

# OXFORDSHIRE AA

## MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD FRIDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2007 AT EXETER HALL, KIDLINGTON

**Present** – Alan Vincent, Lyn Hopkins, Kate Worrall, Paul Thomas, Graham Pickup, Mike Shipway, Alan Roche, Barrie Strange, Alan Woodland, Paul Harris, Will Atkinson, Mick Hailey(Hook Norton), Dee Hailey(Hook Norton), Mike Tait, Steve Flynn(Bicester), Michael Collins(Kidlington), Alison Proctor(Goring & Wallingford) and Laurie Hurman(Headington).

1. **Apologies** – Peter Chivers, Colin Mitchell, Christine Benning, Catherine Parkinson, Sue Burns(Goring & Wallingford), Noel Blatchford (Abingdon), Andrew Garner(Abingdon), Paul Felton(Town & Gown) and Richard Jegou (White Horse).
2. **Minutes of the previous AGM held 20<sup>th</sup> October 2006** –  
All agreed to be a true record of the meeting held. Proposed by GP and seconded by MC.
3. **Matters Arising** –
  - a) Item 8 – MG Harriers – club seeking affiliation to Oxfordshire AA, nothing heard since.
  - b) Item 15(j) – Oxford Marathon – MC reported that the marathon did not take place. Sponsor did not materialise. A lot of work would be required.
4. **Chairman's Report** –

AV reported –

The Committee had met six times since the last AGM, with an average attendance of 13.5 people (a perceptible increase over recent years). AV thanked our President, Barrie Strange, for chairing one meeting in his absence.

This has been the first year of our new committee structures. It is for the task groups and you to say how well (or not) the new arrangements are working. We did hold an Officers' meeting recently, largely to look at progress and development and from our perspective; things are going better than I dared hope. The key people have responded to the new challenge very positively and the most encouraging aspect is that we seem to have more people taking on major roles and responsibilities – and doing their job very well.

AV paid his customary 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 Kate Worrall has incredibly achieved a seamless move into Alan Corfield's previous role as Treasurer. Once again, we have had excellent service from the key people in the other main postholder roles, including Will Atkinson, Pete Chivers, Paul Kelsey, Colin Mitchell, Peter O'Keefe, Graham Pickup and Mike Shipway. Last year AV prematurely announced the retirement of Peter O'Keefe as Track & Field Championships Co-ordinator, he is still with us. AV gave sincere thanks to all.

### 5. **Secretary's Report and Correspondence Received** –

- a) **SEAA/AAA/UKA**
  - Notes from the South East Regional Council Meeting held Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2007.
  - SEAA Memorandum from Chris Carter Honorary Secretary. Competition Survey and Road Race Funding and Counties.
  - SEAA Information Update No 110 – September 2007 –
    - Didcot Runners new secretary – Claire Shorrock, 7 Wantage Road, Harwell, Didcot, Oxon OX11 0LJ.
  - SEAA Under 15 and Under 20 Inter Counties Championships Results Booklets.
  - AAA Standards Scheme 2007/2008.
  - Minutes of the SEAA Eligibility Committee meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> July 2007 –
    - Antonia Kam from Enfield & Haringey to Radley AC
  - SEAA Information Update No. 109 – August 2007 –

➤ Eligibility Rule Change, responsibility will be transferred to England Athletics from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2007.

- Minutes of the SEAA General Committee Meeting held 6<sup>th</sup> June 2007.
- Minutes of the SEAA General Committee Meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> July 2007.

b) **OTHER**

- Receipt from Exeter Hall for payment of invoice for meeting 7<sup>th</sup> September 2007 – hand to KW.
- Invoice from Exeter Hall for meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> October 2007 – handed to KW.

c) **RACE ENTRY FORMS**

- SEAA Track & Field Indoor Open Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> November 2007 at Lee Valley Athletics Stadium – closing date 6<sup>th</sup> November 2007.
- SEAA Inter County Cross Country Championships Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2007 at Parliament Hill Fields. Closing date 16<sup>th</sup> November 2007.
- AAA English Road Running Association NIKE Senior Women's 4 Stage National Road Relay Champs 20<sup>th</sup> October 2007 at Sutton Coldfield.
- AAA English Road Running Association NIKE Young Athletes National 3 Stage National Road Relay Champs 21<sup>st</sup> October at Sutton Coldfield.
- Gateshead International Cross Country Races – 10<sup>th</sup> November 2007 – closing date 1<sup>st</sup> November 2007.

