OFFICIALS' SECRETARIES REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 16th March 2012

Officials Committee

Stan Burton, Mike Barratt, Alison Friend, Peter Darts, Janet Smith, John Lofts

Committee Secretaries

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This is our 7th report to the AGM and, although the job doesn't seem to get any easier, both UKA and EA now seem to be getting on a lot better although there is plenty of room for improvement.

HAA UPGRADINGS

We are pleased to say that Janet Smith has now been promoted to Level 3 as a Starter/Marksman and Jemma Bates who, although from Dorset is affiliated to Hampshire, has been promoted to Level 3 as a Marksman and both are therefore now on the National List. As far as Level 2 Officials are concerned we have been actively encouraging these Officials to complete their Log books and quite a few have now started moving up the ladder. However, we do find that quite a number find the completion of the Competition Experience Forms for each meeting is onerous and of little interest – bring back the old system!

HAA NEW OFFICIALS

We held Level 2 Courses at Winchester for all 4 disciplines with 37 attendees although 9 were from other Counties, mainly Berkshire. Our thanks to our Tutors Janet Smith, Alison Friend, Steve Snodden and Steve Baldwin. We will be keeping in touch with all these new potential Officials to try to ensure they complete their minimum of 4 meetings to get their Pass/Licence. However, there are still some clubs within the County who do not put forward any prospective candidates which is disappointing. To encourage we did hold a taster evening at Aldershot to explain to people what is involved but with minimal success. As from April this year UKA have tightened up on Health & Safety Courses and, in effect, Officials will not be able to progress unless they have attended the Course and as far as Field Officials are concerned there will be restrictions as to what they can do e.g they will not be allowed to enter the landing sector! We circulated all those Officials who have not attended such a course and have one arranged for 19th March in Basingstoke which will be delivered by Wendy Haxell. All our Tutors are getting calls from England Athletics to help with Courses throughout the South and 3 are at Salisbury this weekend and we are both at Oxford the following week so our thanks also to Peter Darts and Darryl Quinn who are assisting. In addition we have also approached Darryl to see if he can run some EDM sessions which he has in hand so our thanks to him for this. We are still running Courses for the ASPT in Aldershot every 3 months which are a challenge in themselves and our thanks to Stan Burton for spending an hour or so for practical timekeeping session.

MEETINGS

We continue to arrange Officials for the County Track & Field and Multi Event Championships together with the Hampshire Schools events plus DSE Southern Region, Special Olympics, Inter County events and also those arranged by Michael Coker with whom we had our annual meeting in January to set out our dairy for the year. We get tremendous support from our Officials for all these events. There were particular problems with the Schools Championships at the newly refurbished Aldershot stadium as there was a paucity of junior implements and our thanks to Andover AC for providing the necessary equipment. 2012 is causing special problems in view of the Olympics, Paralympics and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. There are clashes of meetings and with 17 Hampshire Officials involved in the Test Events this has drained us a little of senior Officials for the Multi Events. Additionally for the HSAA Championships there is a clash with the Trials at Bedford where we have 20 Officials on duty. **Any people who can help are asked to contact us please.** The Cross Country Championships were suitably covered together with the many Schools Championships. We attend meetings of the SouthEast Regional Cofsecs every 4 months and these prove quite beneficial.

ENDURANCE

We continue to try to keep abreast of the developments with Endurance but there still seems quite a way to go to get everything right as things appear to change by the minute. New arrangements are coming into effect with Race Adjudicators and we recently circulated all Level 2 B, C and Level 3 Officials with a paper from Colin Goater. Our two Tutors are Pam Rogers and Ian Murdoch who have run Courses but we feel that there is scope for more of those who assist at Endurance events to become properly qualified as we have come across situations where people are acting as Road Race Referees but are not even qualified as a basic Endurance Official! We have been told that in due course this will have an effect on the application for a Permit!

OFFICIALS MEETING

We held our 7th "Get Together" last April at Basingstoke Hockey Club with 60 attending and the Guest Speaker was Keith Davies from LOCOG who gave us an insight into the developments at the new Stadium. Our thanks to Michael Coker for all his help in arranging this and also for providing the sponsorship through Hampshire & Isle of Wight Sports Partnership. The next gathering will be at the same venue on 30th March with Guest Speaker Chris Cohen, also from LOCOG, who has special responsibilities for the Paralympics. For this we have 65 acceptances to date.

DIRECTORY

The 2012 edition should be ready for circulation to all our Officials and Clubs in April.

SINFIELD AND PHILLIPS TROPHIES

The Sinfield Trophy was presented to Paul Hillyard and the Phillips Trophy to Geoff Davies at the "Get Together" and this year's recipients will receive their presentations on 30th March.

NEWSLETTER

The bi-annual newsletter continues and Eileen (Editor) is always looking for articles. The majority go by email to save costs and we also send to some of our retired Officials who have asked to be kept on the mailing list, even to Paul Slater in Malta.

Finally our thanks to all of our Officials who have supported us throughout the year but, especially, to the members of our Officials Committee whose expert advice is Invaluable. On this subject Roy Dyer, after many years of service has decided to make way for someone younger as he is, to a large extent, retiring from Officiating although he will still be seen around occasionally. We would like to record our sincere thanks for all he has done over the years and the Committee agreed to invite Alison Friend to take his place and we welcome her on-board. Unless somebody else would like to take this job on we are quite prepared to stand for a further year.

Eileen & Terry Williams (Joint County Technical Officials Secretaries)