordinators are: Mike Leonard (Sprints/Hurdles), Carol Jackson (Jumps), Bronwen Carter (Throws) and Neville Taylor (Endurance).

Sub-Regional Grants

Five schemes have been successful, including one from Oxon AA, submitted by Colin Mitchell. £1,000 agreed for Power of 10 work to support the scheme at County level, with the award of T-shirts to successful Power of 10 athletes.

Road Running

It is likely that an Endurance Investment fund will be established that would be distributed to Regions and Counties essentially on the basis of bids.

Athletics Services

Athletics Services is a branch of England Athletics that is tasked to deliver a range of services and products. These include: Finance, Information Technology, Procurement, Human Resources, Legal, Company Secretarial, Meeting services, Anti-Doping, Insurance, Health & Safety, Welfare, CRB, Disciplinary, Appeals, Rules Revision, Event permitting, Eligibility, Facility certification and Membership administration. There will be a presentation event on 06/12/06 at Bisham Abbey.

Affiliation

We now know that a club affiliation scheme is being introduced from April 2007, Affiliation fee likely to be £50, Club member fee would be £5, with a membership number issued as a passport to competition. South will need a transition to this membership scheme and this will mean £3 rather than £5 in first instance.

Website

The England Athletics website should be up and running by Christmas and we have agreed that it should include a company diagram.

Remaining role of SEAA

Most territorial functions will go to Athletics Services, so the only role for SEAA is likely to be competition, i.e. regional championships.

Competition

Jack Buckner is looking only at 11-23 year-olds. His report in November will set out guiding principles. There will be pilots for new format in 2007 (more attractive to athletes, shorter timescale).

Discussion held and it was noted that if the SEAA Unattached Levies are kept purely for endurance, Counties may struggle to fund Track & Field. Also, that England Athletics is not a branch of UKA, totally separate.

6. **Restructuring of the Oxfordshire AA** – AV reported –

AV tabled his September 2006 update for discussion.

- a) We plan to retain the existing Committee structure, with continued access for club representatives, but with fewer meetings per year – and shorter agenda.
- b) We will create task groups for major functions (which might conduct their business by phone or e-mail, rather than physical meetings). We will need to be efficient in our e-communication (and ensure that those who do not have e-mail are not left out of the loop).
- c) As a trial in 2006-07, the full Committee will meet six times – dates to be agreed, but probably in October (end-on to the AGM), December, February, April, June and September.
- d) Task groups will be created to function alongside, and report to, the full Committee. The task groups should include the following:
 - Officers (Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, President and Regional Manager) – responsible for overall administration, finance, external relations, and development matters
 - Communications (Chair, Secretary, Press & Publicity Officer, Website Manager) – correspondence, media relations, publicity, and website)
 - Track & Field (One Officer, Track & Field Championships Co-ordinator, Team Manager representative(s), Officials Secretary, Coaching Co-ordinator, PADO and 1 other co-opted member) – all Track & Field competition (including Sportshall)
 - Road & Cross Country (Road Race Co-ordinator, Cross Country Championships Co-ordinator, Oxford Mail League Organiser + 1 other co-opted member + 1 Officer) – all Road & Cross Country competition.The Treasurer should be invited to attend meetings where significant financial matters are to be discussed and no decision will be taken on finance without the Treasurer's approval.
Task groups will have some freedom in deciding how best they are to function, but it is suggested that they meet at least a couple of times a year. At other times, business can be conducted by phone and/or e-mail. The task group co-ordinator [underlined in the lists above] will be responsible for arranging meetings and ensuring ongoing contact, e.g. setting up and mailing the egroup network, deciding whether to invite broader representation at meetings and ensuring feedback within the group, to the full Committee and via the website (where appropriate).
- e) The task groups will have the power of co-option and should actively consider appropriate representation from the Clubs and from outside the County Committee. Nominations for co-option should also be welcomed from the Clubs. There will also be times when good practice will indicate the need for additional people (e.g. Schools representative) to be copied in on e-mail group correspondence or phoned.
- f) Each task group will be asked to submit a brief report to the Secretary in advance of each full Committee meeting, to arrive no later than two full weeks before the date of the respective meeting.

Discussion held and it was agreed by all to allow the Committee to trial the new structure.

