**Welcome** to the 2018 AGM of KCAA

*We need 12 members to be a quorum*

Let us stand & briefly remember Paul Alcock, Wendy Daniel & Daphne Reed for their contributions to athletics..

Introduction

Marjorie sawyer, the revolutionary 10 years ago decided it was time to move to younger presidents, not sure at 50 I consider myself young, but when I spoke to the existing chair and got the feeling he may hang up before I changed my mind to be chair!

Now Alan did not want to come tonight considering his 6 years in the secretary seat not worthy, compared to the long service of many others, but in those few years he has done some of the key objectives he came on board to do.

1. Reconnect to clubs, our members, and improve communication
2. Move us into the digital age
3. Update our constitution from being a fairly cumbersome governance structure which reviewed, in detail, what had happened in the previous month to an Executive which only meets quarterly and looks to set a forward looking agenda for KCAA.

I remember asking Mike Rowbottom if he would be concerned if we did away with Council meetings, his only comment “delighted”, many attending out of duty.

So never be one to obey my fellow officers I have a Quaich Bowl to acknowledge his time and contribution to KCAA.

Currently we are in need of a new secretary but with a new brief to move forward from where Alan has brought us. With skills like mail-merge, to focus our communication with clubs and the need to be GDPR compliant and also to become our lead on social media and the web and taking minutes may be a help or maybe that could be someone else’s role.

The newly formed Executive set an agenda going forward with a President that competing athletes who could inspire to in their athletics. Louise set us off for 5 years and Graham has done more than every during his 3 years, not least attending most Executive and T&F committee meetings but my guess for many young athletes that will not be as important as being coached by him in hammer at the KYAL.

Following on from Marjorie’s revolution tonight we will be looking to appoint probably our youngest ever president.

With that change in view it potentially leaves us a vacancy on the Executive and my conversation with Claire focused on Mick Paul, as a few years ago someone had an idea to trust & appoint a relative young treasurer, which appears to have worked out alright so Claire will be introducing a nomination to replace her on the Executive later.

Our key communication is now, email, web and social media. When Dawn Hookway took on the Press Secretary role our Webmaster was thinking of standing down as no one every updated it. Today most Secretaries do their own updates and we never publish press releases so Dawn and I agreed her role had become redundant so she has stood down and not be replace but like Alan I thank her for bringing us into the digital age.

The role of KCAA is principle of “Competition Provider” and against that we continue to see growth in entries, particularly in the younger age groups which is good for the future, in our leagues and championships our various committees provide and from them we see athletes go onto achieve great success representing the County.

But we cannot run any of them without officials, with ages averaging much below the national average, and it is hard work for Gill too often just get the minimum number in place.

When James Roberts came on board as Team Selection secretary he wanted greater correspondence and transparency, the former some of us know all too well he achieved but equally he fielded some great teams and again as he finds the need to stand down I offer him our thanks but pleased to welcome Phil Pape to take that area forward.

Jan and Mike have felt the Executive being over critical and lacking support for Sportshall, but this summer sportshall committee have gained new members and have tackled the long outstanding problem of moving equipment, rebranded themselves with a league focussed at clubs and there was a good buzz at the first meeting.

For a long while the cross country committee felt they were not communicating well with Officials so I am delighted that Ken Burkett is joining them with that brief and its effect has been seen at the first 2 meetings.

So to be in no doubt we owe a great debt to our President, the Sub-Committee Secretaries and members along with the Executive Committee and Officers who all provide successful services and support for clubs and athletes in Kent and on behalf of the County I offer them my thanks.

**David Ralph**