6. **School's Report** –

JW not in attendance. AV reported that it had been a good year. Good attendance at Radley College for the English Schools, good results.

7. **Press & Publicity Officer** –

MS detailed his role as Press & Publicity Officer and apologised for taking so many holidays.

He has tried to gain publicity for as many events as possible during the year in Track & Field, Road and Cross Country.

County events and inter-county events in all three disciplines have been covered plus the Oxon Road Race Grand Prix on the road. As MS is still an active road runner participating most week-ends and also racing abroad during the year, it was not possible for him to attend many of the county track & field and cross country events. MS is grateful for the support given by clubs, the Oxon AA committee members and officers who have submitted results and reports on his behalf.

Press releases have been issued to the media in advance of important events. After the event reports and results have been submitted.

On the whole we have had good coverage in the press (Oxford Mail), but limited exposure on the radio.

Suggestions for further publicity of athletics in Oxfordshire is always welcomed by MS.

8. **Treasurer's Report** –

KW tabled the accounts for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2007.

a) County funds show a surplus of £2890 for the year.

b) Main sources of income –

- SEAA Road Race Levies - £2264, this is a main source of income for the county, the proposed changes to the distribution of these funds is a cause for concern. We need to ensure that costs are reclaimed promptly so the County's exposure to any loss of income is minimised.
- Power of 10 Development £1000.
- Track and Field Grant £597 (£480 officials development, SEAA £117).
- Sales of vests, polo shirts and fleeces £597.
- Pole Vault Initiative Grant £1650.
- Hire of Race Clock £130.
- Bank Interest £222

c) Main costs –

- Medals and trophies purchased £1338.

- Officials' fleeces, vests and crop tops £587 – income from sales more than covered these costs.
  - Officials expenses £30.
  - Power of 10 £361.
  - Room Hire £212.
- d) Track and Field –
- Entry fees for the championship and open events totalled £1487.
  - The cost of hosting the events at Horspath and Banbury totalled £2189, including track hire, officials' costs, and medical.
  - Travel to inter-county events cost £479. This was off-set by £140 coach fare receipts from those attending.
- e) Sportshall –
- Income from Entry fees and affiliations was £1222.
  - A travel grant of £250 was received which was duly disbursed.
  - Costs of staging the events was £1166.
- f) Cross Country –
- Championship entry fees totalled £378.
  - Costs of holding the event totalled £218 – this includes a provision of £125 for the use of Horspath. We are yet to receive a bill.
  - Travel costs and entry fees for inter-county events cost £505. Travel costs were offset by coach fares receipts of £115 from athletes and supporters travelling to the events.
- g) Road Running –
- Entry fees from clubs were £160 – this included late payments of £50 from the previous season. In all 11 clubs joined.
  - Trophies for last season cost £70.
  - Road Relay entry fees were £225; cost of the event to the county was £175.
  - It was agreed this year that the County would pay mileage of 20ppm to officials attending county events.
  - Road running events £33.
  - Track and Field £59.

Proposed by KW and seconded by SF.

- h) All were concerned over the Unattached Levies and county funds.
- i) KW said there was no need to increase affiliations for now; we should wait and see what happens. We need to consider more grants from areas such as Sub Region etc.

#### 9. **England Athletics Update – AV** –

UK Athletics and England Athletics developments have remained an important focus for us. AV has continued to represent Oxfordshire on the South East Regional Council, while Colin Mitchell and AV represent the County on the Sub-Regional Management Group (Hants, Berks, Bucks and Oxon).

What is actually happening at this level of governance that affects Oxfordshire athletics?

#### **Club Development –**

- ClubMark applications are now being assessed by the Sub Regional Management Group.
- A Club Conference was held at Milton Keynes.
- Successful applications for Regional grants have included one from Oxon AA, submitted by Colin Mitchell. More of that in his report. Remember this source of funding when looking at your clubs' development programme over the coming year.

#### **Competition –**

- We held a County consultation meeting on the future of competition earlier this month and the results were fed back via Chris Benning to the SEAA survey and are part of the ongoing consultation at national level.

#### **Endurance –**

- There is now a Portfolio Holder for Endurance on the Regional Council and the majority of the Council members have a distance running background.
- A County Road Secretaries' meeting and Road Race Forums have been held this year.
- At national level, a Road Running Leadership Group has been formed.

