

**Scottish Athletics Limited**  
**Road Running and Cross Country Commission**

**Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday 18 May 2015 held at 6.30pm**  
**at the Scottish Athletics Offices, Emirates Arena, Glasgow**

**Present:** John Rodger, Alex Jackson, Clare Barr, Dave Cairns, Marjory Cook, Ian Hislop, Stewart Caithness, Mark Pollard, Julia Henderson and Margaret Daly. Sophie Dunnett and Ron Morrison via Skype.

**Apologies:** Graham Sword, Lesley Roy, Alan Potts and Tom Ferrington.

**1. Chairman's Welcome and Opening Remarks**

- 1.1 JR welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Commission members to identify any additional items they wished to discuss.
- 1.2 JR reported the recent death of Jim Young and related some of the key roles Jim had played in supporting Scottish Athletics along with a few memories of his own. The Commission noted that Jim would be sadly missed.

**1.3 Congratulations**

- (a) The Commission extended congratulations for excellent athletic performances to:-
- ◆ Andrew Buchart on winning the men's National Cross Country title and to Madeline Murray the ladies champion; Jonathan Glen the under 20 champion and Kathryn Gillespie the female under 20 champion. Also to Central AC on winning both the men's and women's team titles.
  - ◆ Andrew Buchart on winning the Inter Counties Title and Jonathan Glen who was second in the under 20 race.
  - ◆ Andrew Buchart, Jonathan Glen and Rhona Auckland on their selection to represent Great Britain at the World Cross Country Championships in Guiyan, China where Rhona finished in 20<sup>th</sup> place in the women's race; Andrew finished 86<sup>th</sup> in the men's race and Jonathon finished 79<sup>th</sup> in the junior men's race.
  - ◆ Lothian RC and Kilbarchan AAC on winning the women's and men's National 6 Stage Road Relay.
  - ◆ Sarah Inglis and Calum Hawkins winning National 5K Road Race titles and where Calum achieved a course record.
  - ◆ Megan Crawford and Craig Ruddy on winning the Scottish National 10 mile Championship
  - ◆ Ross Houston, competing in Redwick, Wales on winning the Anglo Celtic Plate (100K) in a time of 6.43.45. This makes him 6th fastest GB athlete and 3rd fastest Scottish athlete on the all-time lists.
  - ◆ The women's team of Rosie Bell, Charlotte Black and Kaziah Higgins on team gold.
- 1.4 JR noted that the performance side of the sport was showing some dramatic improvements with new 6 stage relay winners and a course record having been set at Silverknowes.

**2. Commission Minute of 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014**

- 2.1 The Commission minutes of 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 were noted and approved. Proposed: Marjory Cook; seconded: Dave Cairns
- 2.2 **Papers Circulated with the Agenda**
- (a) East District Minute 11/02/15. Noted
  - (b) East Clubs Women in Cross Country, Distance and Counters. Noted

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2.3 The Commission noted the following actions had been cleared:

Action	Reason for Clearance
Action: RRCC2014-1: RM – Trophy Archive and photographs	Has been placed on the Archive
Action: RRCC 2012-37: NH/MJ – International RR Budget	Done, with finer points to be clarified (MP)
Action: RRCC2014-12: IH/CB/SD Officials Commission	Done, can be cleared. MC will retain list.

2.4 The Commission considered the following outstanding actions and heard a progress report where available:-

Action	Status
Action: RRCC2012-31: RM/NH/AJ – Entries, Programmes and Results	Ongoing. Hoping to have online entry system delivered by end of March 2015 in time for T&F season (SC).
Action: RRCC2013-14: RM/AJ/MJ/MP – Effectiveness of race programme for elite athletes	Not done
Action: RRCC2014-13: JR/AJ Under 20 Men in District Championships	Review at strategy meeting in August 2015
Action: RRCC2014-17:RM/TF Road Grand Prix	MP ready to announce races shortly. Aim of encouraging increased participation.
Action: RRCC2014-20: SD/IH/CB Distances in Cross Country for Senior Females	Review at strategy meeting in August 2015

**3. Finance**

3.1 The Commission noted the budget for 2015/16 had been agreed and copies circulated to Commission members.

**4. District Reports**

4.1 No reports submitted although it was noted that the East District had agreed to continue the practice of holding meetings and the West District reported that the Cross Country Championships would be hosted by Bellahouston Road Runners and planned for Bellahouston Park although some difficulty in securing confirmation from Glasgow City Council was being experienced.

**5. Championships – Event Reports**

5.1 National Cross Country Championships – Discussion took place on developing a guidance/best practice document for club tents. The revised course was well received although some congestion occurred on the shorter lap. It was agreed to review the start area and transition from short to long laps for the 2016 event. Some improvements to the results process was discussed including having these on a memory stick and making better use of social media. The school has been booked for the 2016 event and a fee would be incurred in future for the use of Calendar Park.

5.2 Young Athletes Road Races – All agreed the event had been well run and venue a successful one. Plans were in place for the event to be hosted there for 2016 with one change being that declarations and results would be at the course instead of the boat club.

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- 5.3 Six Stage Road Relays – The event had proven challenging for the results team although good press coverage had been achieved. More officials were required and it was noted the event worked better when held on a Sunday. Some discussion on the event location took place however the benefits and support for the event made the current location attractive.
- 6. IAAF Age Groups**
- 6.1 The Commission noted that a proposal would be submitted to the AGM of UK Athletics with regard to changing the junior athlete age groups to bring them into line with IAAF practices. A request had been received from the Board of Scottish Athletics for the Commission's view on this. The Commission noted the impact on the competition calendar if age groups changed on 1<sup>st</sup> January annually. JR agreed to draw up some comments and circulate for addition and amendment.
- 7. Cross Country Grand Prix**
- 7.1 Discussion deferred to the August meeting.
- 8. Road Running Grand Prix**
- 8.1 The programme for 2015 was agreed.
- 9. Trail Championships**
- 9.1 Discussion on this event was held and it was agreed to request that Fife AC once again host the Trail Championships within their event scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> September 2015.
- 10. Home Countries Cross Country Championships**
- 10.1 This event would take place on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at Calendar Park and incorporate the SIAB races, involving 6-8 races of 32 athletes per race. Tulliallan being considered for accommodation.
- 11. National Championships**
- 11.1 The Commission noted the arrangements for National Championships for the 2015/16 season are as follows:-
- ◆ Cross Country Relays – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2015 – Cumbernauld
  - ◆ Short Course CC Championships – 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> November 2015 – Bellahouston Park
  - ◆ Masters Cross Country – 30<sup>th</sup> January 2016 – Forres
  - ◆ Cross Country Championships – 27<sup>th</sup> February 2016 – Calendar Park
  - ◆ Young Athletes Road Races – 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2016 – Greenock
  - ◆ 6/4 Stage Road Relays – 3<sup>th</sup> April 2016 – Livingston
- 12. AOCB**
- 12.1 Education – DC advised that 1 course has taken place and that he is awaiting revised materials. UKA have suggested a briefing meeting is held at next year's Inter Counties event. This delay is not felt to be acceptable.
- 12.2 Team Awards at Trail Race – discussions to be held on this
- 13. Date of Next Meeting**
- 13.1 The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2015 at Scottish Athletics Offices, South Gyle, Edinburgh at 6.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.