



MCAA Track & Field League AGM 2022 – MINUTES

Date, Time: Sunday 4th December 2022; 1410-1720

Venue: Function Room, Stourport Sports Club
(home of Kidderminster and Stourport AC).

Stourport Sports Club, Kingsway, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire, DY13 8BQ

1. **Present**

Nigel Clegg (BRAT), Shaun Ainge (C&S), Matt Holloway (Gloucs), Bryan Axford (R&N), Lyn Orbell (Birchfield), John Murray (Telford), Matt Muggeridge (Yate), Stewart Barnes (Hon Treasurer), Stuart Watton (Abingdon and Witney), Peter Ball (B&R), Paul Andrew (Leamington), Mary Hodges (Leamington), Claire Barraclough (Newport), Jaime Walker (Burton), Annette Brown (SSH), Rebecca Freeman (SSH), James Charles (Banbury), James Brown (DASH), Ollie Dodd (Halesowen), Peter Dear (Halesowen), Phil Wells (Hereford Forest), Adrian James (K&S), Andrew Priest (K&S), Marg Cherrington (Tipton), Mr. Cherrington (Tipton), Richard White (Worcs)

2. **Apologies**

Rob James (Tamworth), Matt Cleaver (Kettering), Rob Pinton (SSH), Stephannie Magee (Leics Coritanians), Noel Mckakly (Wolves), Colin Barnes (Charnwood), Derrick Lord (Chelt), Paul Bearman (Stratford), Iris Morris (Stoke), Barry Fenn (Daventry)

3. **Minutes from 2021 AGM**

Acceptance of minutes as true record, proposed by Nigel Clegg, seconded by Rebecca Freeman. Carried unopposed.

4. **Matters arising (other than covered by the agenda)**

None

5. **Chairperson's report**

See Annex A.

From this report the meeting discussed the suggestion that the league organise two open meetings with the main aim of training new officials. **K&S**

offered to host one of these and R&N the other giving a meeting in the east and one in the west. Input from Banbury, who have run similar events in the past for Oxfordshire, recommended that the meetings do not have large numbers of athletes (as that draws attention and effort away from the focus on officials' training) but do include a good number of already qualified officials.

6. League Secretary's report

See Annex B

From this arose two discussions – one about officials and one about licence applications.

The discussion on the provision of officials noted that it has often been a challenge to find sufficient officials for matches. The provision of two open meetings to provide training opportunities (see above) was noted as likely to help. However, no substantive suggestions beyond that were made that would help the situation.

It was raised as to whether host clubs should apply for match licences. A counter-argument was that this means the league (secretary) has no direct control to ensure these are completed. A vote was taken and it was almost unanimous that we stay as we are. It was agreed that the constitution would be updated to task host clubs with providing names of the Chief officials two weeks before a match. **(ACTION: League Secretary)**

7. Financial report for 2022 and update from the MCAA

(Item moved to the start of the meeting to enable a start to be made given the Chairman was delayed travelling to the venue.)

Stewart Barnes presented the financial summary (see Annex C).

Acceptance was proposed by Rebecca Freeman and seconded by James Charles. Carried unanimously.

a. Affiliation fees for 2023

It was noted by the Hon Treasurer that if the league runs four rounds of divisional matches in 2023 then the affiliation fees would remain the same. **(Note – as discussed below this is the case and so fees remain as per 2022.)** Track hire reimbursement was also discussed – but on this it was noted that all but a couple of clubs had failed to send host cost information to the MCAA Office (or the League Sec). We therefore had no information to justify changing the host reimbursement value.

Linked to host costs, the issues of first aid and separately photo-finish provision were discussed. The first aid aspect mostly focussed on exploring cost expectations but also included questions about written British Athletics advice on first aid provision - where it was noted that there is still a lack of good written advice from British Athletics. It was agreed to share first aid information (including but not limited to providers' details and costs). **ACTION: all clubs to send any useful information regarding first aid provision to the league secretary, who will circulate as appropriate.**

The discussion on photo-finish provision concentrated not only on cost but availability options. Again it was agreed to share information.

ACTION: all clubs to send any useful information regarding photo-

finish provision to the league secretary, who will circulate as appropriate.

- b. General update from the MCAA
Stewart Barnes gave a wider update on the MCAA. Post pandemic the situation in the office has eased somewhat. Finance continues to be an issue. The 2022/2023 indoor season was also discussed – there will be no Midland indoor championships this season. This was due to a lack of facility availability coupled with excessive hire costs for those facilities that are available.

