

Kent Athletic Club: Minutes of Committee Meeting, 1st July 2019

Present P. Sanders, B. Hutchinson, T. Aston, D. Devlin, V. Buck, D. Morgan, K. Pike, P. Lighting, D. Fairbrass, N. Fairbrass, K. Rowland, J. Barron

Apologies E. Brown, S. Young

Matters arising

Regarding rules stating club kit must be worn during club championships races, it will be worth reminding people of this when sending out details on race entry and other related communications.

Ted reported from his meeting about coaching that Stuart is signing up for the LIRF route to eventually get the CIRF qualification. Regarding the proposed set-up of an additional training group it was decided instead to start by having run leaders within the current C group.

Regarding the athletes' fund, Dave Devlin spoke to Ronnie Hayden who confirmed that it was intended as a welfare fund open to all members who may need it. It was agreed that their ought to be a process in place for applying but this could be informal, and that the committee were in touch with enough of the membership committee members could be approached and then put a case to committee for approval.

Treasurer's report

Another £350 received for subs payments, plus £158 through justgiving.com, which it was assumed is from people chasing donations for last year's Big Half.

Balance £28k.

There was a discussion about the need for a longer term plan on expenditure. Katie proposed making funds available to make the presentation a bigger event, in particular to attract a wider participation from club members since some groups aren't as well represented as others.

Dave D. noted that we don't have to worry about corporation tax as we would not meet the minimum threshold for "profitable activity".

Membership report

7 New Members

Astrid Ainley

Ben Vere

Janette Helly

Marie-Claire Lowry

Richard Foster

Daniel Steel (1st claim Woodford Green)

Rob Naybour

Bernie sending a reminder to ~60 outstanding members in arrears, now have 3 months before they drop of the membership list.

Results

Southern Athletics League, Eastbourne. 3rd team. (10 officials' points!)

Club 3,000m champs.

Men: Jim Alchin 1st, Anthony Johnson 2nd, Joseph Yee 3rd

Women: Teresa Murphy 1st, Sarah Hanley 2nd, Isabel Bradley 3rd

La Chaux-de-Fonds Athletics Meeting, Switzerland:

Club record - Chuxx Onyia, triple jump: 15.90

North Downs Run (30k)

Amy Clements 1st; Teresa Murphy 4th/1st V35; Victoria Buck 1st V45

Kent: 1st women's team

Hercules Wimbledon 3,000m

Owen Hind 1st, 8:21

Clare Elms: new British W55 record

(Clare also broke 800m W55 British record)

A.O.B.

John reported from the working group sub-committee on a number of points.

- A number of "Welcome Coordinators" will attend Ladywell on Tuesday evenings pre-session for a "meet and greet" to new members. This could include handing out vests as an alternative to the current system.
- A new club website has been developed and a test version is available for committee members to view. John has sent round the url link for this. He mentioned that this includes a section on committee members including a brief bio and space for photos, but only Ellie has a photo there at the moment. It was felt that this would do for now. A significant new area of the website covers welfare, safeguarding and grievance procedures. Suzy Fairbrass and Neil Gordon-Orr have worked on this.
- Victoria also commented on the new website, in particular the proposed club rules update as produced by Len Reilly and Ellie Brown, including recommended changes to committee post responsibilities, and changes to disciplinary procedures.
- Both of these major areas are for the committee to review, prior to discussion at the next meeting for approval before "going live" on the website. John said it would be possible to get the new website online, minus the content awaiting committee approval.
- Another new website area is a fundraising strategy for the club, namely Easy Fundraising. Members can make purchases and a contribution goes to the club. John asked whether the club should have a charity that donations can go to. This could be for discussion at the AGM.
- The website includes generic e-mail addresses for various officers in the club (e.g. membership, kit, etc.) These need to be used by the relevant contacts who will need to set this up on their e-mail system.

John: feels that the C group needs more structure by way of separate pace groups. Ted has tried to implement this previously without much success. Phil suggested that we could formalise track guidelines that would apply to all groups with practises already used by the A and B groups by way of specifying maximum group sizes for training, for the sake of safety on the track. Ted will liaise with Stuart about this since things work well with the B group working in different pace groups.

John mentioned there were some members who expressed an interest in receiving specific coaching, perhaps targeting specific event goals (e.g. marathon, XC), and the working group are interested in looking at different possibilities, either within the club or externally. He referenced an example of Victoria Park Harriers hiring a marathon coach for this purpose. Committee happy for the group to look into this and make proposals.

Dave M reported on progress in Ladywell 10,000 arrangements. Priority entries for club members opened today and 40 applicants already received. Supply of officials has been helped considerably by 11 club members attending an officials' qualification course on Saturday, with 11 newly certified timekeepers. The electronic timing system has been confirmed, same supplier as last year.

Ken brought up discussion about club policy on coaches being exempt from paying subs. It was agreed that active, qualified coaches should be exempt.

Regarding changes to committee posts, Ken has spoken to John Gilbert, who is happy to look after the Surrey League XC fixtures, since he intends to take part in 3 of the league fixtures. Dan Pettitt has agreed to manage the other XC races, i.e. 2 x SoTT, County, Southern and National. Also James Bowler is happy to take over the duties of the road race manager, i.e. organising road relays in the Autumn.

Katie reported that the presentation has provisionally been organised to take place at Old Colfeians in Beckenham, to be confirmed.

Sarah Young (via e-mail) asked whether the club would be interested in adding beanies/bobble hats to the kit list? The minimum order would need to be 100. It was generally thought the kit would be of interest but that 100 might be too much for a minimum order.

Meeting closed 9.49pm.