



BRITISH MASTERS ATHLETIC FEDERATION

Affiliated to: UKA. World Masters Athletics (WMA)
European Veterans Athletic Association (EVAA)

President Paul Dickenson

Chairman
Winston Thomas

Honorary Secretary
Miss Bridget Cushen

Honory Treasurer
Danny Herman

03-01-2007

Anthony Treacher

Ref; Dispute with BMAF Team Manager

Dear Anthony

Further to my letter of the 11th September and my subsequent telephone conversation with you, your dispute with the BMAF Team Manager in Linz was raised at our meeting in November. The Team Manager, Maurice Doogan, confirmed that there was a disagreement on the M65 relay team selection, arising from which you were argumentative and very persistent. Maurice responded abruptly and had called you a name, which was regrettable. As the start of all the relays were brought forward in order that the arena be prepared for the Closing Ceremony, Maurice had to ensure that all 13 British age group teams were available and ready to run. You have failed to grasp, or even consider, the hassle and amount of work involved. The BMAF had a team of 277 competitors, managed by Maurice and two Assistants, both of whom competed.

Following your dispute with Maurice, you took it upon yourself to write to the Secretary of each of the BMAF affiliated clubs; to the Editor of a publication and some other competitors instead of lodging a complaint to the BMAF direct and waiting our investigation. You also approached the Chairman of World Masters Athletics' Disciplinary Committee; your complaint was rejected. Furthermore, you have continued to publicly criticise the seven core BMAF Officers who run British Masters athletics, all of whom are volunteers and competitive athletes. Masters athletics is a non-Government funded or grant aided body and as you are aware, we finished second on the medal table in World championships with 3,336 competitors from 62 countries. When you eventually did contact the BMAF Secretary, she acknowledged your complaint and advised that it was being dealt with. I did contact you several times during the summer although I was heavily committed as EVAA Technical Manager in Poznan and the BMAF track and field championships and AGM. Having spoken to members of the relay team and the team manager I responded to you in September from which you were not happy. The BMAF committee only meet twice per year and your complaint was raised at the November meeting and the outcome of this was outlined in paragraph 1, and whilst it was felt that you should not have been called a name, your actions then and since has show that you have scant regard for acting in any way but confrontational.

When you advised that you were visiting London, I offered to have a face to face meeting with you, Maurice and the Secretary of your club, the Southern Counties VAC. You did not avail of this offer, instead you have continued to publicly bring the sport into disrepute.

The BMAF have now taken a serious view of your persistent public criticism and I write to advise you that until there is an apology to your behaviour, we will not accept any entry from you for our domestic or international championships (BMAF-WMA-EVAA). You now have twelve days from the date of this letter to respond. A copy of this letter will also be sent to WMA, EVAA, UK Athletics and the organisers of the forth coming championships.

Yours truly

Winston Thomas

BMAF Chairman

Chairman: Winston Thomas.
Telephone / email: 01442 268671

10 Rant Meadow. Hemel Hempstead. Herts. HP3 8EA
winston.thomas1@virgin.net