8. Election of T&F League Management Committee

- a. Chairperson
Bryan Acford was proposed by Jaime Walker and seconded by Phil Wells. Accepted unopposed.
- b. League Secretary
Richard White was proposed by Nigel Clegg and seconded by Marg Cherrington. Accepted unopposed.
- c. Management Committee Members
Hon. Treasurer – Stewart Barnes (as MCAA Treasurer)
Committee: Rebecca Freeman proposed and seconded by Richard White, that the committee be re-appointed en-bloc together with the addition of James Charles. Carried unopposed.

9. Presentation of divisional trophies

Duly presented to those present. Post meeting note – all trophies have been passed to the 2022 division winners. (See Annex B for division winners – covered as part of League Sec update.)

10. Presentation of individual awards

Again duly presented to either those recipients present or to representatives present from their clubs. MCAA Office to send out the remainder.
Secretary's note: only two divisions had agreed "most valued athlete" awards.
The league committee will discuss how to take this forward in 2023.

11. Resignations from the league

Saffron AC, Wreake and Soar Valley AC were asked to re-apply to the league given their non-compliance with the requirements to provide officials. Wreake and Soar Valley decided not to re-apply. Saffron did not reply to the re-application request and so have been deemed to have resigned.
Post meeting note: Corby has since also withdrawn.

12. Applications and re-applications to the league

Kettering Town Harriers, DASH and Corby were also asked to re-apply. This they did and the management committee and AGM accepted their re-applications (but note point above that Corby have subsequently resigned). Hereford and County AC and Forest of Dean successfully applied to UKA for joint club status in the MCAA league. The combined club was accepted into division 4SW.

Abingdon similarly joined with Witney. Witney is an addition to the league – the joint team was therefore accepted as a direct replacement of Abingdon.

13. Officials' courses in 2023 (organised by the league)

This was covered above as it arose from the Chairman's report discussions.

14. Proposals from Management Committee and Clubs

See Annex E for a short-form version of the proposals. Full proposals were in the pre-reading and can be found on the MCAA website

<https://midland-athletics.co.uk/storage/2022/11/AGM-Proposals-2022.pdf>

Proposal 1. After some discussion the proposal was accepted unanimously.

Proposal 2. Accepted 19 for and 0 against, 1 abstention

Proposal 3. An amendment was offered from the floor that suggested the rules and constitution be worded along the lines "minimum official levels in line with UKA licencing requirements". With this amendment the proposal was carried unanimously.

Proposal 4. This proposal generated a notable amount of discussion. In terms of the principle of the proposal (that we allow some third string athletes to score) various points were noted (including the fact athletes could instead compete as guests, that it potentially pressures the timetable, that it requires clubs to find more athletes). The vote was 14 for the principle and 7 against. The AGM was then asked to decide on how many third string athletes per club per gender per match would be allowed. The proposal suggested this should be five. This was agreed by the AGM.

The proposal also asked for a decision on how many athlete scores would be counted in a team's match total. (With five third string athletes there are 39 individual events slots for men and 39 for women.) There was a proposal from the floor that the concept of constraining the number of scores to count be dropped altogether and that all scores would count. This generated significant discussion. Points included:

1) some felt that all athletes who compete in a scoring slot should always be counted otherwise it can be de-motivating for the athlete

2) some clubs clearly liked the concept of constraining the number of scoring slots and that it had worked well in 2022

3) that it would be difficult for clubs to fill 39 slots for both men and women and that fairness to the smaller clubs suggests a limit on scoring slots was necessary as an important component of the expansion of athlete choice offered by the inclusion of some third string scorers.

The vote at the AGM was 10 to limit the number of scoring slots, N, and 11 in favour of removing the constraint. Post meeting, when the club attendees were tallied, it became clear that the total votes (21) exceeded the number of clubs (20). A request was therefore made by email post meeting to ask clubs what their vote had been in terms of the proposal that the N=34 to count constraint be removed. There were 10 votes to remove the constraint, 7 against removing it and 3 abstentions.

The scoring system for third string athletes was discussed. There was a proposal from the floor that the C string scoring be 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 (i.e. a 6th athlete would not score). This was rejected 1 for, 19 against. The AGM was then asked to approve the suggested scoring provided in the original proposal. This was accepted: 20 for, 0 against.

