

# NATIONAL JUNIOR ATHLETIC LEAGUE

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT ALEXANDER  
STADIUM, BIRMINGHAM ON SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER 2003

**PRESENT:** Margaret Grayston (Chairman), Wendy Daniel (Secretary), Barry Holmes (Midland Representative), Gerald Alterman (Southern Representative), Christopher Betts (Northern Representative), Pauline Churchill (Birchfield Harriers), Brian Holyfield (Birchfield Harriers), Carole Thompson (Border Harriers), Kate Martindale (Border Harriers), Eddie Gore (Cheshire Tigers), Jill Gore (Cheshire Tigers), Moira Maguire (Edinburgh Woollen Mill), John Lunn (Leeds City A.C.), Tony Swindlehurst (Liverpool Harriers), Stan Roberts (Liverpool Harriers), David Hynd (Pitreavie), Jean Kehoe (Sale Harriers), Michael Delany (Sale Harriers), R.C.Mould (Solihull & Small Heath), Mike Sanderson (Tamworth A.C.), Warren Harrison (Tipton Harriers), Alan Johnson (Trafford A.C.), Mary Johnson (Trafford A.C.), Terry Ridsdale (Wakefield & Dist.), Jim Strudwick (Bristol A.C.), Pauline Ash (City of Norwich), J. Ash (City of Norwich), Alan Sutton (Enfield & Haringey), Paul Rutter (Ipswich Harriers), Mike Oakley (Ipswich Harriers), Liza Sandell (Leamington C. & A.C.), Geoff Morphitis (Shaftesbury Barnet Harriers), Bryan Goodman (W.S.E & Hounslow), Sharon Herbert (WG/EL). (34)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Grace Hall (Treasurer), Stuart Hall (Northern Representative), Paul Wibberley (Bolton United Harriers), Bob Hughes (Cannock & Staffs A.C.), Rick Betts (Middlesbrough A.C.), Sue Todd (Rushcliffe A.C.), Margaret Milne (Wirral A.C.), Jackie Tobin & Ian Murdoch (Basingstoke & Mid Hants A.C.), Tony Benton (Havering Mayesbrook A.C.), John Smith (Thames Valley Harriers), Gerry Slade (Yate & District).
2. **MINUTES OF THE 2002 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.** Proposed by John Lunn, seconded by Terry Ridsdale. Unanimously agreed and duly signed
3. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2003.** COPY ATTACHED
4. **FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

#### **4.1. Consideration of the accounts for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2003**

Due to the absence of the Treasurer the General Secretary read out a report –prepared by the Treasurer: -  
Please accept my apologies for being unable to attend the 2003 AGM. I am sure you will no doubt be aware that Stuart is recovering from a heart attack, and needless to say I did not want to leave him yet. I will be back in full swing fairly soon, and I expect Stuart to be the same.

On to my report, one of the first things you will have noticed is the decrease in member subscriptions. On the information I have received so far, I am expecting an increase in member clubs for 2004. That should take subscriptions back up to the 2002 level.

I have had confirmation from Athletics Weekly that we will be receiving funding in 2004, based on the same agreement that I have outlined in the notes.

I have spent some time looking for a higher interest rate than we are currently receiving from the Portman, and some of you will realise that is impossible, but I am looking at transferring to a notice account. There are a couple of alternatives available, and I will explore these soon.

The increase in track hire reimbursement, 32%, was a consequence of the decision made at last years AGM, 2/3rds up to 80% to a maximum of £200.

The amount that we are holding in the Portman Account, one years running costs, is sufficient, in so much as I now feel the League is in a position to look to a standstill budget.

Based on the above, and the need to keep the League competitive, I recommend to the AGM the following:

- a) Entry fees to stay at £75.00 per team.
- b) No change to track hire reimbursement.

**4.2. Adoption of the Accounts.** Proposed by John Lunn, seconded by Chris Betts. Unanimously agreed.

**4.3. Subscriptions for 2002/2003.** It was agreed to keep these at £75.00 per team. Clarification was made that this was £75.00 per team and not £75.00 per club.

#### **5. VARIATIONS TO LEAGUE RULES AS PROPOSED BY THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

##### **Constitution**

5.1.(1) (d) Deletion of Fixtures Secretary, Geoff Morphitis (Shaftesbury Barnet) pointed out that maybe in the future someone may come forward to take on the job, so suggested that it was left in. It was agreed that, at present, Wendy Daniel and Stuart Hall would carry on in the capacity of Southern (Wendy) and Northern (Stuart) Fixture Secretaries.

A proposal was put forward by Geoff Morphitis and seconded by Gerald Alterman to leave the post of "Fixtures Secretary" in the constitution. This was agreed.

### Rules of Competition

2.2. becomes 2.3.

2.3. becomes 2.4.

2.4. becomes 2.5.

New rule 2.2. "Composite clubs, as recognised by UKA, will be accepted as member of the League."

Andy Paul from UKA was in attendance to answer questions on this proposal from the floor.

Geoff Morphitis asked for definition of club and team. Andy Paul confirmed that it should be team and not club. He told the meeting that the rule has been brought in to enable small teams within a small radius of each other to come together to enable them to compete in agreed League(s) or competition(s). Guidelines are set out. Each composite team would have to renew their application each year.