#### **Coaching –**

- The Region is holding regular coaching squad days, open to coaches as well as athletes.

- There are now events co-ordinators for Sprints/Hurdles, Jumps, Throws, Combined Events and Endurance.
- Coaching education conferences are also taking place.
- Flying Coaches visits and Development Days have been allocated to each county, targeting jumps and throws.
- A Regional Coaching Project Group has been set up, with communication by email.

**Officiating –**

- AV is the Portfolio Holder for Officiating on the Regional Council. Regular meetings of the County Officials Secretaries across the Region are now being held.

**Website –**

- The England Athletics website is up and running, with links to the Region.

We have continued to work closely with Christine Benning, who has again been very supportive of the Association in her role of Sub-Regional Manager. Catherine Parkinson has put in another excellent year's work as our PADO.

One negative is the occasional clashes between England Athletics and UKA, not least one involving the allocation of legacy funding.

A final point on regional and national governance, AV shall be attending the first National Conference of England Athletics on 15<sup>th</sup> December. AV reminded all that he would be there on the Regional Council and the Sub-Regional Group to represent Oxfordshire Athletics, so please do contact him on any matters where you feel your views or your clubs' views should be heard.

10. **PADO Update – Catherine Parkinson** – CP was unable to attend, but sent in her report.

**Sportshall Athletics –**

The last year has seen the introduction of a Primary School Sportshall Athletics Competition across the County. The competition is aimed at those in School Years 5 and 6 and schools are invited to enter a team to compete in their local competition, generally held at the local Secondary School. The competitions take similar format to the Club League and competitions were held across the whole of Oxfordshire this year. The winning team from each competition were invited to attend a District Final, with the winning team from each District going on to compete at the Oxfordshire Primary Schools Final which took place at Iffley Road in March. Watlington Primary School were the overall winners. Approximately 200 children participated across the County during the 2006-2007 competitions. It was noted that clubs do not always know about these meetings, the use of leaflets would be useful.

The competitions have not only been beneficial to those participating, they have also enabled older Sports Leaders at the Secondary Schools to help officiate at the competitions. In some areas this has also been linked to training opportunities and the Level 1 Officiating Course.

Competitions have already started for this year and three competitions have taken place in West Oxfordshire, with Oxford holding competitions in November/December, South Oxfordshire in January/February and Cherwell in February/March. There are also plans to extend the Sportshall Athletics programme and hold competitions for Year 7 & 8 over the coming year.

**Oxfordshire Youth Games -**

Athletics was included in the Oxfordshire Youth Games for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year running and again the competition ran with huge success at Radley College in July. Two teams were entered from each District and Vale of White Horse finished in 1<sup>st</sup> place. The competition was again aimed at School Years 5 and 6 and Districts were allowed to enter up to two teams each, selected through the Sportshall Competitions or open trials. This competition is not aimed at those already members of athletics clubs, instead it is aimed at encouraging new participants into the sport.

Coaching was given to schools/teams prior to the competition in all the events which included sprints, middle distance, long jump, vertical jump, soft hammer, shot and 4x100m relay. Thank you to all club officials who helped on the day.

**Startrack Athletics Courses –**

The summer holidays were again busy with Startrack Courses taking place across Oxfordshire. This year courses were organised in Abingdon, Banbury, Bicester, Chipping Norton, Oxford, South Moreton and Thame. Over 200 people participated during the summer at the courses organised by the Oxfordshire Sports Partnership and Local Authorities.

The aim of all of these activities is to increase the opportunity for young people to participate in athletics and encouragement is given to all to join their local athletics club. CP hopes that as a result of these activities, clubs have seen an increase in athletes coming through from schools.

### **County Performance Squad Days –**

County Performance Squad Days for U13s and U15s have had continued success over the past year. A Strength and Conditioning Day took place in November and was well attended by both athletes and coaches. At the Event Specific Squad Day in April there was also a noticeable increase in coaches attending with their athletes.

The next Squad Day is to take place this Sunday (21<sup>st</sup> October) at the White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre. As a result of feedback from the previous day it was decided to split the day in two and have shorter sessions. The morning session is taking place for U13s and U15s athletes and for the first time U17s and U20s athletes have been invited to attend in the afternoon.

Over the past year there has also been a noticeable increase in the number of athletes achieving the Grade Standards to attend, showing that performances are steadily improving across Oxfordshire.