The proposal to include third string athletes also asked the AGM to decide if

all three strings should be combined and run as three seeded races. This was rejected: 0 for, 20 against.

Proposals 5 and 6 were noted as overtaken by events as both 5 and 6 were to be debated only if proposal 4 was rejected.

Proposal 7. The AGM was asked to decide on the principle of proposal 7 (to include a technical events day) and base their decision on their pre-reading of the overall detailed proposal definition. It was noted by the chairman that following the AGM vote on the principle the league management committee would confirm, and if necessary refine, the details for the technical day based on the information contained in the pre-reading. The constraint on discussion time was necessary given the booking time constraints on the room. There were 16 in favour of the principle and 6 against.

Proposal 8. Accepted unanimously.

Proposal 9 (do we want more regionalisation). For: 8, against 10, abstain 5. (In principle the excess votes (3) could have reversed this decision. However, no off-line clarification of club voting has been attempted for this proposal.)

Proposal 10. Agreed overwhelmingly.

Proposal 11 (allowing U20, U17 athletes to use own throws weights and hurdle heights). The meeting ran out of time and it was agreed to defer this until next year.

15. Divisional Structure for 2023

The committee proposal contained in the AGM pre-reading recommended two regional divisions. The basis for this was that Corby had not re-applied prior to the AGM. There were therefore only 17 clubs expected for the regional divisions. Corby did though apply by the AGM date, thus offering the option of three, six team regional divisions. The Chairman asked if there would be sufficient hosts if three regional divisions were adopted. Clubs indicated there would be. Clubs overwhelmingly supported a three regional division structure for 2023. Post-meeting note: Corby has since resigned and the hosting options optimism has proved too positive.

Annex D lists the divisions and clubs.

16. Fixture Dates for 2023

The AGM discussed six dates as options for the league. **(Post meeting note: the six dates as discussed at the AGM are as noted below. We have noted since the AGM that the 23/7 date was copied from an old version of the UKA Calendar and we are currently, as of 29/1/2023, attempting to change bookings to Sun 9 July):**

Sat 22/4

Sun 20/5

Sun 18/6

Sun 23/7 **(NOTE THE COMMENT ABOVE)**

Sat 19/8

Sat 9/9

The meeting had agreed (see proposals above) to use one date to run a single technical events match. Post meeting note – this has now been set as Sun 18/6 and will be at Nuneaton organised by the league management committee.

The AGM overwhelmingly agreed to run four full matches in addition to the

technical match noted. A vote on which dates to use (of the remaining five) was inconclusive given the number of permutations available. Each division was therefore given freedom to select the dates that suited.

17. **Hosting statistics**

Match hosting statistics were provided in the AGM pre-reading with the intention that these were used to inform divisional decisions on 2023 hosting. However, room booking time expired before we could address this. The documentation is of course available for divisional decisions off-line.

18. **AOB for the plenary session**

None.

19. **Match hosting and election of secretary by division:**

a. Election of the divisional secretary.

The following were noted at the AGM:

Div 1: Bryan Acford (R&N) or Bob Hughes (Cannock & Stafford)

Div 2: No decision made at the AGM. Post meeting note: as of 29/1/23 this has still not been agreed.

Div 3: Claire Barraclough (Newport)

Div 4NE Jaime Walker (Burton)

Div 4SE James Charles (Banbury)

Div 4SW Richards White (Worcester)

b. Club representatives to work with the Divisional Secretaries to discuss hosting and venues for each fixture. Please ensure that stadiums are available and comply with UKA certification.

There was insufficient time to carry out these non-plenary tasks at the AGM. They are to be (and are being) carried out off-line.

c. ***Please ensure the League Secretary has up-to-date contacts for your club.***

Done off-line.

Annex A – Chairman’s report

Midland League – Chairman’s Report, Sun 4th December

Following the challenges of the past 2 years it is pleasing to report that we were able to deliver a full League season this year. Overall, it is pleasing to report that Competitor Numbers were comparable to 2019 and the drop-offs in some events which we had feared did not materialise, although we are also aware that a few clubs have struggled this year. That being said, it is still clear that there is a continuing fall in the numbers of ‘true’ Senior Athletes competing and that some of the technical events are not popular and standards are either very good or very poor, with little in between. For this season we introduced a number of innovations in terms of Photo Finish (Divisions 1 & 2) and Bonus Points. These were designed to make the league more attractive to athletes. They have been popular and served to improve the standard of competition, whilst other changes have freed up space in the timetable and greatly reduced the number of ‘fill-in’ athletes.