7. **Secretary's Report and Correspondence Received** –

LH reported that clubs had been very good this year on notifying her of changes in contacts, much better than previous years.

a) **SEAA/AAA/UKA**

- SEAA Minutes of the First Claims and Hardship Committee Meeting held 25th September 2006
 - Jade Williams from Amman Valley Harriers to Radley AC.
 - Allan Matthews from Newbury AC to Oxford City.
- SEAA Minutes of the Track & Field Management Committee meeting held 20th September 2006.
- SEAA Minutes of the General Committee meeting held 6th September 2006 – Affiliation of MG Harriers accepted subject to approval from Oxon AA. To be discussed at item 8.
 - Agreed that the SEAA website would not take on commercial advertising, but would set up links to like minded websites for free.
 - Graham Jessop elected as representative for endurance running clubs onto the UKA Supervisory Council. All other posts subject to election as more than one candidate.
- SEAA Minutes of the Road Running Management Committee meeting held 12th September 2006.

- Course Measurement – SEAA website now up to date. In future course measurers to give the race organisers a document stating that the course is OK and a copy of the report to be sent to the Office. Hugh Jones is likely to become the UK Course Measurement Secretary.
- Permits – SEAA to still issue permits up to 31st March 2007, by then England Athletics should have their own system up and running. A meeting to be called of all County Permit Secretaries.
- SEAA Information Update No. 102 – August/September 2006.
- Athletics Update South Sub-Region – Autumn 2006 –
 - Messages from Alan Harrison, Chief Executive of England Athletics.
 - SE Regional Council Meeting – 04/09/06.
 - SE Regional Plan – Coaching section – should encourage all our coaches to complete their CRB checks as soon as possible.
 - UKA Website launched – www.ukathletics.net new England Athletics website to be launched later this year.
 - Regional Grants for Clubs and County Associations – application forms available from Christine Benning.
 - Autumn Conferences list.
 - Regional Rankings send details to Pete Chivers at peter.chivers@ntlworld.com
 - Power of Ten – www.powerof10.info
 - England Athletics Coach Education Courses 2006-7.
 - Abingdon Ambers received their Clubmark accreditation at the Vale of White Horse Youth Games celebration evening on 27th September.
- England Athletics Ltd – Affiliation of Clubs, Athletes and Associations report. Copies available at AGM.
- England Athletics Ltd – SE Region – Grant Aid for Affiliated Athletic Clubs and Counties – 2nd deadline 31st January 2007 – contact Christine Benning or Elspeth Turner.

b) **OTHER**

- Letter from Bournemouth University – conference – Event Tourism – Enhancing Destinations and the V Economy – 10th & 11th January 2007 - £180. For further details – http://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/servicesmanagement/nes_events_conferences/event_conference.htm
- Receipt from Bicester and Oxford for the National Finals Sportshall at Birmingham. Hand to AC.
- Cheques for Sportshall Affiliations 2006/2007 – Abingdon, Goring & Wallingford, Witney, Oxford City and Banbury. Hand to AC.
- The Give it a Go Guide – for activities in Oxfordshire 2006/2007. Advertising starts at £10. www.giveitagoguide.co.uk
- Sportshall monies for entry fees at Banbury – October, £24.00 Oxford City, £33.00 Banbury and £22.00 Bicester.
- Invoice from Blessed George Napier School for hire of hall for Sportshall on 15th October - £125.00.
- New Secretary at Thame Runners – Steph Cook, 10 Grenville Way, Thame, Oxon OX9 3YP. Telephone number 01844 218588.

c) **RACE ENTRY FORMS**

- Prospectus and entry form for the SEAA Inter County Cross Country Champs – 9th December 2006 at Parliament Hill Fields to be discussed at Committee meeting to be held after AGM.

AV again thanked LH for all her work.

8. **New Club Affiliation – MG Harriers –**

SEAA sent a letter asking Oxfordshire AA to accept MG Harriers as a new affiliated club in Oxfordshire. There were several points that the committee were not happy with. AV sent an email to SEAA concerned about the following –

1. None of us (with wide-ranging representation) had heard anything about this club or its formation.
2. There are no membership fees, so who is paying for the affiliation(s)?
3. Is this a local club (Treasurer's address is in Litchfield)?
4. There is no fixed training venue.
5. The Oxford area already has an abundance of clubs

Discussion held and it was decided to inform the SEAA that we are not prepared to accept the new club in Oxfordshire. **ACTION** – AV

9. **School's Report** – No report received.

