

MAD JA



Marlborough and District Junior Athletics Club

Website: <http://www.madja.co.uk>

Hon. President: David Hemery

Chairman: Richard Cooper. Tel: 01672 516795

Hon. Secretary: Karen Kilworth. Tel: 0781 4102234

Minutes of Meeting, held on Monday 27 June 2011 at 1930 hrs at The Bear, High Street, Marlborough

Present – Karen Kilworth, Margaret Thompson, Lucy Lassiter, Jacqui Sykes, Ben Tarring, Martin Boaler, Richard Cooper, Cathy TB,

Apologies

Charlie Sheppy, Kim Seward, Erin Amiss, Richard Smith, Miles Averill, Alison Leese

Previous Minutes of Meeting

Minutes were accepted and approved

Actions arising

- Coaching database: Test emails sent out, everyone who received invites to join must access and report back if successful
- Coaching support: Jacqui & Lucy to follow up those professional coaches able to help train MADJA coaches. – **Action Jacqui / Lucy**
- Facebook – a test group was successfully made. It was agreed to send global invite to MADJA membership with hyperlink to group invite to join. It was noted that this Facebook club would only be eligible for 15+ age groups. This Facebook club would also be publicised on notice board, and website – **Action KK**: send email to older athletes and to ensure they ask parent's permission where necessary. It was muted that going forward the Facebook group could be possibly managed by senior athlete.
- The notice board is being successfully managed by Ben Tarring. It was agreed that the "V" board is best utilised at the beginning of the season to supply information, especially to new parents for information with details such as training times, codes of conduct, contact numbers, general/important information etc.
- Martin B outlined schedule of possible new coaches together with others who are happy to help out at events etc which was noted as very encouraging. **Action MB**: send KK soft copy of the Excel list of helpers & a draft note. **Action: KK** send "holding" email to acknowledge their offer of help and advise that more information will be sent to take this forward. RC suggested that we put a course on for all the volunteers re coaching, perhaps towards the end of the season, and it was agreed that a Tutor needs to be found for this. **Action Cathy TB**: ask Tina Beresford (national coordinator) if she can help.
- Talent day: the Sunday informal internal competition was very successful with many new athletes signing up. Another one should be planned, timing is important in order to keep momentum of the Club going. Suggested date: 31 July (**KK** to e-mail all coaches to check availability for this date). It was recognised that Quad Kids is also an excellent lead generator.
- Quad kids primary schools final is 13 July, Swindon starting 12.00 ? – all helpers welcomed. **Action MT**: email Amanda for confirmation of exact time/date etc.
- It was noted that since last minutes, the athlete's behaviour has improved.

Maintaining Momentum

It was agreed that it is important to:

- Consider open meetings to encourage new members

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- Encourage more participation: (consider taking a team of 20-30 athletes for competition)
- Look at which events are available during this period. **Action RC:** research and report back.
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Super8

It was widely noted that this event is proving to be very successful, although it was noted that results are still not going on the 'Power of 10'. **Action CathyTB:** enquire as to process for this.

Feedback from other teams is that they like Super8, and the athletes enjoy it, though they struggle to get full teams together – possibly due to the 1830hrs start time which can be restricting.

In terms of flow-through during the competition, it was recognised that although events can move smoothly, the high jump event can be very time consuming/slow, due to the nature of this discipline. Various ideas discussed on how to improve.

RC suggested improvements/recommendations:

1. Do we invite other Clubs?
2. Is it possible to run a Saturday morning league? (noted that this would be a problem for athletes who attend private schools and also could be a problem with the track itself)
3. Do we keep the event midweek?
4. Consider half terms and Easter Holiday sessions (although light will be an issue if the event is in the evening)

Action RC: speak to Aly Sloane and report back

End of Season bash:

- It as agreed to have two events:
 - 1 day event as per last year with all athletes competing in Club Championships, prize giving for the younger athletes followed by BBQ. **Action JS/KK** to discuss provisions
 - 1 evening event for the older athletes with a dinner/dance format with speeches and prize giving for the older athletes. This evening event could provide better opportunities for parents to get to know the committee etc. Event date suggested of 23 September. **Action KK:** find out if the golf clubs, Town Hall etc have availability on that date.
- The competition structure should be agreed – it was generally accepted that the high jump feature should be included, but with fewer jumps to prevent undue delays in the order of play
- The committee felt that consideration should be given to placing senior athletes in charge of some younger groups – this has the advantage of both passing responsibility to able young adults as well as better managing the overall run of the event

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PR update

Congratulations to Ben Tarring for successful copy output. There has been increased exposure in G&H which has been warmly welcomed with good quality photographs and interesting articles. This is a likely reason for surging membership demand at younger age groups. Thanks to all involved.

Forthcoming events:

There are two matches coming up: Sunday 3rd July & Tuesday 5th July. A straw poll was taken at the committee meeting to identify available coaches.

AOB

1. Notices for club:

KK to send out email to membership as there will be no U13 and older coaching session on Sunday 3rd July.

Additional notice is to advise membership that from August onwards: sessions for older athletes will all be at 10.15. KK to advise Alison for her to update website.

2. Provisional date for AGM 22nd August - email to the membership advising of proposed AGM date to the whole mail list. Also email David H.

Meeting closed 2100hrs