The Management Committee have met several times during the year and have sort to pro-actively address any issues we have identified. The main challenge has been a small number of clubs who have consistently failed to provide officials in accordance with the League Constitution. We have worked hard to support clubs who face these challenges but, as a consequence, several clubs have chosen not to re-apply as members of the League.

In order to address the issue of Officials recruitment and training the League intend to use the Officials Training Grant which we received from England Athletics in order to run Training courses for our member clubs during the early months of 2023, and in time for the new league season. These courses will be held in both the east and west of the region and will be a blend of On-line learning and real practical experience.

This year the management committee are bringing forward further proposals to improve the league and make it more ‘Athlete Focused’. I urge you to consider these changes very carefully and treat them as a complete package which if implemented will complement one another. Also, please look at them from the perspective of the athletes and the wider sport, rather than the narrow lens of ‘what does it mean for my club’. Ultimately, if it’s good for the athletes, it will also be good for their clubs. We also need to be mindful that YDL U20 age group is likely to see major changes from 2024 onwards and be ready to respond positively.

Finally, I would like to offer my thanks to the whole Management Committee and especially Richard White for their hard work and commitment to deliver the league this season. We also owe our thanks to Dave Taylor who not only provided our results program but also handled all of the athlete registrations and declarations as well as checking all of the results and passing them to Power of 10 for publication.

Bryan Acford – 30th November 2022

Annex B. League Secretary's report

MCAA Track and Field League 2022 – a review (dated 14 Sept 2022)

R G White (League Sec), League Committee, Divisional Secs

A good return to Midland Track and Field league competition after two years disrupted by the global pandemic. Overall numbers have held up well and a number of divisional and league records were recorded. Generally positive feedback for the various innovations introduced for 2022.

Gloucester AC were the overall champions, as division 1 winners, and enjoyed three match wins out of four. Promotions were achieved by BRAT, Cannock and Stafford, Yate, Cheltenham, Leicester Coritanians, Leamington and Newport. Most divisions enjoyed close competitions between the clubs.

Really pleasing to see high quality performances across the league. Congratulations to Katie Holt (City of Stoke AC, 3000m in 9:04.82), to Efekeo Okoro (Birchfield, 400H in 51.52) and to Craig Murch (Birchfield, HT with 68.31m) for setting new league records. Congratulations also to Kiya Dee (Cheltenham and County Harriers, 2kSC in 7:24.7 & 3kSC in 10:47.4), to Sarah Everitt (Bristol and West AC, 5000m in 17:31.76), and to Tamworth AC (4x400m mixed relay) for setting inaugural league records in their events. At divisional level nine new divisional records were established, in addition to the inaugural records for women's 5000m, women's 2kSC and 3kSC and the mixed 4x400m relay.

There were excellent performances across all the divisions, although we note that a number of technical events continue to struggle for numbers and hence quality/depth of competition. We hope to address this with proposals to the 2022 AGM.

We also offer our congratulations to the winners of the best performance award based on World Athletic Scoring tables¹:

- Division 1: Samantha Griffiths, Birchfield;
- Division 2: Katie Holt, Stoke;
- Division 3: Jessica Waters, Sutton in Ashfield;
- Division 4NE: Elliott Powell, Leicester Coritanians;
- Division 4SE: Cleo Martin-Evans, Daventry;
- Division 4SW: Lucy Jones, Tipton;

and to the following athletes for being voted their division's most valued athlete:

- Division 2: Natalie Griffiths, Cannock and Stafford AC;
- Division 4SW: Charlotte Colbert, Hereford & County AC.

Across all six divisions, 1486 individual athletes competed, with on average 721 athletes competing in any given round. Access to raw data reduces our options to compare year on year, but we note that for division 3 (a mid-placed division), 297 athletes competed in 2022 – compared to 313 in 2018

¹ As this award is determined directly by performance it will naturally be realistically attainable by just a few athletes (i.e. the higher ranked athletes). For 2022 we attempted to widen the concept of an individual award so that all athletes had a chance to win – this was the most valued athlete award. That approach did not gain universal support. An alternative would be to use a handicapping system.

and 333 in 2016. Annual numbers at the MCAA Senior/U20 championships provide some context here with overall filled entries (vice competing athletes) of 344 (2022), 369 (2018) and 390 (2016)².