10. **Press & Publicity Officer** –

MS reported – Firstly he apologised for the fact that he had not been able to cover all events in the year due to being away on holiday for 2 months. He thanked those who stepped in and sent race reports to the media in his absence. He was also unable to attend the Committee Meetings held on 14th July and 8th September due to holidays.

- MS outlined his original brief – Inform the public of County & Inter-county events and of any special items which the County Committee wish to be publicised.
- He has tried to do this through reporting on all track & field, road and cross-country events to the media and to Club Secretaries. He has also produced a quarterly News Sheet highlighting matters of importance and interest to Clubs including the Restructure of the Oxon AA and the changes in England Athletics.
- From time to time press releases have been sent to the media when this has been considered appropriate (Inter-Counties 10k, Inter-Counties Cross-country and County Track & Field events).
- MS said he was grateful for the support and advice received during the year from Oxon AA Officers and fellow Committee members.

11. **Treasurer's Report**

AC tabled the Audited Accounts for the year; he then gave his report –

- a) 20 Organisations affiliated.
- b) Road Levies received £3515.79 – if in the future we do not receive this it would cause a problem.
- c) X-C at St. Hugh's School, no fee paid.
- d) Track & Field Open Meeting clashed with football on TV, therefore low numbers attended.
- e) Provision for accounts awaited – Inter-Counties in September, invoice due for first aid.
- f) Assets – Officials badges removed from figures, although in stock, as they will not be sold as blazers are no longer worn by officials.
- g) Grand Prix – not all clubs have paid their affiliations, should have been paid at the beginning of the season.

Treasurer's Report proposed by AG and seconded by MH, all agreed.

AV gave thanks to Alan Corfield for his 12 years as Treasurer. AC thanked all for their help over the years. AC stated that if the new Treasurer wishes, the Auditors are prepared to carry on. AC is handing over to KW on 8th November 2006.

12. **Christine Benning (SRM) and Catherine Parkinson (PADO) updates**–

Christine Benning was unable to attend due to an operation.

CP reported –

The past year has seen a number of new activities take place as well as the continuation of existing activities. CP summarised –

- a) Sportshall Athletics for Primary Schools has spread across the County. Cherwell continued building on previous years and competitions took place in South Oxfordshire for the first time. Single competitions were also introduced to West Oxfordshire and Vale. This year a full structure has been put in place with District Heat Competitions in each district, leading to a District Final and a County Final.
- b) The Oxfordshire Youth Games took place for the first time this year on 9th July at Radley College. Athletics was included and a competition took place for people in School Years 5 and 6. This event was very successful and will be taking place again in 2007 (8th July). 9 teams competed in the athletics, from the 5 Oxfordshire Districts. This event was not organised as a stand alone event, several coaching sessions took place leading into the competition, and involved over 300 people.
- c) A number of Level 1 Assistant Officials Courses have been run, including several for leadership students at local schools. These linked in with both the Sportshall Athletics Competitions and Oxfordshire Youth Games, providing many officials at these events.
- d) School Club Links are now well established in a number of Districts and include the majority of clubs with junior sections. Some great work has taken place through these links.
- e) Startrack Courses took place during the summer in Bicester, Banbury, Oxford, Thame, Didcot and Abingdon. These were all very successful, especially the courses in Banbury and Bicester where numbers increased considerably from previous years.

- f) Partnership Squad Days took place again for those U13 and U15 athletes who had achieved Grade 3 standard and above. Three sessions took place with approximately 50 athletes at each. These are again continuing this year with the first day taking place next Sunday 29th October.
- g) Finally congratulations have to go to Abingdon Amblers for achieving Clubmark accreditation recently. Several other clubs are now nearing this as well.

AV thanked Catherine for her hard work.

13. **Cross Country Report** – BS reported –

a) **County Cross-Country Championships Report** –

The County Cross Country Championships were held at St Hugh's School, near Buckland, on Sunday 15th January. BS has written a letter of thanks to the School. The County also wishes to convey their thanks to Abingdon Amblers in promoting this meeting. The Schools pavilion was ideal for our needs. Adjacent was a good sized sports field which was used for the start and finishes. We were fortunate that the weather remained dry.

There was a very good entry this year over all the age groups of 567. The results were quickly done by Kate and Lyn using a laptop. The presentations of certificates and medals were made with the minimum of delay.

