

M&M Bulletin

7th September 2007 – Issue 1

Your club bulletins

This bulletin is a new way that the committee, team managers and coaches will be able to bring the latest news to club members. It will be published no more than fortnightly or when needed for major items of news. The aim is to improve the way in which everyone in the club communicates. All members are welcome to contribute to the bulletin. It will be supplemented by a regular club newsletter and, for the next nine months, a special newsletter on the development of a new track in Sutton Valance.

Committee signs up to develop new track

The Club Committee has recently signed up to be a key partner in the development and running of a new athletics track in Sutton Valence, Maidstone. This is a significant decision and commitment for the club and it is important all members understand how the decision has been made and the possible implications for the future of the club.

The committee is sure that all members will agree that a new facility for the club can only be a positive thing, and a new facility in the Maidstone area is particularly needed. However, the club is not in a position to finance and run a modern athletics facility without support. Over recent months several of the club's members have worked with Maidstone Borough Council and Sutton Valence School to develop plans for the new track. A critical part of the club's involvement has been to provide leadership, expertise, drive and momentum to the process of securing funding and developing plans for the new track. With much of these funds now in place, the committee, on behalf of the club, has made a formal commitment to be a partner in the delivery and running of the new track.

The club is not awash with financial resources but it is rich in expertise and experience and it is in this area that the club will make a real contribution to athletics in Maidstone. That said, the club does wish to make a contribution to the provision of equipment and ongoing costs of running such a facility. To enable this, fundraising over the coming years will have to be maintained to ensure we play our part.

It is felt important to let members know about the work of the committee on this matter and you will be able to hear more about the development of the new track over the coming months by reading the special newsletter – **Track Times**. Critically, members should rest assured that there is very limited financial risk to the club in being part of this work. In the meantime, if members wish to know more they can contact any member of the committee.

Black Lion Leisure Centre – there has been a commitment from Medway Council to build a new track at the Black Lion Leisure Centre in Gillingham. This would naturally replace Deangate. However, discussions with Medway Council, or evidence of their plans, are nowhere near as advanced as those in Maidstone. As soon as anything concrete is received by the Club we will bring you up to speed on the proposed development.

Men's Winter Fixtures Published

The draft winter fixture list for Senior Men has recently been published. If you have not yet received a copy please e-mail adrianlowther@hotmail.com . A final version will be circulated at the start of September.

Tesco Sports Vouchers

Tesco are now starting to issue their sports vouchers for clubs. All club members are asked to save these and forward them to Club Secretary, Lin Neeves, or give them to member of the committee. We can use these to get equipment for the club.

Handicap 1500m and BBQ

On Tuesday 11th September, the annual 1550m handicap and club BBQ will take place at Deangate. If you want to run the 1500m please e-mail Chris Newman on newmanchris36@hotmail.com before Tuesday. Alternatively turn up and eat burgers to mark the end of the track season!

Presentations Date Set

The summer season presentations will take place on Friday 2nd November at the RAF Association Hall, Dock Road, Chatham (by the Command House and Library). This is a new venue so please do not go to the Black Lion. There will also be a presentation on the latest plans for the new track so please try to attend the event and enjoy celebrating the club's summer successes. It is hoped the evening will finish with a quiz night – more details to follow. Map: <http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en&tab=wl&q=> . **Get the date in your diary now!**

Whilst on the subject of end of season – all U13 and U15 Girls are asked to ensure they send their season best performances to Jenny Newton (jenny.newton@btinternet.com) so that Jenny can record them in the club and county rankings for 2007. Athletes should send their best performances together with where and when they achieved them.

Staying up to date!

If you do not wish to receive these bulletins please let us know by return of e-mail. Similarly, can all members please forward this bulletin to their training partners or athletes they coach (it is better people receive it twice than not at all). Those athletes who not receive this direct are asked to forward their e-mail address to adrianlowther@hotmail.com so they can be added to distribution list.

Don't forget you can stay up to date with all the latest club news...

online @ <http://www.medway-maidstoneac.org.uk>

or by reading Track Times - your newsletter on the development of the new Track in Maidstone

**or the soon to be launched club newsletter – contact us and send your questions to the committee and team managers at:
adrianlowther@hotmail.com**

If you have received this Bulletin in error or do not wish to receive it in the future please let us know by return of e-mail. Thank-you.