We should be concerned about the trend for declining numbers – but given that the championships and league show similar trends it would appear to be more fundamental than Midland T&F League competition provision.

We note, however, that within the league a number of clubs have “collapsed” in terms of numbers and one club withdrew before the season began. It is likely that there is a tipping point effect whereby below a given number of available athletes it becomes too difficult for team managers to attempt to put out viable teams. This was a particular issue in match four (which clashed with the MCAA U15/U17 championships) where three teams withdrew from the matches.

The date conflict noted for match four was imposed by UKA/EA in their 2022 season planning carried out in 2021. As far as we know there was no consultation for these 2022 dates. In anticipation of 2023 we have worked closely with EA/UKA to ensure that the dates for the league are a better set. We have also established six dates in 2023 – to provide room for league evolution options should the 2022 AGM wish to establish some, or alternatively to provide some flexibility in terms of date selection.

Disappointingly, the League Secretary has received feedback noting unacceptable behaviour from both athlete and officials.

The league introduced a range of innovations for 2022:

- full equality between men and women through the introduction of women’s steeplechase and women’s 5k events;
- photo-finish for divisions 1 and 2;
- regionalisation below division 3 to reduce travel commitments;
- bonus points for strong performances;
- the introduction of flexibility in team composition across events, paving the way for possible further AGM proposals in the future;
- individual competitions - based on a) World Athletic scoring tables and, b) club votes;
- mixed 4x400 relays.

Feedback suggests these have in general been well received. It is likely that further development of these, and other ideas, will be discussed at the 2022 AGM.

The disruption caused by the global pandemic has brought into sharp relief two key issues: shortage of officials; and the poor state of venues. The officials issue is a major concern. A large number of matches struggled with the numbers of officials and it was only through the goodwill of officials in attendance that matches were able to proceed. Officials’ training is part of the solution, but it is likely in the shorter term that match composition (e.g. numbers of teams) may need to change.

Seven clubs will need to apply for re-election to the league as they failed to produce sufficient officials on at least two occasions. Given this, and the fact some clubs struggled simply with athlete

² These are entries, rather than athletes competing, as de-conflicting athlete entries (e.g. 100m and 200m for an athlete) is very time consuming without access to spreadsheet data. On-line entry information is available for 2022 – giving 559 entries against 366 athletes. Competing athletes will therefore be less than the 344 filled entries over the weekend.

numbers, we are encouraging clubs to consider forming composite teams in preparation for 2023 if that makes sense for them.

The poor state of many facilities has also been a worry. Clubs found it more difficult than usual to find licensed venues, and even then conditions were still at times below standard. This is generally a local authority funding problem and will likely be of concern for some time.

Overall, though, a good return to full league competition.

Final Tables

Division 1

Club	Match pnts	Lge pnts
Gloucester AC	1629	23
Notts AC	1366	19
Rugby & Northampton AC	1134	14
Bristol & West AC	1160	12
Birchfield Harriers	1004	10
Tamworth AC	738	6

Division 3

Club	Match pnts	Lge pnts
Yate and District AC	1545.3	25
Cheltenham & County Harriers	1504	22
Stratford-upon-Avon AC	1432.3	22
Bromsgrove & Redditch AC	1181	16.5
Worcester AC	1058.3	14.5
Wolverhampton & Bilston AC	648	7
Sutton-in-Ashfield H & AC	213	5

Division 4SE

Club	Match pnts	Lge pnts
Leamington C & AC	1245	23
Banbury Harriers AC	1032	18
Solihull & Small Heath AC	989	17
Kettering Town Harriers	611	11
Daventry AAC	742	10
Corby AC	266	5

Division 2

Club	Match pnts	Lge pnts
BRAT	1399	20
Cannock & Stafford AC	1357	20
Coventry Godiva Harriers	1351	19
Telford AC	938	10
City of Stoke AC	906	10
Abingdon AC	385	5

Division 4NE

Club	Match pnts	Lge pnts
Leicester Coritanian AC	1660	32
Burton AC	1365.5	25
Nuneaton Harriers AC	1314.5	24
Charnwood AC	1153	20
Newcastle (Staffs) AC	1002	16
Royal Sutton Coldfield AC	944	15
Wreake & Soar Valley	131	7
Saffron AC	115	5

