



**Medway & Maidstone
Athletic Club**

M&M

Bulletin

14th January 2008 – Issue 4

New Track

The planning application for the new track has been submitted to Maidstone Borough Council and will be considered by their Planning Committee next month. The final planning application was actually submitted on 10th December, following a need to adjust the plans to reflect a change in the track location by rotating it 90 degrees, to keep the track at the maximum distance away from the closest two residential properties. A project manager will be appointed in the coming weeks and they will take forward the tender process to appoint a contractor. The changes to the plans mean there has been a slight delay to the proposed finishing date of start of May.

In 2008 Deangate will certainly still be used all summer as a training base and club races.

The Black Lion track is on the horizon and this is due to be opened in Summer 2009. As a club we are starting to engage with Medway Council, who are in the driving seat for this work. The club is offering advice and support to its development rather than taking responsibility for its delivery and running. The new track at Black Lion will totally replace Deangate in 2009 and the club will operate from two bases from the minute the Sutton Valence track is open, with time and effort being put into both facilities.

Go to the club website at: <http://mandmac.org/suttonvalence.aspx> to read more about the Sutton Valence track and see the plans.

New Club Website

The club has a new website! You can now log on to www.mandmac.org to see the new site. Please save this to your favourites and let your friends and family know about it. You can also give the link to your, work, school or other sports clubs to add to their website's list of links.

The new site will be kept up to date with all the latest news about the club, fixtures, important forms, club records and much much more. Websites take time to develop so please help us with ideas and suggestions for content, as well as keeping us up to date with all your news and results – send contributions to: contact@mandmac.org

Webmasters needed! – If you want to help keep the website up to date you can do so. We need a team of people who are willing to look after a small section of the site each. It is really easy to use and we can help you to learn how to do this. It could be a really good school or college project for you??? Those who are interested can contact the webmaster by e-mail: contact@mandmac.org

Club Structure

With the club looking to shortly become a key partner in the building and operating of the new Sutton Valence athletics track, which involves the club signing lease agreements, it is important the club holds a legal status that enables it to do so without putting the club and any of its members at risk. Therefore a range of options for the future legal status of the club have been considered by the Committee.

A series of proposals were made at the committee to enable the club to move closer to making a decision about its future 'legal' position. Although outlining the proposals below on their own does not inform members of the full details behind the range of options it is important that members are aware that decisions are being made by the committee to secure and protect the club's future status and that any member can talk to any member of the committee about these proposals and the direction of travel.

Proposal's made and agreed.

1. That the Committee rejects any proposal for its future structure that requires interest in Land (for purposes of the Clubs involvement in the construction, operation and maintenance of any existing or future track facilities) to be held by members personally on behalf of the Club.
2. That the Committee rejects any proposal for its future structure, for the purposes outlined in Proposal 1, to be an incorporated charity, incorporation being under the Companies Act as a Company Limited by guarantee.
3. That the Committee agree that the Club should establish itself as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the purposes outlined in Proposal 1, and that application to establish itself as a CIO be made at the earliest opportunity available.
4. That the Committee agrees that if there is a requirement, for the purposes outlined in Proposal 1 for Leaseholders to be named persons, pending establishment of the Club as a CIO, then the Committee will at a future meeting agree the names of such persons.

The acceptance of these proposals enables the club to move forward with the new track. The committee, at the AGM in April, will look for ratification of this decision, by the membership, for the club to change its status to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) when it becomes available likely to be this summer.

You can read more about Charitable Incorporated Organisations (the club's most likely final legal status) online at:

<http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/detail?type=RESOURCES&itemId=1077476119>

As an interim measure to assist with fund raising to obtain tax relief on future donations the club are considering as an interim measure becoming a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC).

For further information on CASC's see <http://www.cascinfo.co.uk/>

New Club Logo

The Club is also looking to adopt a logo for the first time. This will be used on all club paperwork, kit, online and on signs at the new track. The new design is online at: <http://mandmac.org/aboutus.aspx> The logo needs to be simple to help us use it on as many things as possible.

Photos

Over the coming weeks the new website will need to be populated with photos of the club's athletes. Please can club members send any photo's of themselves to contact@mandmac.org so they can be used on the website. Don't be shy, it's important we have a good cross section of photos so we can attract new members, of all ages, and sponsors.

Membership Renewals

Club subscriptions and membership renewals are now due. The new renewal will be on the website by the end of the week at: <http://mandmac.org/membership.aspx> . This year's form is a bit longer than in previous years but it is important all members fill it in and send to the membership secretary ASAP.

Club Kit

There are currently t-shirts, polo shirts, jumpers and shoe bags available from the track or by calling Lin Neeves on 01634 256244.

However, we are also looking to get some new kit made up. Information about the suggested new kit is attached. If you like the look of these and would be interested in receiving an order form please send an e-mail to contact@mandmac.org to let us know. Once we have an idea of demand for this kit we will get an order form out to members.

Kent X-Country Championships - Thanks

A quick but important thanks must go to everyone who helped out at the Kent X-Country Championships (hosted by M&M AC) at Detling on 5th January. Without your help the day would not have been the success it was. Next year we need more help. This is an important fundraising opportunity for the club and we need to continue to do a good job if we want to continue to host the champs and generate funds for the club on the tea bar!!! View the results for the club online at: <http://mandmac.org/kentxcchamps.aspx>

Tesco Sports Vouchers

Thanks to everyone who collected the Tesco Sports Vouchers. We collected 2263 vouchers and have been able to order 2 First Aid Kits (one for each track), a smaller first aid kit which may be given to a coach who completes a First Aid Course, and 2 sets of Relay Batons.

Staying up to date!

With the new website it should be easier than ever to stay up to date – as long as everyone lets us know their news!!! 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 do not receive this direct are asked to forward their e-mail address to contact@mandmac.org so they can be added to the distribution list.

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

online @ www.mandmac.org

**Contact us and send your questions to the committee and team managers at:
contact@mandmac.org**

Please share this Bulletin with other club members and ask anyone not receiving it direct to let us know their e-mail address.

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.