**EMAC General Secretary’s Report February 2018**

I volunteered to be Secretary in January of 2017, after being in the EMAC track and field league during the Summer of 2016 and enjoying it so much. I’ve never been a secretary of any athletics club before. I was told we don’t usually have any meetings in person except the AGM and we do most things by email, which was true. It was a mostly quiet year other than the fact I was going to be starting a new university course at University of East London for a BA (hons) course in Social Work. I was so busy in my own life and being a new committee member for my own athletics club and also my new university club, in November, I suddenly thought “Almost all of the committee members are leaving and the AGM is coming up in February!” Of course, what did I do? I emailed Pete and Cath Duhig for some advice. That’s when I sent out my first MailChimp email and have been bombarding you all ever since, trying to get members to volunteer for committee spots, writing up the EMAC roles (with a lot of Peter’s and Courtney’s help), many emails between current committee members and myself and the new volunteers. Also, I decided to also become the Southern Division co-ordinator for the Track and Field league and the team manager for the EAMA Inter-Area meet which has been quite a challenge with injuries and people having to drop out for various reasons. I have enjoyed all the craziness of the last 3 months or so and am happy to say that quite a few people have stepped up to save EMAC which seemed to be on a downhill course.

We’ve had every position filled except for Chairman, the current committee members who are leaving have been emailing and even meeting their new counterparts in person for a smooth transition. Which comes to wanting to really thank Courtney Gunn, Maurice Hemingway and Brenda Russell for their many tireless years on the committee and how much effort and time you have put in making it run so well. You are some great people and we will miss you on the committee, but I want to wish you well in your future pursuits and hopefully will see you again in the future!!

I also want to thank Paul Harrison for managing the upcoming Track and Field League again. I know it’s a lot of hard work!!

I do want to mention that I have had some wonderful emails from members with a lot of support and they have thanked me for the time I have been putting into EMAC. Some of the emails have even brought me to tears a couple times (thanks Stephanie Stamp, Cath Duhig and June Cork in particular). I do love this club and have met so many lovely people at the Track and Field league meets and the different championships, I have participated in.

I also want to send a special thanks to Maureen McCarthy and Christine McCarthy for bringing the EAMA Inter Area XC Champs to EMAC and they are working tirelessly behind the scenes to make this happen for you all this September 29th.

Here’s looking to a very successful year and welcome to all the new committee members and thanks to Amr Ziko, Maureen and Christine for staying on for another year!

With thanks, Carey Hollick, EMAC General Secretary