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| kcaahorse **Kent County Athletic Association** |

**Annual Report of Executive & Committees 2018 - 2019**

**Executive (Acting Secretary David Ralph)**

+ As a county we see good engagement with our affiliated clubs & very good involvement by clubs & athletes in our 3 Leagues (Cross Country / Sports Hall / Track & Field).

+ We have very good number of athletes entering our championships, and we manage to provide many days of high quality competition during the year.

+ None of the above can be done without the dedicated work & commitment of our Secretaries & committee members to who I offer our continued appreciation & thanks.

+ We have several Kent athletes compete in the World Championships in Doha:

Dina Asher-Smith (1 Gold & 2 Silver), Tom Bosworth, Cameron Corbishley,

Adam Gemili (1 silver) & Daryll Neita.

The absence of a separate Secretary this year has given a chance of reflection & a realisation with 3 Officers (Chair / Secretary / Treasurer) several things we do are historically fragmented (i.e. Affiliation Renewal) so hopefully with the appointment of a new Secretary at the AGM we will looking to streamline our processes, and hopefully the workload, looking to play to peoples strengths.

* Senior Inter Counties, out of a possible 8 counties potentially fielding 16 teams, we just had just 11 compete and several of those with small numbers. At a cost of £2,000 approximate we will be less keen to host in future, using that money on more Kent based athletics. On a positive though several out of county officials experience technology, we use regularly, for the first time & several gained upgrading reports.
* We are acutely short of Committee support, Officials & Helpers, it was only threats of cancellation that found sufficient to enable our September championships to go ahead at Erith. Several had not helped before but may join us in future and 2 very happy Field Ref’s who had events very well covered for the first time in several years.

**Sub Committee Reports**

**Coaching & Development (Secretary – Stella Bandu)**

1. Funding was obtained to purchase new equipment for sports hall League.

2. Discussions with England Athletics led to some Athlete and Coach Development workshops being held in Kent. Improving communication with EA is an ongoing matter.

3. Information is shared on social media and KCAA web site. For example competitions, development opportunities, funding and congratulations for notable achievements by those involved in athletics in Kent. Follower/like numbers on KCAA Facebook and Twitter continue to increase.

**County Team Selectors (Secretary – Phil Pape)**

Cross Country - SEAA Inter Counties December – U15 Boys and U17 Men both won their team races with Louis Small and Matthew Taylor finishing 1st and 2nd in the U15 race and Charlie Brisley 2ndin the U17 event.

U13 Boys 3rd with Ella Newton 3rd in U20 Women being our only other medallist.

CAU March – Two team gold, U15 Boys & U17 Men, two team silvers, U13 Girls & U17 Women, one team Bronze U13 Boys.

Louis Small our only individual medallist with a superb victory in the U15 Boys.

Road - 20 miles – Lucy Reid was a convincing winner.

Track & Field -U13 Girls our only winners with the Senior Men and Women both finishing 2nd in our home fixture

Summary - As a County we have most of our top athletes wanting to represent us at Cross Country so the results reflect this. There are limited road events. On the Track and Field side we do not get the majority of our better athletes wanting to represent us especially at senior level due to fixture clashes and other commitments. The paperless system appears to have gone down well together with the use of the County Facebook page to get athletes to fill gaps in the T&F teams.

**Cross Country (Secretary – Tony Durey)**

1. The introduction of electronic timing to the league has proved to be popular, both with athletes in terms of quick and accurate results and officials, reducing the need for timekeepers if we are short.
2. The necessity to move the Bromley league fixture to Norman Park, after losing the long standing Sparrows Den venue to parking issues proved successful.
3. The entry numbers in the league and both Championships continues to steadily rise as cross country/endurance remains a growth area.
4. A lack of good venues /willing host clubs continues to frustrate the committee. We would respectfully ask any clubs to come forward with offers to host, which would get our full support
5. Many thanks to our host clubs for all their sterling work again; Bexley AC, Blackheath & Bromley Harriers, Cambridge Harriers, Central Park Athletics, Dartford Harriers, Tonbridge AC,

**Fell Running (Secretary – Ian Marshall)**

I need to report excellent results in the British Inter-Counties Senior Fell Champs from May.

Max Nicholls of Tonbridge AC moved up from the U23 category to win the senior men’s race at the Flower Scar race (Derbyshire) on May 11th. He beat some established international runners in a time of 54:16 winning by 9 seconds from Dan Howarth of Derbyshire.

The Kent team came 9th out of 20. Other team members were Greg Cole, Euan Nicholls and Anthony Stevens. (Team photo on the KCAA website)

**Medals & Trophies (Secretary – Di & Lee Capon)**

+ With the President now too being a Capon, this family team works like a well-oiled machine & provides a much welcomed enjoyable end to the competition day for our athletes.

* There are some athletes who still deny other athletes the joy of receiving an engraved trophy by not getting them engraved & returned on time.

**Officials (Secretary – Gill Freeman)**

+ Over the last year we have held three Officials courses, at Cambridge Harriers, Ashford and Medway Park.  83 people attended these Kent County promoted Officials Courses, with a large number getting qualified soon after. We also have 8 – 10 officials working towards level 4.

+ Kent is quite healthy with many Level 4 officials over the four main disciplines. This bodes well for the future so that we can help the newer officials to gain the necessary experiences to progress.

* This does mean that we have about 360 people registered on the EA athletic portal as qualified or trainee officials. With that said, we still struggle to get enough officials to help out at County promotions and the recent Combined Events, U13’s and Masters champs, came close to being cancelled due to lack of officials. A plea was put out and I am pleased to say that we manged to have all disciplines virtually fully staffed.
* Sadly, there are some clubs who still wish to put on their own course without going through the Officials Secretary, this does mean that many of those candidates are not given the correct information on how to progress and that many don’t ever make it to level 1 qualification.

**Road Running (Secretary – Dave Behagg)**

This committee does not directly run events but selects a carefully selected cross section of Road Running events across the county to form part of its annual “Grand Prix” competition which proves very popular each year with runners.

**Sports Hall (Secretary – Jan Duffin)**

The new structure in the form of a league went well last season and will be easier next year following the £500 funding obtained by Stella Bandu for some new equipment. Thank you Stella.

New season started well with increase in clubs taking part in the League and athletes in U13 U15 girls and U13 boys.

U11s won Regional Fun in athletics.

U15 girls invited to the UK final in Manchester. Came 6th with 4 girls. If all the team had been there we would have won (based on last year’s results)

Helpers still need sorting out, suggestion of a signing in sheet as in track and field.

**Track & Field (Secretary – Gill Freeman)**

+ As a Country we truly fight above our weight in the provision of quality & quantity of competition events for athletes across the county.

+ The Kent Young Athletes League is very well supported & provides the challenge in how to fit in all who wish to take part.

* There needs to be a realisation from clubs & coaches, without officials such competitions cannot take place.

**Walking (Secretary – Noel Carmody)**

Kent is one of the few counties which has walking included in local league meetings, this has led to several Kent young walkers participating at national level.