

Scottish Athletics Limited

Road Running and Cross Country Commission

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 12th May 2025 at 1730 hrs. via Zoom.

Present:

Mike Johnston (Chair), Dave Cairns, Ted Finch, Sandra Hardacre,
Colin Hutchison, Alex Jackson, Alasdhair Love, Angela Mudge, John Newsom, Sharon Taylor,

(1) Chairman's Welcome, Apologies and Opening Remarks

Apologies – Dave Hanlon, Alison Heggie, John McKay, Michael Wright

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

(2) Papers Circulated:

- (1) Minutes of previous meeting of 3rd February 2025 (MJ)*
- (2) Endurance Officials update (DC)*
- (3) Draft Fixture List for Winter 2025/2026 *
- (4) Endurance Fixture List – prepared by Graham Heeley
- (5) OpenTrack Endurance Results Document

Minutes of last meeting:

The minutes were agreed as accurate by the meeting.

(3) Actions agreed and continued:

- **RRCC21/09 – Development of Scottish Athletics Races –** Ongoing – MJ/AL
- **RRCC23/02 – Age Group Change Update –**
Focus group consultations ongoing
Other disciplines are looking at how every performance can contribute to U14 profile. With JustGo linking to Power of 10 it may be possible to score an athlete across 3 events.
Off-track – still award 1-2-3 but also recognise 4-6, 4-9, 4-12 – depending on age group.
Consultation document to go out – publication date of which has yet to be determined.

(4) Championship Events Applications:

Application received for a Half Marathon; however it can only accept 100 entries. Will not fit the bill to host one of our championships.

(5) Events Completed and to Come:

Completed

22.2.25 – National Cross Country Championships – Falkirk - reaction to new route was positive.

9.3.25 – Half Marathon Championships – Inverness – made very welcome at Inverness.

15.3.25 – YARR – East Fortune – need to look at adjusting start times for the younger races as athletes were coming into the finish area when the next race was due to start. Races were delayed for a few minutes to allow all runners to finish.

22.3.25 – 6/4 Stage Relay – Livingston – Problem with runners warming up on drive at start/finish area. Particularly bad when the women were about to start their race. First Aid – suggested that a couple go out in vehicle on course and a couple stay near the school. 30.3.25 – Tom Scott Memorial Race – successful event with fast times recorded.

26.4.25 – London Marathon – Scottish Championship – all medals given out.

To Come

16.5.25 – Sri Chinmoy 5K Road Race – Silverknowes, Edinburgh

8.6.25 – Roon the Toon 10K Road Race, Kilmarnock

(6) Inter District Update:

(1) UK Challenge Status - Angela Mudge reported from the latest meeting of the UK Endurance Group. Eamonn Martin had stated that the number of challenge events would be reduced to 4 for 25/26. He also stated he hoped the events would change to more emphasis on elite performance and less on mass participation. The proposal is for these to be in Cardiff; Liverpool; Parliament Hill (hosting HC and Celtic Internationals) and Leeds. Where possible events to be on a 2K loop. This would mean no Challenge in Scotland and that Inter Counties would not be a Challenge event but would still go ahead. MJ in discussions with Cliff Robinson and has indicated Alexandra Park would take a leg of the Challenge if the plans for London or Leeds do not go ahead.

(2) Availability of Alexandra Park – we can use the Park, but the hub unit will be closing – will need to use tents/gazebos.

(3) Age Group teams for 26/27 – may have to look at putting on an U20 race with teams. Will analyse what happens this year before any decision is made.

(4) Attracting more athletes from outside Scotland – as it is unlikely that a Cross Challenge event will be held in Scotland this was not discussed.

(5) Trial U14 top 12 for 25/26 – will be looked at for district level.

(6) Awards of Team Medals only rather than Individual & Teams – after discussion was agreed that we would keep individual awards but also get teams to the podium.

(7) Draft Fixture List:

21/22 March 2026 – 6/4 Stage Relays, Livingston – will depend on whether Livingston FC have a home game that weekend.

Venues still to be confirmed for many of the events.

District Convenors to give venues to Events Team as soon as they are known.

Convenors – still to be allocated to events but for National CC Relays at Cumbernauld this will be Gary Woods.

OpenTrack Review:

A few issues at Relays with athletes not entered and not able to declare teams with correct names. Results were coming up with athletes in incorrect order.

JustGo – new membership platform – are in communication with OpenTrack and it is hoped that these problems are eliminated.

(8) Endurance Officials Report:

3 x L3 applications have been approved – Jackie Stewart, Gary Woods & John McKay

Endurance Officials will put their availability in at two points this year – 1st in September and 2nd in December/January.

(9) Honorary Life Membership:

If anyone on the Commission has a name of someone to be nominated for HLM please send information to MJ as soon as possible.

INFORMATION:

Discussions ongoing the speed that some of our events are selling out – contact has been made with Race Organisers and looking at ways of holding back some entries.

(10) Date of Next Meetings:

The next meeting will be on 11th August 2025 at 5.30 pm.

The following meeting will be held on 10th November 2025 at 5.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 6.50 pm.