220 certificates for Under 11's, 13's and 15's were printed from the entries. 127 were presented on the day and a further 14 were sent by post. They are quite popular, some Under 17's asked for them. All medals were either presented to the runners, or given to their clubs on the day.

The results were E-mailed to all the clubs and individuals on the same day. The results were in the next edition of Athletics Weekly. Thanks to Mike for doing a report on the races and sending it together with the results to the Oxford Mail. 1½ pages; good advertisement for our sport.

We agreed that when the Oxford Mail League decides on the dates for next years cross country fixtures they are better placed to find a venue and host club for our Championships. (Probably at Horspath/Shotover, subject to satisfactory agreement between Oxford City Council and Oxford City A.C.)

b) **Inter-County Cross Country** –

- i. South of England at Thetford on 10th December. Only 3 Under 23 men took part. They were all well placed, and with one more competitor we could have won the team award.
- ii. CAU at Nottingham on 11 March. We competed in all the races. Hatti Dean won the senior women's race. Team 13th out of 28. Bea Swords 8th in the Under 15 Girls. Melissa Hawtin 3rd in the Under 13 Girls. Team 9th out of 40.

14. **Track & Field Report** –

- a) C.A.U. senior men and women at Bedford on 28/29 May. 3 men and 5 women took part. Hatti Dean won the steeplechase.
- b) County v Oxford University on 14th June at Iffley Road. Friendly and enjoyable meeting. The University won overall, but the County men beat the University men.
- c) Under 13 boys and girls at Kingsmeadow on 30th July.
11 Counties took part. The boys were 8th with 211 points. Surrey won with 295.5 points.
The girls were also 8th with 202 points. Essex won with 282.5 points.
- d) Senior men and women at Crawley on 13th August.
8 Counties took part. This meeting is against much larger Counties than Oxon.
The County put out stronger teams this year. Despite this the men were 8th with 180 points, which was won by Kent with 385 points. The women fared better in 6th place with 198 points, which was won by Essex with 357 points.
- e) Under 20/15 men and women at Eton on 26th August.
All 19 Southern Counties participated.
Individual highlights. Both all England Schools champions; Lucy Boggis in the Under 20 hurdles, and Kirsty Warland in the Under 15 hurdles were convincing winners.
In the men's events, Jonathan Lodowski was second in the Under 20 400 hurdles.
- f) Under 20/17/15 Inter Counties at Tilsley Park on the 17th September.

The County had convincing wins for both men and women, competing against Devon, Dorset, Worcestershire and Gloucestershire. The women had 34 first places and the men 25 first places.

- g) County Track & Field at Horspath, all went very well. 10K not so well supported. Open meeting the weather was unkind and therefore not well supported.

BS stated that we rely heavily on volunteers for team managers and thanked all those who had helped over the year.

15. **Road Race Secretary's Report** – WA was unable to attend, but sent in his report –

- a) Road racing and M/T continue to increase in popularity with 32 major permit races scheduled in the county, good numbers in most of the races, and many oversubscribed. New races this year were the Carterton 10k, Chiltern Chase and Mel Leafield 10. We lost the Oxford Aviators 10k.
- b) The County Race Clock was out of commission for a while, but has been in regular use after a partially successful service.
- c) Road racing depends on a small group of officials, timekeepers, starters, referees and course measurers. These volunteers have been neglected by UKA until now, but they are at last introducing a proper system of accreditation which WA plans to introduce to clubs at the Road AGM.
- d) The County Road Relays were again held successfully at Hook Norton. Many thanks to Hook Norton Harriers, to Rose Webb who dealt with the entries, and Gary Harris and his results team. WA thinks all the clubs provided marshals this year and the entries were up on the previous year despite it being held on Easter Sunday.
- e) Witney have emerged as the dominant club in the Road Race Grand Prix series. They have already secured the Men's title after years of domination by Woodstock and are locked in a tight struggle with reigning champions Headington for the Women's.
- f) Paul Harris managed men's and women's Inter-Counties 10k teams at Eastleigh this year. The men's team were 8th, with Vasili Zverev becoming Intercounties V40 champion, and the women's team were 6th. Paul has also started compiling road race ranking lists which will help with team selection in the future.
- g) The Oxon distance mailing list now has 45 members from at least 10 different Oxfordshire clubs and is a useful forum for publicising races and disseminating results. The web site for registration is: http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/oxonaa_distance/
- h) During 2007 UKA will take over the administration of the permit system from SEAA. A road running working group has been examining proposals and will report on 18th November. WA hopes to be able to bring some news to the Road Race AGM.
- i) The Road Race AGM will be at 7:30 on Friday 1st December at OXSRAD in Oxford. WA will be sending out notices shortly.
- j) At this point Michael Collins gave a report on the possibility of an Oxford Marathon in 2007 –