Division 4SW

Club	Match pnts	Lge pnts
Newport Harriers	1410.5	26
Kidderminster & Stourport AC	1321	24
Tipton Harriers	927.5	18
Halesowen A & CC	847	15
Hereford & County AC	729	15
Dudley & Stourbridge Harriers	204	9
Forest of Dean AC	-24	5

Individual Competition. World Athletics scoring - best performance from each match and then highest three of these match scores to count

Division	Name	Club	Match	Event	Perf	Score	Match	Event	Perf	Score	Match	Event	Perf	Score	Total
1	Samantha Griffiths	Bir	1	100	12.09	997	2	100	12.22	974	3	100	12.37	948	2919
2	Katie Holt	Stoke	1	1500	4:23.96	1021	2	5k/3k	9:04.82	1090	3	1500	4:41.30	896	3007
3	Jessica Waters	SinA	1	100	12.3	960	2	100	12.4	943	3	100	12.42	940	2843
4NE	Elliott Powell	Leic	1	100	10.3	1104	2	400	48.6	954	4	100	11.1	856	2914
4SE	Cleo Martin-Evans	Dav	1	LJ	5.91	968	3	LJ	5.67	917	4	LJ	5.77	939	2824
4SW	Lucy Jones	Tipton	1	200	24.1	1049	2	200	24.5	1016	3	200	25.2	960	3025

Athlete numbers by match and division

Athletes per match per division 2022							Athletes for the season. Total competed
Division	Match				Average	Clubs	
1	136	158	157	139	148	6	307
2	142	110	142	113	127	6	264
3	154	132	140	129	139	7	297
4NE	135	132	118	99	121	8	233
4SE	105	103	90	79	94	6	188
4SW	95	103	114	59	93	7	197
Total	767	738	761	618	721	40	1486

Annex C Finance summary



MIDLAND COUNTIES ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

TRACK AND FIELD LEAGUE 2022



2021				2022				
Income	Expenditure	Plus	Minus		Income	Expenditure	Plus	Minus
£20,000.00				Affiliations	£20,000.00			
				Late Payments				
				Sponsorship				
				Numbers				
				Room Hire AGM				
				Refreshments for AGM				
				Room Hire Committee Meeting				
	£42.41			Postage				
	£12,100.00			Hosting Fees Paid				
				Meeting 1		£3,900.00		
				Meeting 2		£3,900.00		
				Meeting 3		£3,900.00		
				Meeting 4		£3,900.00		
£20,000.00	£12,142.41							
		£7,857.59		TOTALS	£20,000.00	£15,600.00	£4,400.00	£0.00
				Liabilities		£3,000.00		
				Cash Available			£4,400.00	

E A - Grant for Officials Development £3,000

Grant Bines

Hon. Treasurer

Annex D. 2023 division structure

Divisions for 2023

Division 1

Club
BRAT
Bristol & West AC
Cannock & Stafford AC
Gloucester AC
Notts AC
Rugby & Northampton AC

Division 2

Club
Birchfield Harriers
Cheltenham & County Harriers
Coventry Godiva Harriers
Tamworth AC
Telford AC
Yate and District AC

Division 3

Club
Abingdon and Witney AC
Bromsgrove & Redditch AC
City of Stoke AC
Leamington C & AC
Leicester Coritanian AC
Newport Harriers
Stratford-upon-Avon AC

Division 4NE

Club
Burton AC
Charnwood AC
Newcastle (Staffs) AC
Royal Sutton Coldfield AC
Sutton-in-Ashfield H & AC
Wolverhampton & Bilston AC

Division 4SE

Club
Banbury Harriers AC
Daventry AAC
Kettering Town Harriers
Nuneaton Harriers AC
Solihull & Small Heath AC

Division 4SW

Club
Dudley & Stourbridge Harriers
Halesowen A & CC
Hereford Forest
Kidderminster & Stourport AC
Tipton Harriers
Worcester AC

Annex E: short versions of the AGM proposals

MCAA T&F League Proposals to the AGM – 2022

Proposal 1

That the following is added to rule 9-4:

Rule 9-4d) Team managers must ensure that all athletes are aware of and comply with the following UKA anti-doping statement:

“An entrant shall be deemed to have made him/herself/their self, familiar with, and agreed to be bound by the UKA Anti-Doping Rules and to submit to the authority of UK Anti-Doping in the application and enforcement of the Anti-Doping Rules.