An amended proposal was put forward by the Management Committee and seconded by Alan Johnson.

"Composite teams, as recognised by UKA, may be accepted as members of the League subject to scrutiny and approval by the Management Committee"

This amended proposal was carried 32 votes for, 2 against.

Changes to Rule 2.5. The proposal was amended to read(a) "Only athletes who have a record of competition, in that or the previous season, in the League for their club are permitted to compete in The National Final or Regional Promotion match. (b) Breach of this rule will result in deduction of the points scored by the athlete concerned – including relays.

The proposal was voted on in two separate parts.

The first part of the amended proposal was carried 27 votes for, 5 against

The second part of the amended proposal was carried unanimously.

Change in wording to rule 5.6. Fixture Secretary to be changed to General Secretary. Agreed unanimously.

## **6. CHANGES TO LEAGUE RULES PROPOSED BY MEMBER CLUBS**

6.1.

Proposed by Wakefield District Harriers & A.C.

Rule 2.1. – addition "Clubs are limited to using a maximum of 3 second/secondary claim members in a fixture"

Proposed by Liverpool Harriers & A.C. & Trafford A.C.

Rule 2.1. – addition Liverpool – "That clubs shall be permitted to include a maximum of four second claim members in teams competing in the NJAL".

Trafford – "The maximum number of 2<sup>nd</sup> claim athletes is restricted to 4 per match.

After a long discussion Wakefield and Liverpool Harriers withdrew their proposals and agreed to the Trafford proposal. The proposal was carried 18 votes for, 11 against, 4 abstentions.

6.2.

Proposed by Leeds City A.C., Gateshead Harriers and Trafford A.C.

Leeds City – "That with effect from the 2005 season the separate Men's and Womens competitions in the NJAL be amalgamated into a single competition."

Gateshead Harriers – "That the NJAL adopts joint scoring of club teams for the League programme,"

Trafford A.C. – That this League becomes a joint scoring league.

After much discussion with reference mainly to single sex clubs an amended proposal was put forward by Enfield & Haringey A.C. seconded by Tipton Harriers

"In 2006 season the League will be joint scoring with scores separate for invitation to the final. In 2007 complete joint scoring."

This proposal was defeated. For 11, Against 22

The original proposal of joint scoring in 2005 was then voted on and was defeated. For 16, Against 17, 1 abstention

The Committee were asked to prepare a structured proposal to be put to the 2004 AGM. This was agreed to.

6.3.

Proposed by Trafford A.C.

"The timetable is adjusted so that there is a sprint hurdle after each 3000m race."

The meeting was told that Stuart Hall had been looking at the field events timetable and Gerald Alterman had been looking at the track timetable. It was left that the Management Committee would look into it.

6.4.

Proposed by Trafford A.C.

Rule 2.1. Amend rule to "Competitors can either be first claim members of their club or secondary 1<sup>st</sup> claim(2<sup>nd</sup> claim) members whose first claim team are not a member of the League."

This was carried unanimously.

**7. LEAGUE DATES FOR 2004**

The Chairman told the meeting that the dates for next season would be: -

1. April 25<sup>th</sup>
  2. May 23<sup>rd</sup>
  3. June 20<sup>th</sup>
  4. July 25<sup>th</sup>
- National Final Aug 29<sup>th</sup>  
Promotion Matches September 12<sup>th</sup>

It was felt by some members that Aug 29<sup>th</sup> was too early for the National Final and the Committee were asked to look into the idea of swapping dates with the Promotion matches.

**8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2003/2004**

The following officers were re-elected unanimously.

- |             |                         |                   |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>8.1.</b> | CHAIRMAN                | Margaret Greyston |
| <b>8.2</b>  | GENERAL SECRETARY       | Wendy Daniel      |
| <b>8.3</b>  | TREASURER               | Grace Hall        |
| <b>8.5</b>  | NORTHERN REPRESENTATIVE | Stuart Hall       |
|             | MIDLAND REPRESENTATIVE  | Barry Holmes      |
| <b>8.6</b>  | GRAND PRIX SECRETARY    | Wendy Daniel.     |

Nomination for Southern Representative - Ian Murdoch (Basingstoke and Mid Hants A.C.) was duly accepted.

Nominations from the floor were received for 1 Southern Representative - Gerald Alterman and 1 Northern Representative – Chris Betts Duly accepted.

**10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Proposed League structure - Border Harriers were not happy being in such a small division. It was explained to them that the Management Committee were actively seeking new member clubs in their area as it was felt that clubs could not be asked to travel long distances for the purpose of bolstering divisions. (Rule 5.2). In the past 3 seasons Middlesbrough (men), Gateshead Harriers (men and women) and City of Edinburgh (men) had all gained promotion from the Tyne division to the Northern Premier, leaving the division short of member clubs. Trafford were also not happy with being moved from the Mersey division to accommodate new clubs.

The meeting was told that this was only a proposed structure and it was still being looked at.

Geoff Morphitis thanked the League Management Committee for another excellent season.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 3.28p.m.