Elsevier Press are trying to establish an Oxford Marathon for the next year in conjunction with the City's Millennium, and involve universities. They have been in contact with MC for advice. Amongst his suggestions were a) to combine it with a half marathon, almost certainly necessary to meet costs of a race in the City and b) on particular courses. Elsevier Press have been in communication with WA also concerning possible dates. They need to find a date before the Road Race AGM. Date suggested has been the 24th September 2006, which is close to the Abingdon Marathon. Woodstock 12 is usually the week before this date.

They would like to attract universities across the country and worldwide.

A suggestion from the AGM that they look to changing the time of year to take it away from the Abingdon Marathon, maybe the Spring of 2008. WA to suggest this to them.

As a County Association we cannot support in September/October and it should not clash with any of our established races. Neither should it be held close to the Town & Gown. **ACTION – WA**

16. **Coaching Secretary's Report** – Colin Mitchell was unable to attend the meeting but sent in his report –

2005/2006 has seen the transformation from the old system under the SEAA to the Hub system following the publication of the Foster Report. The new SE Region hub covering Bucks, Berks, Oxon, Hants, Sussex, Surrey and Essex has been set up to deliver real power and funding all the way down to Club level.

Through the Sub region hub of Hants, Berks, Bucks and Oxon, Coaching and Athlete development has been one of the areas to gain the most from the Foster report.

HBBO has been empowered by UKA with funds and the power to deliver Athlete and Coach Education that has been long asked for by Clubs and Coaches.

The Coaching blue print developed over the last 3 years by the old Southern Region Coaching Group (now known as HBBO), has now been taken up as best practice by UKA, so HBBO has already got a head start and we have set up three tiers of coaching to help develop all of the regions Athletes and Coaches to produce world class performances at their age groups.

- Tier 1 – Athletes in the SE Region U17-U20 within 5% of age group World Potential Performance.
- Tier 2 – Athletes in the HBBO Region U17-U20 not in level 1, but have achieved level 1 or 2 performances.
- Tier 3 – Athletes in the County U15-U13 having achieved level 1 or 2 performances.

All of the above Tiers have 4 squad days planned between now and the start of the season to ensure Athletes and Coaches are exposed to the latest best Coaching practice.

Whilst Athletes have to achieve set Levels to get invited to the above days, all squad days are open for observation by any Level of Coach in the County, anyone who wishes more details please contact Colin and he will give them full details of how they can go along and watch some of the Region's top Coaches working.

Criminal Record Bureau checks are now mandatory on all UKA Coaches. UKA has written to all Coaches with full details of how to apply, as a County under a "Duty of Care" we must insist that Clubs ask and check that all Coaches working within the Club have been through a CRB Check. UKA will shortly refuse to renew a Coach pass unless a CRB check is in place. If any Coach or Club does not understand how to apply, please contact Colin and he will go through the system, please note, that a CRB Check with other organisations will NOT cover UKA Coaches; you must apply under the umbrella of UKA. The question was asked – should clubs without junior sections get CRB checked? The committee decided that clubs could have vulnerable adults and therefore yes they should be checked.

We have now planned a Coaches Social Evening at Tilsley Park on Friday 1st December, where we will have a couple of presentations, which will include "Power of Ten". It is hoped we will have a good turnout, as this is the opportunity for Coaches to shape what HBBO offer in the way of Coach Education and funding to support Athletes and Coaches at club level. This is your chance to get whatever back up funding etc, you have been asking for over the last few years, so please come along, get fed and watered free and help change the system.

The Power of Ten scheme was launched by UKA in July 2006, aimed at raising athletics standards in the UK all the way from clubs to the Olympic Games. It is a statistical stepladder devised to inspire athletes – seniors, Under 20s, Under 17s and Under 15s. – to move through clubs, regional and national levels to international standards. Power of Ten is based on standards considered attainable in a particular season by the 10th-best athlete in the UK in every Olympic track and field event in all four age groups.

