

CHAC Senior Endurance Committee

Draft Minutes of Meeting Dated Tuesday 12 May 2026, held at Sports Pavilion, Abbey Fields, Colchester

In Attendance:

Paul Dellar (Chair)	(PD)
Dan Steptoe-Thompson	(DST)
Joe Noack	(JN)
Fran Norris	(FN)
Louise Yates	(LY)
Richard Pickering	(RP)
Roanna Vickers	(RV)

Apologies:

Heidi Hogan-Steele	(HHS)
Nicola Hilson	(NH)

	The meeting started at 8:10pm, a quorum (at least 4) being present.	Action
1.	Previous Minutes	
	These had been circulated and were approved by The Committee. Matters arising had all been actioned as follows: • PD had fed back on Awards Evening to main committee. • DST/HHS had set up Endurance WhatsApp community. • Summer training had commenced (no need for Hi Vis). • Colchester Castle Parkrun Takeover had taken place and was a success. • AW 5 – dealt with below under AW 5 update.	
2	AW 5 Update	
	RP advised that he and PD had met with The Army and the issue with the booking had been resolved and that the track premises plus Abbey Fields would now be used for the race. The race had also been confirmed as the Essex 5 Mile Champs and, further to main committee approval, had opened to entries the previous Friday – the race had been publicised on FB and Instagram and 88 entries had already been received. Following a discussion on the Committee WhatsApp it had been agreed to offer a race t-shirt at cost. Nice Work provided the cheapest quote and had provided a design – RP to circulate. RP also to clarify what happens with t-shirt orders for those who had already entered the race. RP advised that it was proposed this year to pay over any profits to two charities – Essex Wildlife and also Beat Eating Disorders - a charity that RP is involved with that	RP RP

	helps many runners as part of its work. The Committee agreed it was a good idea to include a second charity with a link to running. The charities would be reviewed again for next year's race. James Plant was co-ordinating marshalls and had recently put out a first appeal on the Endurance WhatsApp/ LY agreed to be lead bike again for the event.	
3	Ipswich Ekiden	
	PD provided an update – with NH unable to co-ordinate this year due to other commitments PD has taken on entering and managing teams on the portal as well as number distribution on the day, and Simon Colclough has volunteered to co-ordinate runner recruitment, with help from HHS and DST. A first call had already been put out on FB and 10 teams (the maximum) had been pre-reserved with the organisers. RP advised that due to a clash with EYAL no junior teams older than U12 would be competing this year.	
4	Side Gate Entry	
	Sodexo had recently (at less than 1 day's notice) introduced a new procedure that involved the club being limited to using the side gate for entry/exit from the track. The reasons behind this are not entirely clear but it was noted that is generally more inconvenient for club members both in terms of entry/exit and also for warm-ups around Abbey Fields and further that the side gate area was very poorly lit and thus there were safety concerns with this, in particular during darker, winter months. Additionally, due to the poor light, it was quite difficult to ensure the gate was properly secured. Whilst this was certainly not a positive development it was agreed that, particularly as it had been introduced for all users (including The Army themselves), realistically it was unlikely that it could be changed. Nevertheless PD agreed to try find out more background at Main Committee and ask whether there was any potential to modify the policy. He also agreed to follow up on the issue of better lighting (already raised with Sodexo) as there was concern there could be an accident. In the meantime, as the front gate would be locked at all times (other than possibly during a brief window when the hockey club entered/exited) it was agreed that any remaining club members would continue to be asked to leave the premises at the same time as, or before, that evening's key holder. PD agreed to update the Key Policy, including the list of authorised key holders, and distribute to The Committee before submitting to Main Committee.. DST also noted that on Thursday the previous week there had been issues with local youths entering through the side gate during the senior session. As such PD would	PD PD PD

	suggest to Main Committee that a request was made to Sodexo that a sign was put on the gate asking people to ensure it was closed after entering/exiting.	
5	Road Update	
	DST advised that, after two events, both men and women's teams topped the Grand Prix tables. Next event was High Easter 10K on Sunday 14 June.	
6	Essex Way Relays	
	LY agreed to co-ordinate an entry into the Essex Way Relay this year, in conjunction with FN and JN.	
7	Update from Groups	
	PD advised that G2 had a partially sighted runner and also a young athlete (17 years old) currently trialling with them. DST advised that NH was returning to coach in June.	
8	AOB	
	The possibility of organising another internal club relay was discussed and agreed in principle. It was agreed to discuss in more detail at the next meeting. PD to add to the agenda.	PD
	PD to advise the date of the next meeting (likely early August). The meeting closed at 8:45pm.	PD