

## Minutes of the Suffolk Winter Cross Country League AGM

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018 @19.30.

**In attendance:** Joe Mower (Chairman), Chris Starmer (Treasurer), Ricky Peacher (Secretary), Ian Gooderham (SEP), Phil and Paula Hazell (WVAC), Jo Clifton and Tina Church (Saxons), Brian Munns (NJ), Tony and Colleen Fuller (IH), Paul Felton (SCAA), Chris Chorley and Bobbie Sauerzapf (BBD), Andy Buck and Sarah Pennock (SJ), Tom Galley and Leigh Butcher (LRR), Bill Cox (FF), Jean Cox (WS), Jonathan Wilding (FRR), Chris Pimlott (WVAC), Vicki Grice and Suzie Knight (BTC), Dave Caisey (ITC).

### 1- Minutes of the 2016 AGM

These were signed by the chairman as a true record of the meeting.

### 2- Matters Arising

**PF** stated that the rules possibly require adjusting. The term 'in-ear devices' to be changed to 'audio devices'. **RP** to implement.

There were no other matters arising.

### 3- Apologies for Absence

Stewart Hambling (FF), Gary Howe (BBH), Hayley Wilson (HRC), Emma Impey (NJ), Caroline Knight (DAC), Andy Long and Kate Beer (SS).

### 4- Finance Report

**CS** produced the accounts for 2017-18. These showed a closing balance of £1258.54. This was a loss of £171 for the season. However, it was stated that £225 was still owed in subs from the previous season. **RP** and **CS** are to chase these outstanding payments directly with the clubs concerned.

### 5- Election of Officers for League

**Chairman:** Joe Mower.

Proposed: Ian Gooderham, 2<sup>nd</sup>; Bill Cox.

**Secretary:** Ricky Peacher

Proposed: Jon Wilding, 2<sup>nd</sup>; Paula Hazell.

**Treasurer:** Chris Starmer

Proposed: Jean Cox, 2<sup>nd</sup>; Jon Wilding.

### 6- Subscriptions for 2018/19 Season

It was agreed unanimously by the meeting to raise subscriptions by £5 to £55 per team for the coming season.

It was also unanimously agreed to keep race fees at £4 per senior runner (juniors free). All race directors present were happy that their events were profitable. It was felt that the £4 fee kept the league 'accessible to all'.

## 7- League Fixtures for the 2018-19 season

- 4<sup>th</sup> November, Framlingham
- 2nd December, Woodbridge
- 20<sup>th</sup> January, Haughley Park (provisional)
- 17<sup>th</sup> February, Bury St Edmunds
- 10<sup>th</sup> March, Fritton Lake (BBD)
- 24<sup>th</sup> March, Haverhill

**CS** is to confirm the date for the Haughley Park event once he's spoken to the hosts.

## 8- Any Other Business

- i) **RP** informed the meeting that 3 new clubs had expressed an interest in joining the league; Capel Cheetahs, Beccles Tri-Club and Woodbridge Wolves (junior only). A discussion followed about the size of fields causing problems for host clubs. **DC** questioned whether races should be 'capped'. The course at Fram struggles to cope with huge numbers although last year's changes certainly improved things, **BC** stated that increased numbers makes timing very difficult too and that some events may not actually get times this season.  
It was agreed to accept Capel Cheetahs and Beccles Tri-Club as they won't be bringing huge numbers with them. Woodbridge Wolves will also be accepted on the condition that their EA affiliation is complete by the date of the first race.
- ii) **RP** thanked WVAC for hosting the presentation evening for 2017-18.  
**IG** stated that St Edmund Pacers would be happy to host for this season. **RP** and **IG** are to liaise to set a date.
- iii) **RP** had received a proposal regarding the size of ladies teams. Currently it's 7 men and 3 women to score.  
This proposal stemmed from the ever increasing participation from ladies over the last few years.  
**PF** suggested that it should be 7 men and 7 women to promote equality. There were reservations with this from many who would struggle to field full teams if this was the case. Also, there were concerns that women may leave smaller clubs to join larger ones where they're able to field a full team regularly.  
**TC** suggested that the rules were changed to 7 men and 4 women.  
**LB** seconded this and a large majority voted in favour.  
**RP** to change the rules. **CS** to implement when scoring.
- iv) **BC** asked about the possibility of more host clubs holding Under 11's Fun Runs. He stated that Fram, Stowmarket and Bury were the 3 most popular events. These are also the only 3 events that host U11's fun runs.  
**RP** is to discuss with other host clubs the possibility of hosting U11's events.
- v) **TC** proposed the introduction of participation medals for those completing 4 out of 6 races. She felt that this may encourage participation in the later-season races.

However, after discussion, this was generally decided to be an unnecessary expense and would not be introduced this season.

- vi) **CS** was reminded about the possibility of coming up with a league logo. He is to investigate this with help from **SP** if needed.
  
- vii) **CP** suggested that possibly the league dates could be 'compacted' slightly to make the season shorter. **CS** explained that this is very difficult as the league needs to fit in around other events. **CP** suggested that the league should take priority over other events during the winter months. It was decided to leave things as they are for 2018-19.
  
- viii) **PH** brought forward concerns from a club member who had asked whether each host club had good communication and 1<sup>st</sup> aid at their events.  
**RP** stated that each race should have a mobile phone contact list for marshals and radios too if possible. Each race should have adequate 1<sup>st</sup> Aid provision to comply with their race permit.
  
- ix) **LB** expressed H&S concerns. In particular, he mentioned the bridge at Fritton Lake that he felt was in a dangerous condition last year. **CC** is to investigate and action where necessary.

With there being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.25.