Scottish Athletics Limited

Road Running and Cross Country Commission

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 11th May 2026 at 1730 hrs. via Zoom.

Present:

Mike Johnston (Chair), Dave Cairns, Ted Finch, Sandra Hardacre, Alex Jackson, Alasdhair Love, Angela Mudge, Sharon Taylor, John Mackay, Hamish Hickey, Gary Woods, Colin Hutchison, Dave Hanlon, John Newsom

(1) Chairman's Welcome, Apologies and Opening Remarks

Apologies – None

MJ welcomed all to the Commission Meeting.

(2) Papers Circulated:

(1) Minutes of previous meeting of 2nd February 2026
(2) Endurance Fixture List – Season 2026/2027
(3) U20 Discussion Paper
(4) Future of the National Road Relays
(5) Endurance Officials Update
(6) Draft Minutes of Nort District Committee

Minutes of last meeting:

The minutes were agreed as accurate and were seconded by DC.

(3) Age Group Changes:

There still seems to be some uncertainty from athletes, coaches, parents on the new age group changes despite information having been published.

Pin badges will be presented to U14/U16/U18 athletes. The first event at which these will be presented is at the Short Course in November.

AL to contact Eilidh from Young People's Forum re design of pin badge. Thought that the pin badges could be in District colours for the District Championships and a different colour for National Championships.

(4) Championship Event Applications:

Applications received from DAAA for 10 mile championships and from Round the Houses, Grangemouth for the 10Km Championships. Meeting of the road championship sub-group to take place ASAP with a view to final awarding of the championships.

(5) Review of Events Completed:

21.2.26 - National XC Championships – Callendar Park, Falkirk. Very well organised event. The finishing channels worked well where finishers went into one channel and lapped runners in another.
DC Referee report is available on the website.
AM has been contacted by a few Senior Men asking if the Senior Men's and Senior Women's races could be rotated on some years so that the Senior Men are not always the last race. Worth some thought being put into this and could possibly be trialled 2027 or 2028.

15.3.26 – YARR Championships – Battery Park, Greenock. Apart from the weather a good event.

21.3.26 – 6/4 Stage Road Relays – Livingston. Will come back to this event later in the meeting "Future of the National Road Relays".
This year the event went well.

Road Race Grand Prix
8.3.26 - Half Marathon at Inverness went well and they are always very welcoming.
29.3.26 - Tom Scott 10 Mile – very bad weather for this race but went well.
26.4.26 - London Marathon – may have to review this for future years. By 2027 there is apparently going to be an Aberdeen Marathon. This will be worth considering if the event goes well in 2027.
1.5.26 - 5Km - Silverknowes – weather good which produced fast times.
10.5.26 – 10Km – Glasgow – good day. 6 men and 3 women achieved the A Standard. Initial feedback on the GP results show that 23 men and 9 women achieved Standards suggesting that a further review of the A and B Standards may be needed for 2027.

(6) Inter District:

There is a possibility that Scotland could have a UK Challenge within the Inter Districts. May also have the Celtic Nations and Home Countries in it too. If this was the case, then there would be a separate race for U20's.

For years that there is no UK Challenge in Scotland how do we increase participation in the U20 age group. Further discussion to take place on this but the thought of most was that medals for 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed U20's be awarded medals.

A Meeting of the Endurance Advisory Group being held w/c 18th May – hope that things will be clearer after this meeting on awarding of the events that are part of the cross country challenge for 2026/27.

Review of National Road Relay Championships:

Much discussion took place on the paper which had been previously circulated.
Some of the points that came up were –

- Relays were very successful again this year as an event and championship. The venue is excellent in terms of parking, easy access and has very strong support from the local club who provide most marshals.
- Different length of legs good
- Spectating at venue not good
- Venue not good
- Very lonely run for many of the runners
- Hold event in September prior to XC season
- Have short legs only for Women & Masters.
- Course too twisty
- If we don't use a twisty course, it would have to be on open road which causes problems.
- Have live feeds from around the course

Cannot envisage us doing anything massively different for next year, but how do we progress.

- Try a mixed relay for next year although this will not fix the comment above that very lonely run for some of the runners
- TF will look at alternative routes and AM will look at a mixed relay format. Findings to be reported back at next meeting.

Feedback to be given to August meeting.

(7) Fixtures for 2026/2027:

14/15.11.26 – Scottish Student XC
20.2.27 – National XC – Falkirk
27.2.27 – YARR – East Fortune
20/21.3.27 - 6/4 stage relay next year depends on Livingston FC fixtures.

No update as to whether BUCS will be held in Scotland. This to be chased up.

November/December 2027 – European XC Championships to be held in Glasgow.

March 2028 – European Masters Indoor Championships in Glasgow. There will also be a Road Race and XC within this Championship.

(8) Endurance Officials Report:

Loss of endurance officials email address and portal. Shona Malcolm-Martin is aware of this.

(9) Honorary Life Membership:

If there is someone that you think worthy of this award, please let MJ know.

(10) Governance

The Terms of Reference for all Commissions have been updated during the last year. They will now be reviewed annually, normally in May for feedback to the June Board Meeting.

CH expected this to be in the format of a commission members questionnaire

(11) Road Race Records:

MJ will be doing some work with Arnold Black to set up records for Road Races. At World level they look at Women Only Race Records. It is thought that we look at mixed races as not many Women only races available.

MJ given approval to continue the discussions with Arnold Black on procedures to approve records and an initial set of records for road mile; 5K; 10K; Half Marathon; Marathon; 50K and 100K.

(12) Date of Next Meetings:

The next meeting will be on Monday 3rd August 2026 at 5.30 pm.
The following meeting will be held on Monday 9th November 2026 at 5.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 7.05 pm – with thanks for time and patience at tonight's meeting.

Sandra Hardacre
15th May 2026