### **Clubmark Accreditation –**

The attainment of Clubmark Accreditation is now moving forward in Oxfordshire. Goring and Wallingford AC have recently gained accreditation and a number of clubs are near to submitting their files. This now takes the total to three clubs with Clubmark Accreditation in Oxfordshire, Abingdon Amblers AC, Oxford City AC and Goring and Wallingford AC.

LH to contact CP concerning the County Athletics Leaflets, are they still in existence? Are they still used for School/Club Links. **ACTION – LH**

### **11. Cross Country Report –**

BS reported –

- a) South of England Inter Counties at Parliament Hill on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December. The County entered 8 of the 10 races. There was no interest in the U20 men and women. Team managers were Dominic Swords and Gordon Manning for the younger age groups, and Angela Briscoe senior women and Tom King the U23 men.

Hatti Dean easily won the senior women's race, and Frances Briscoe was 5<sup>th</sup>. The team were 5<sup>th</sup> only 3 points behind Kent in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Bea Swords was 7<sup>th</sup> in the U15s. We did well in the U23s men with Tom Penfold 3<sup>rd</sup> and Owain Bristow in the top ten. Team managers required for this years race on the 8<sup>th</sup> December.

- b) County Cross Country Championships at Shotover on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January. Oxford City hosted this meeting, which was successful, with only a few minor problems. St John's dealt with a few cuts, mainly due to runners slipping and falling over. Over 500 entries, but quite a number did not run on the day. It was very muddy, but fortunately it did not rain. All the medals were presented on the day, with the exception of bronze medals for 2 teams. 249 certificates were printed for the U11s, U13s and U15s, with about half taking part. The majority were given on the day, and the remainder being posted. A good report in the Oxford Mail and the results were in AW.

- c) CAU Inter Counties at Nottingham on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February. Team managers were Paul Kelsey with Oxford City assistance for the U13s, U15s, U17s and U20s. Angela Briscoe was the senior women's team manager and John Ashton the senior men's.

Teams in all age groups except the U20 men and women. Senior men – 4 had good runs and finished close together in between 70<sup>th</sup> and 79<sup>th</sup> positions. Team well placed 16<sup>th</sup> out of 35 Counties. Senior women – Hatti Dean 3<sup>rd</sup> and Frances Briscoe 31<sup>st</sup>, team 13<sup>th</sup> out of 29 Counties.

U15 girls – Melissa Hawtin 2<sup>nd</sup> (first year in this age group).

U13 girls – Beth Swords 8<sup>th</sup> and Connie McMillan 11<sup>th</sup>, team 8<sup>th</sup> out of 39 Counties.

BS thanked all who had acted as team managers during the year.

### **12. Track & Field Report –**

- a) **County Champs –**

- i) Most of the Championships were held on the weekend of 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> May at Horspath.
- ii) The 10k was held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May at Banbury, only 3 men and 1 woman took part.
- iii) Some remaining Championship events together with an open meeting was held at Banbury on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May.
- iv) It rained at all these meetings. On the 12<sup>th</sup> May all events were stopped twice due to torrential rain. On the 13<sup>th</sup> at about midday all field events were postponed on safety grounds. The relays were cancelled. Only the Minithon was held on the track and certificates were given to those who took part. The postponed high jumps and triple jumps were held at Horspath, but again in drizzly rain. The remaining javelin events were incorporated in with the County V University meeting.
- v) The number of entries was 186 men and 153 women. 31 boys and 18 girls entered the Minithon.
- vi) The University entered a large number of seniors, which they use as a final fixture before the Varsity meeting.

- vii) Medals were presented at the meetings, and the best performance trophies/plaques were given to clubs/individuals in June/July.
- viii) BS thanked Peter O'Keefe for again being the co-ordinator.