There are UK-wide targets that have been identified by an in-depth examination of the 10th-best performances nationally in each event over each of the last five years, with reference to trends of 10 years ago. And, for developing athletes, there are different targets for all of the 12 English regions and Celtic nations, again taking realistic account of historical trends. The purpose is to start from a realistic base and drive up performance levels in every event, every region and every age group. Which is why, in each year leading up to the 2012 Olympic Games Power of Ten will set ever-increasing targets. The intention is to have at least 10 athletes achieving those predefined annual targets, thus strengthening the breadth and depth of UK athletics talent and reducing the reliance on a handful of brilliant individuals. It will be a transparent process: if the targets are not met, the sport will know there is more work to do. For further details on the Power of Ten and to view the latest UKA Rankings, visit the Power of Ten Website – www.powerof10.info/

In Oxfordshire we are going to pilot a scheme where Athletes and their Coaches who have attained the necessary SE Regional target they will be able to apply for a unique free "Power of 10" t-shirt/polo shirt, the scheme will be launched at the first of the County Squad Days on 29th October 2006.

If you need any more information on this or any other Coaching matters, please contact Colin at oxoncoaching@hotmail.com or ring him on 01235 550515 day or 01235 534571 evening.

17. **Official Secretary's Report** – AV reported -

- We now have about 90 Oxfordshire officials who are active, although AV has had no recent feedback from UKA since Liz Patrick's departure to indicate how many are now registered on the UKA database.

- The number of officials making availability returns for the season (25) was down and, despite some people stepping in to officiate without having made returns, we were again stretched on some of the County and Inter-County dates. AV is very grateful to all those who went beyond club loyalty to support the County when needed.
- We once again managed to service a very large number of fixtures at club, county and inter-county level. Our thanks are due to all those officials who did turn out. The Schools have again been very appreciative of the help our officials have provided at the various schools' fixtures.
- We gained six new officials through the old-style exams, i.e. to the old Grade 4 and AV tutored two of the new Level 1 courses within the County. However, these are mainly taken up by school candidates at present and are not at present a rich source of recruitment for active club and county officials. We were pleased to see Ros Alterman upgraded to Grade 1 Referee (Field) and Alison Brunton to Grade 1 (Track).
- The Grade 4 written exams are due to end this calendar year and we have two candidates sitting the Starter/Marksman exam next week,
- We hope to run a second Officials' social evening next month.

18. Election of Officers and General Committee for 2006/2007 –

Position	Nomination	Proposed	Seconded
President	Barrie Strange	Alan Vincent	Michael Collins
Life Vice Presidents - Barrie Strange proposed that Alan Corfield be elected as a Life Vice-President for his excellent work as Treasurer for the last 12 years. Seconded by Alan Vincent. Agreed by all present.			
	Vernon Blowfield) Charles Kear) Eileen Kear) John Makin) Jill Slatter) Barrie Strange) Ian Taylor) Alan Vincent) Alan Corfield)	Ratified Noel Blatchford	Graham Pickup
		Barrie Strange	Alan Vincent
Chairman	Alan Vincent	Barrie Strange	Alan Woodland
Vice Chairman	Vacant		
Secretary	Lyn Hopkins	Alan Woodland	Andrew Garner
Treasurer	Kate Worrall	Lyn Hopkins	Alan Corfield
Officials Secretary (Track & Field)	Alan Vincent	Alan Woodland	Mike Hughes
Officials Secretary (Endurance/Road Race)	Graham Pickup	Mike Shipway	Michael Collins
Press & Publicity Officer	Mike Shipway	Graham Pickup	Derek Breaker
Coaching Co-ordinator	Colin Mitchell	Noel Blatchford	Alan Woodland
Road Race Co-ordinator	Will Atkinson	Michael Collins	Derek Breaker
X-C Champs Co-ordinator	Barrie Strange	Andrew Garner	Graham Pickup
T&F Co-ordinator	Vacant		
School's Rep	Alan Vincent	Mike Hughes	Barrie Strange
General Committee	Mike Hughes) Alan Woodland) Alan Roche) Jon Wheatcroft) Peter Chivers) Richard Jegou) Paul Harris)	Alan Roche	Clyde Goodwin

Date of Annual General Meeting 2007 – Friday 19th October 2007 at Exeter Hall, Kidlington at 7.30pm

Date of first Committee Meeting – dates chosen to be confirmed. (See List)

Meeting Closed at 9.30pm.