

NORTH OF ENGLAND TRACK AND FIELD LEAGUE

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON SATURDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2021 AT TRAFFORD

Attendees: Terry Bailey (Chair & Doncaster), Alan Johnson (Secretary & Trafford), Mike Welford (Finance Officer & Altrincham), George Davies (Blackburn), Jean Simpson (Bury), Paul Baxter (City of York), Neil Fowler (Crewe & Nantwich), John Murphy (East Cheshire), Chris Betts (Gateshead), Steve Linshull (Leeds), Dave & Karen Brown (LPS), David Owen (Longwood), Andy Ward (Middlesbrough), Jennifer Crowther & Alan Cooper (Salford Mets), and Dave McKay (West Cheshire)

15 Clubs and 1 div sec

Apologies: Burnley, Kendal, Pendle, Pontefract, Sale, Skyrac & Wigan

1. A minute's silence was held to remember Norman Waterson, a long time divisional secretary and all other officials the league has lost since last year's AGM.
2. The minutes of the 2020 AGM were accepted as a true record of the meeting
3. There were no matters arising
4. Reports - Secretary
AJ presented his report to the meeting. AJ thanked all those clubs who had stepped in and hosted meetings in 2021.
5. Reports - Finance Officer
MW presented his last ever accounts to the AGM prior to his retirement from the league. In viewing these accounts you have to add two years together. 2020 saw league fees from clubs entered into the accounts but no expenses. 2021 saw no league fees but expenses. 2020 saw a profit of £28,164.80 but 2021 a loss of £21,000.51 meaning over two years a surplus of £7,164.29

Currently we have £11,409.39 in the HSBC Current account with £32,589.02 in the Cambridge & Counties Account giving a net asset of £43,998.41

£3,000 was received from England Athletics to subsidise officials training for level 1. To date only one club has claimed for officials.

PROPOSALS

For 2022 the proposal from the management committee is that the host club reimbursement fee be £600 a rise of £100. With facility costs rising this was felt to be a fair increase.

At the same time, the league can't simply put up hosting fees without increasing league fees. 2022 can cope with an increase of host fees but it can't continue year on year without other items increasing. As we increase the hosting fees we should also increase league entry fees £25 per club to £400 from 2023.

In opposing this DO (Longwood) expressed his objection as Longwood had hosted this year and had costs in excess of £900. It was explained that all venues vary over costs. The league cannot afford to pay the full amount.

FOR	14
AGAINST	1
ABSENTIONS	1

The proposal was accepted

Following Mike's presentation, TB highlighted to the meeting that Mike had been Finance Officer since 2011 and in honour of his service to the league, was presented with a crystal decanter.

In accepting the award, Mike thanked AJ and TB for all their assistance over the years and was overwhelmed by the leagues gratitude.

6. Nomination for Officers
Terry Bailey (Chair), Alan Johnson (Secretary) and Jean Simpson (Finance Officer) have all been proposed for office. As there are no other nominations the above are elected.

In electing Jean to the position of finance, TB explained that Jean was happy to step in and has a lot of experience to give to the position.

7. **Management Proposals.** The management committee proposed that the league name be changed to Northern Track & Field League. As we have clubs from Wales and the Midlands it makes sense to drop North of England and replace with Northern.

FOR 16
AGAINST 0

8. **Club Proposals.** West Cheshire propose that all standards in field events be removed, meaning all athletes receive 3 trials with the best 6 getting a further 3 trials.

LPS seconded the motion

DM (WCH) explained that in most matches very few athletes achieve the required standard with the numbers getting fewer as you go down the league structure.

TB This will inevitably affect the timetable. I will arrange for a GANT chart to ascertain the new revised timetable if the motion is accepted

FOR 12
AGAINST 2
ABSTAIN 2

9. 2022 Season

- a. Dates confirmed as Saturday 30th April, Sunday 12th June, Sunday 10th July and Saturday 6th August. The premiership final will be on Saturday August 27th.
AJ explained the issues this year over fixtures and the way UKA were rough riding them through without league consultation.
- b. New clubs for 2022: Mansfield Harriers and Halifax Harriers
- c. Structure for 2022. North East 2 clubs will be promoted from division 1 and 2 clubs relegated from North East Premier.

East 1N has 7 clubs and 1S 8 clubs. For 2022 2 clubs will be promoted from the 8 team division 2, one to 1N and 1 to 1S.

Two clubs will be relegated from 1N and 3 teams from 1S meaning in 2023 1N and 1S will have 6 team divisions. 11 teams in div 2 will be split into a 6 team and 5 team division.

- d. Venues. Several venue changes were requested. AJ will amend and update the structure.

10. AOB For discussion only

- a. CB Gateshead had submitted a proposal to allow 2 guests per track event per club. This would be for NE clubs only. This had not been submitted in time in the correct manner but will be on the table for the 2022 AGM

TB We can't have different rules for one area. If this is to succeed it would be for the whole league

- b. NF asked whether consideration would be made for a virtual AGM in 2022. The majority of those present expressed a preference for face-to-face meetings whenever possible. AJ We go on the same day as the Northern Athletics Annual Meeting. If NA go zoom we would expect them to go on a different day as to our AGM which will again be the Saturday of Remembrance Weekend.

Meeting closed at 13:00