**b) Inter County Meetings –**

- i) CAU at Bedford on 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> May, 5 men competed and were 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Rockingham Trophy with 18 points. Perris Wilkins was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the discus. 5 women competed; Hannah England was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 1500m.
- ii) County V University – senior men and women on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June at the Banister Track. An enjoyable friendly meeting, especially as we won.
- iii) U13 boys and girls on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July at Kingston-upon Thames. 14 Counties took part. The boys were 10<sup>th</sup> and the girls 9<sup>th</sup>.
- iv) Senior men and women on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August at Portsmouth. 8 Counties took part. The men were 5<sup>th</sup> and the women 7<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> overall.
- v) Southern Counties U20/15 men and women on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August at Copthall. 17 Counties took part, U20 men were 15<sup>th</sup>, U15 boys 17<sup>th</sup>, U20 women 14<sup>th</sup> and U15 girls 12<sup>th</sup>.
- vi) Under 20/17/15 men and women on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September at Tilsley Park. Only 3 Counties took part, and we won the men's, women's and overall trophies. Eileen Kear sent in a report for the ladies –  
Several PBs – U15s, Louise Brown and Rosie Kingston in 75m Hurdles, Connie McMillan was 1<sup>st</sup> in the 1500m. U17s, Aislinn Baird did well in the Discus and Natalie Delahunty in the Long Jump. U20s – Amy Peacock did well in the Javelin, Tasha Trigger in the Shot and Alice McGill in the 100m Hurdles.

BS thanked Kay Reynolds, Eileen Kear, Mike Hughes, Gary Jennings, Alan Millbank, Mike Miles and Alex Ahmet for their efforts as team managers for these meetings.

BS said that Eileen Kear is standing down as team manager after 43 years.

Also reported that Graham Turner died recently after 50 years as a coach and 30 years at Oxford University AC.

**13. Road Race Secretary's Report –**

WA reported –

The road race scene was as lively as ever this year, with 34 events applying for permits. In the event 3 were not held. The Cholsey Chase was cancelled because of a clash with the Benson 10k, the Thames Run fell victim to the floods in July and the Abingdon Marathon was short of some key volunteers. It is particularly important that this flagship race is restored to the County and WA hopes that with the help from other clubs that it is back in the calendar for 2008. LH reported that an Abingdon Marathon Committee meeting was held recently and a date of 19<sup>th</sup> October 2008 has been provisionally set.

A new permit system was introduced this year, administered by England Athletics. So far it seems to have worked very well and there has been no decline from the excellent standard of administration set by Barbara Gostelow of SEAA previously.

WA started the year full of optimism about the new system of accreditation for road race officials that was being introduced by UKA. The old system had been moribund for many years. However, in practice UKA could not cope with the demand for accreditation and WA knows of few people who have experienced a trouble-free process.

Thanks to Alan Vincent who has dealt with much of the administration. On a happier note Graham Pickup took on the role of Road Officials Secretary this year and has made sure that races know what officials are to be provided and that officials have a clearer idea of what their work load will be.

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. Thank you to all the races who hosed county championship events this year, especially to the Yarnton 5 who took this on for the first time.

For the first time in its seven year history the men's Grand Prix competition is very close, with Witney, Woodstock and Headington still in contention with only one race to go. Reigning champions Headington have secured the Women's title for the seventh year in succession without their traditional last gasp victory at Eynsham.

Paul Harris was unable to compile road rankings this year. WA kept up with the rankings until he went to Australia in the summer, but his records are now out of date. WA will try to update them before the end of the year. But, we really need someone else to take this on - a plea to go out to clubs.

The Oxon distance mailing list now has 52 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/](http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/oxonaa_distance/)  
 There will be a meeting of the Endurance Sub Committee on Friday October 26<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm. WA intends to hold the Road Race AGM at 7.30 pm on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November at OXSRAD in Oxford. WA will send out notices shortly.

Thanks were given to GP for all his officials.

Accreditation of officials – what is the advantage? No formal benefit at present. UKA have set up that accreditation which will be required by Race Director, Course Director, Chief Marshalls. May cause a problem in the future if not accredited, if an accident happens. All endurance officials must go on H&S course by 31<sup>st</sup> April 2008, may be extended further.

**14. Coaching Secretary's Report –**

CM was unable to attend, but sent in his report.

**a) Power of 10 –**

Power of 10 is starting to make an impact with athletes and parents. CM is now being contacted by athletes and parents checking on what they have to do to get a Power of 10 t-shirt.

We are also going to feature on the SE Regional web site.

As you can see from the details below, 2007 has seen a drop off of men from target to target + 5% (6), but an increase at +5% (20) hopefully next year we can see some of them moving up into the Power of 10.

The ladies are steady at 23 but there has been a fall off, from the +5% section of 6.