The UKA Anti-Doping Rules apply to entrants participating in the sport of Athletics, for 12 months from the date of the league match in which the athlete competes, whether or not the entrant is a citizen of, or resident in, the UK.”

Proposal 2

That the following is added to rule 9-14:

Rule 9-14 addition. A match will be considered attended by a club if there is at least one athlete, or at least three officials, from the club in attendance. If a club fails to attend a match (covered under rule 9-14) then they will score zero league points for that match.

Proposal 3

That rules under 9-3 covering requirements on host club and requirements on visiting clubs with respect to the provision of officials, be updated to align with the minimum required for a British Athletics level 1 event permit. Recognising that the permit conditions require two qualified officials in a field team then we propose additionally that a full field team (i.e. at least four people of which at least two are qualified) gains +10 points for officials.

Proposal 4

That clubs be allowed to enter a limited number of scoring third string athletes in events. The clubs to choose where to place these additional athletes for any given match. The maximum number of scoring third string athletes will be fixed [and agreed by AGM vote]. Rule 9-12f [N scores to count] would be retained but N revised slightly [by AGM vote] in recognition of the additional choice for athletes and clubs.

Proposal 5

That, if proposal 4 is not accepted, the AGM reviews the current N values and selects appropriate values for N in rule 9-12f.

The proposal is that the AGM selects between:

N=30 for all divisions,

And

N=30 for divisions 1-3 and N=27 for the regional divisions.

Proposal 6

That, if proposal 4 is not accepted, those track events that are run in lanes are seeded based on an athlete's Power of Ten time (suggestion is best time over previous and current season). The seeding to produce a minimum number of races subject to track constraints (number of lanes) and ability of the time-keeping team, as judged by the Chief Timekeeper, to cope with the numbers in any given race.

Proposal 7

That one league date (of the six available [in 2023]) be used to promote a single match where a limited number of technical events are held. Clubs from all divisions to be invited to this single match and the events to be conducted as per a normal league match. (It is expected that the match length will be around two and a half hours.)

Proposal 8

That clubs, following a vote from clubs in the appropriate division(s) organised by the league secretary, and with the subsequent agreement of the league management committee, be allowed to co-operate for the purposes of the league. Applications to be received no later than the AGM so that reasonable estimates of the divisional structure can be determined. The number of cooperating clubs to be limited to combinations of two. Any two co-operating clubs would share athlete slots, officials' duties and league fees – and it would be up to the co-operating clubs to decide how these items would be divided/shared. Within the league results, performances would be assigned to an athlete's home club and would appear as such on Power of Ten. For match team scoring we would combine scores from the cooperating club pair and this would be used for match position and ultimately promotion/relegation.

Cooperating teams would be allowed from different divisions with the higher division being the one in which the cooperating team would sit.

Proposal 9

That we introduce more regionalisation into the league beginning in season 2024.

Supporting decisions for the AGM

Against this principle we propose that the AGM addresses the following questions sequentially:

Question 1: Do we want full regionalisation – five regional divisions running on four dates and followed by a finals day, OR do we want to retain some pan-area divisions?

Question 2: If we want partial regionalisation - do we want one or two pan-area divisions?

Proposal 10

- a) If an attending (i.e. not the host) club steps in and provides an official (or officials) for the key roles of track ref, field ref, start team, then they shall be allowed to count them against their own club officials' requirements. (For example, if a club allows their L2 field judge to swap to the field ref role then the providing club still scores +5 points for a qualified field judge.)
- b) If a club provides an additional qualified official (or additional officials) that are loaned to other teams for a given match, then the providing club may carry forward to the next match the points for that/those officials. The receiving club does not score the +5 points for the qualified official. (For example, if club A attends match number two with two L2 field judges and loans one of these to club B then for match three it will be judged that club A has already scored the +5 points for a qualified field judge. The receiving club (club B) in this example will not score the +5 points in match two as they attended match two with no qualified field judge.)

Proposal 11

That we allow U17 and U20 athletes to compete in the Midland league using their age group weight specifications in the throws and hurdle heights in the U17 men 400H and U20 men 110H races. We propose that we apply a compensation factor, post event, to the U17 and U20 performances achieved using non-senior equipment. This would be done automatically within the results software when calculating event scores.