



British Amateur Athletic Board

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Amateur Athletic Association

Patron: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN



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BAAB

Chairman:
E. S. MURRAY O.B.E.

From: John Disley,
c/o London Marathon Office,
PO Box 262,
Richmond,
Surrey, TW10 5JB.

3rd April 1990.

Dear Course Measurer,

It is now five years since the setting up of the AAA Course Measurement Working Party, whose mandate was to highlight the importance of accurate course measurement of road race courses in England and Wales, and develop an official AAA Course Measurement Scheme which would include the training, testing and grading of course measurers, coupled with a system for reporting on courses measured in the approved manner which would result in the issue of Certificates of Course Accuracy to event organisers. Even at an early stage, the Working Party was of the opinion that the AAA permit system should incorporate the accurate certification of the course as a condition for awarding permits for road races as soon as this became practical.

Well, we have certainly come a long way since then. The first AAA-funded training seminar was held at Crystal Palace towards the end of 1985, and many more have followed, with the result that we now have well over 100 approved measurers on the AAA panel. An even more impressive statistic is that since the reporting system was set up within the four Areas in 1986, documentation in respect of nearly 1,000 course measurements has been lodged. During this time, the word has been spreading, and the need for accurate measurement is now much more readily accepted by event organisers, and indeed expected by the athletes. Last year it became necessary for all National, Area, County and Star*Rank 'Hot 100' races to have a Measurement Certificate, and from the beginning of this year it became normal practice for all AAA permit races to be measured, whenever possible, in order to obtain the permit.

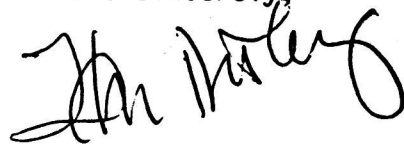
All this activity has inevitably increased the workloads of those of you on the AAA Measurers panel, and the purpose of this letter is to thank all of you for your continuing efforts in this regard. We are all dedicated to the concept of producing accurate courses, or we wouldn't have volunteered to undertake the training, but few people realise the commitment in time and effort involved in measuring and submitting the paperwork in respect of just one course, let alone several. Now that we are winning the battle and accurate course measurement is becoming accepted, it is more than ever important that we continue to do our bit. I can assure you that your work and expertise is appreciated, not only by myself and others involved in the administration of the AAA Measurement Scheme, but by the many hundreds of event organisers who seek your assistance.

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To the active measurer I say again "Thanks very much indeed, and keep up the good work". To those on the panel who are not quite so active I say "I know measurement work is both time consuming and voluntary, and all of us have family and business demands to cope with as well, but please try to say 'yes' to measurement requests if you possibly can. As trained measurers, your contribution remains vital".

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Disley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large loop at the end.

John Disley,
(Chairman, AAA Course Measurement
Working Party)