	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Target	Target	Target + 5%	Target + 5%
<b>Male</b>	18	12	31	51
<b>Female</b>	23	23	46	40
<b>Total</b>	41	35	77	91

CM would like to say well done to coaches Steve Flynn of Bicester AC and Katherine Mitchell of Abingdon AAC on becoming Power of 10 coaches this year and to Gordon Manning who has got another couple of his middle distance group in Power of 10. CA will try to talk Gordon into sharing his training programme with us at one of the County Squad Days.

**b) Pole Vault Development Squad –**

Ian Marriott is now in full swing with the squad with a regular turnout on a Tuesday of around 8 to 10 athletes. In the middle of September with the help of John Sear and a small team of officials, an open competition was held to enable the squad to all have a PB for 2007. This will give them something to beat in 2008. The full results will appear in the next issue of the County Rankings. The first of the new poles have been purchased to suit the needs of the group.

Ian has been away on a weekend course run by one of the UKA National Pole Vault coaches at the Bath Uni indoor centre, in order to keep his coaching skills up to date.

We are also looking into finding an indoor centre to train during the winter.

**c) County Squad Days –**

After running the Squad days on similar lines for the last few years, we are planning to add an extra day this year to run three Squad days this winter/spring.

We are starting up a U17/U20 Squad to meet on the same day as the U13/U15 Squad. The first of the days is this Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October at the White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre in Abingdon. The 2<sup>nd</sup> day late November early December, we are looking at taking the Squads to an indoor centre, to enable the Squad Coaches to get some quality technical sessions at a time when it would normally be too cold to work at an outdoor track.

Squad days are normally very well attended by around 40 to 50 athletes. This year we are inviting coaches from outside the County with experience of coaching International teenage athletes with the intention of enhancing our County coaches and athletes knowledge.

CM asks that as many coaches as possible attend; we have arranged to have questions and answer sessions with them, starting with Mike Leonard, Craig Pickering and Joey Ducks.

**d) CRB Checks –**

CM asks that all Club Secretaries check all of their coaches and helpers have had a CRB check, it is your responsibility under the duty and care you have for your young athletes. If you do not know

how to do the checks, please contact CM for help on 01235 550515 or email [oxoncoaching@hotmail.com](mailto:oxoncoaching@hotmail.com)

#### 15. **Officials Secretary's Report** –

AV reported –

We now have about 159 registered and qualified Oxfordshire officials and a further 18 registered Level 2 trainees. The large increase is due almost entirely to the registration of Endurance officials. The enthusiasm of a few clubs has meant that we have about 70 registered Endurance officials.

The numbers include two track and field officials who sat the old-style exams before their phasing out – Carly Holloway and Clyde Goodwin are now Grade 4 Starter/Marksman.

We ran a Level 2 course (all disciplines) for 32 people at Horspath Road on 21<sup>st</sup> April and a UKA Level 1 Assistant Official course at Wallingford on 4<sup>th</sup> June, for 9 members of the Goring and Wallingford Club.

We have moved towards the calendaring of Officials' education opportunities across the Region and a first brochure for officials' and coaches' has been published by the Region.

Level 3 Courses are now in the pipeline and application forms and dates/places for the courses are on the UKA website. Officials who don't have access to the Internet are invited to contact AV direct.

One of our senior officials had a rather nasty accident at a local event this summer and it has exposed an apparent deficiency in insurance arrangements which we are still following up.

Sadly, earlier this year, we lost another County Official, Alan Turner, a timekeeper from Banbury Harriers and husband of Sandra, a fellow official. AV has sent good wishes on our behalf to Phil Whitter, one of our most hardworking officials, who has been unwell for much of the season. We also clearly regret that Charles Kear's health has not been good, although he has managed to struggle on valiantly for most of the season.

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.

AV cannot end this report without paying particular tribute to the work put in by Graham Pickup as Endurance Officials' Co-ordinator. He has done a magnificent job in ensuring that our clubs and County have a proper complement of officials for all fixtures.

#### 16. **Endurance Officials Secretary's Report** –

First of all GP thanks all Officials who had attended the events over the last year without their support his task would have been very difficult to complete.

On taking on the task as Endurance Road Secretary he set out 3 aims for the year -

**First aim** – was to ensure that all events on the County Calendar had the required officials' i.e. Timekeepers and Recorders.

**Second aim** – was to see if it was possible to have a Race Referee and a starter at each event as well.

**Third aim** – was to recruit new timekeepers/recorders.

To carry out his first aim he had to ensure that all events had sufficient officials to carry out their tasks with no pressure. He introduced a sliding scale of officials required at an event as follows –

- Events under 200 were covered by either 1 timekeeper and 1 or 2 recorders. Funnel recorders would be supplied by the club hosting the event.
- Any event with more than 200 runners would be covered by 2 timekeepers and 2 recorders. Funnel recorders would be supplied by the club hosting the event.
- Events over 600 required 3 timekeepers and 3 recorders. Funnel recorders would be supplied by the club hosting the event.
- GP would highly recommend that clubs hosting events with 500 or more runners should use chip timing. It is very difficult for officials to record the time accurately with 400 plus runners crossing the finishing line within period of 18 minutes from the winner crossing the line.

This system appeared to work well apart from one event which due to illness and not enough officials on the day did not work and there were a few problems.

The second aim to ensure that each event had a race referee and starter. The reason for this was that he had seen the results from the Cross Country (Oxford Mail League) that a race referee made a big difference on the event and he thought it should follow through the Road Race calendar, and it seems to work well as far as the County Road Race Reports being processed quickly and any issues on the day being sorted by the race referee and not the timekeepers/recorders.

- Race starter - at present Oxfordshire has only one regular "Road Race" starter, Derek Adams. So GP decided that he would become a Level 2 starter/marksman. In April this year GP attended a UKA Level 2 Officials Course at Horspath, he has since completed the necessary meetings and is about to submit his logbook to his tutor for assessment. Due to illness with Derek, GP had to start 16 road events so far. For the future he hopes that more starters shall become available for the road race events.

The third aim was to recruit more timekeepers/recorders. This aim was difficult but GP welcomed Kate Worrall, Noel Blatchford and Robert Logan.

Since taking on the task of Endurance and Road Race Officials Secretary, there has been 48 events of which 3 were cancelled and 4 had no County Officials support. So in total there were 41 events which required 156 timekeepers/recorders, 41 starters and 41 road race referees and this was carried out by 14 officials.

A few more stats –

- There has been 12,068 road runners
- There has been 4781 cross country runners
- 7 ladies course records on the road
- 3 men course records on the road
- 3 men course records been =

#### 17. Election of Officers and General Committee for 2007/2008 -

Position	Nomination	Proposed	Seconded
President	Barrie Strange	Kate Worrall	Michael Collins
Life Vice Presidents -	Alan Corfied ) Vernon Blowfield ) Charles Kear ) Eileen Kear ) John Makin ) Jill Slater ) Barrie Strange ) Ian Taylor ) Alan Vincent )	Ratified Graham Pickup	Michael Collins
Chairman	Alan Vincent	Lyn Hopkins	Steve Flynn
Vice Chairman	Vacant		
Secretary	Lyn Hopkins	Paul Thomas	Dee Hailey
Treasurer	Kate Worrall	Graham Pickup	Paul Harris
Officials Secretary (Track & Field)	Alan Vincent	Alan Woodland	Barrie Strange
Officials Secretary (Endurance)	Graham Pickup	Paul Thomas	Michael Collins
Press & Publicity Officer	Mike Shipway	Kate Worrall	Alan Roche
Coaching Co-ordinator	Colin Mitchell	Steve Flynn	Alan Woodland
Road Race Co-ordinator	Will Atkinson	Paul Harris	Graham Pickup
X-C Champs Co-ordinator	Barrie Strange	Graham Pickup	Mike Shipway
Track & Field Co-ordinator	Peter O'Keefe	Steve Flynn	Graham Pickup
School's Rep	Alan Vincent	Dee Hailey	Mick Hailey
General Committee	Mike Hughes ) Alan Woodland ) Alan Roche )	Dee Hailey	Mick Hailey

Jon Wheatcroft )  
Pete Chivers )  
Richard Jegou )

**Date of Annual General Meeting 2008** – 17<sup>th</sup> October 2008 at Exeter Hall, Kidlington at 7.30 pm.

**Date of first Committee Meeting** – 7<sup>th</sup> December 2007 at Exeter Hall, Kidlington at 7.30 pm.

18. Dee Hailey informed those present of a Multi Terrain Race on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2007, mostly off-road, used as a fund raiser towards a new pavilion at Hook Norton. If it goes well it might be considered as an annual event.
19. Question asked what we can do with old running shoes and t-shirts. DH said that a night shelter in Luther Street will take. Contact Dee at Hook Norton.

Meeting closed at 9.17 pm.