



## **Minutes of the Kent Athletic Club Annual General Meeting 2019**

*Held at the Blythe Hill Tavern, 319 Stanstead Road, London, SE23 1JB, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 8.30pm*

### Present

P. Sanders, B.Hutchinson, D. Fairbrass, N. Fairbrass, E. Brown, S. Lane, P. Boxshall, P. Crompton, A. Musson, I. Ellwood, A. Dracup, P. Lighting, C. Fraser, A. Curtis, K. Pike, J. Barron, V. Buck, D. Pettitt, D. Morgan, J. Appiah, Z. Gaffen, C. Quaid, K. Williams, C. Ford, J. Bowler, A. Johnson, A. Pettitt, S. Young, P. Marsden, S. Allen, L. Reilly, K. Rowlands

### Apologies

R. Crichton, S. Hanley, N. Gordon-Orr, T. Aston, D. Devlin, L. Garnham, M. Barlow

### Matters Arising from 2018 AGM

There were no matters arising.

*The minutes of the 2018 AGM were reviewed and accepted.*

### Treasurer's Report

There was no Treasurer's Report, as the accounts were not ready at the time of the meeting. Ellie stated that these would be completed and circulated as soon as they were available.

### Secretary's Report

Phil said a few words as outgoing Secretary, stating that the club had changed considerably over the past 11 years, but mainly for the good, and that the growth in numbers had been managed well, with the club managing to retain its status as a premier athletic club with awards winning teams on the national scene, whilst still being welcoming to athletes of all standards.

Phil particularly felt that the recent work done by the sub-committee, led by John Barron and supported by many club members including Len with his work on the revision of club rules, had helped enormously in setting up the club for further growth.

### Membership Report

*(Written report submitted by Bernie.)*

### President's Report

Ellie said a few words on stepping down as Club President for past three years. She felt she was leaving the club in a good place having seen a lot of growth, particularly within the women's section, and with more diversity.

Alan Curtis was proposed as incoming President, seconded by Len Reilly.

Alan took over chairing of the meeting and thanked Ellie for her work as President.



### Southern Athletics League Report (Peter Lighting)

The club was relegated, but Pete felt this wasn't necessarily a bad thing since next year we would be competing in a regional division in the South East, meaning more local fixtures, which would be better for athlete turn-out.

Dave Morgan asked whether we should think about following the lead of other clubs and joining forces with other clubs to make a stronger team. Ellie said she could talk with S Factor, which Pete Boxshall might be good especially for recruiting some field athletes in events where we were weak. Spenser said he would be wary of joining with them. Pete Lighting said that there was a lot of pressure on the more regular athletes and officials which could be alleviated by wider participation, and maybe S Factor could be helpful in this regard.

Dan Pettitt commented that there was clearly a low representation of track athletes at the AGM, and this was due to the demise of the British League.

### Ladywell 10,000 Report (Dave Morgan)

Dave presented a brief update on the Ladywell 10,000 finances, stating that the event had raised £2,500 profit. He thanked everyone for volunteering, to make the event such a success and said that the event would be the same time next year. There was much applause.

### Road Running Report (James Bowler)

The Men had a very successful set of road relays in the Autumn, finishing 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> in the Southern/National comps respectively, in times that would normally be good enough for medals.

The Southern included a strong team comprised mainly of younger athletes, and James thought it was very important to maintain the link with Spenser's group.

### Proposed changes to Club Rules

Len Reilly presented an outline of the proposals for changes to the club rules. The proposed changes were drawn up by Len with assistance from Ellie Brown and Victoria Buck, who worked extensively on revised disciplinary procedures.

- Club championships, including new awards for age categories and women, with slight tightening of rules on eligibility
- Administrative change to committee/non-committee posts, in order to more accurately reflect jobs that are actually carried out by post-holders, to include the new committee post of ex-President. Spenser questioned the role of ex-President as a committee post, saying that there may be a danger of too many ex-presidents turning up to committee. Ellie said she thought the idea of the post is that ex-Presidents could bring valuable experience and a perspective outside of the normal committee. Pete Boxshall said it was unlikely that many ex-Presidents would turn up at any one time.

James Bowler asked whether the new posts match against the old ones. Len said that they do to some extent. Sarah asked whether all the new posts are committee posts. Len said yes



they are, but additional people could be designated by the post holders to help out with specific duties, e.g. road and cross country entries.

- Victoria mentioned that the other main changes are to disciplinary procedures. John Barron pointed out that the details have been available on the website since August, with the caveat that the changes were subject to approval at the AGM. Len mentioned that one proposal was that the disciplinary procedure and code of conduct become a committee matter rather than one for the AGM, although there would be escalation procedures, e.g. to UKA.

Pete Lighting asked whether there was a definition of club kit mentioned anywhere. Ken said that they have always been in the club rules, and John Barron said that this was also on the club website.

Spenser proposed a motion to limit the number of ex-Presidents allowed on the committee. This was voted against, with most feeling it would not be an issue.

*Propose changes to club rules were passed. The new rules will be sent out along with the minutes of the AGM.*

### Election of Officers

Notes:

Alan Curtis went through the list of new posts as defined by the proposed club rule changes newly approved. Some amendments were made as follows:

Young Athletes' Representative was changed to Young Athletes' Manager at the request of Spenser Lane.

One extra post of Officer without portfolio, in order to keep Norman on the committee, since the Website Manager was being superseded by the new post of Communications Manager.

Len to stay on as Club Record Manager; he mentioned that he had been well assisted this year by Jules Gevers who had worked on compiling age group records from Power of 10, which Len added to from archive records.

Club Championship Organisers – Alan said that Rob Laing and Ben Cook had done a great job of it this year.

Kit Officer – John Barron explained how the one piece of official club kit now was basically the vest, and there had been a change of procedure as part of the newly introduced "Welcoming Committee" that started operating at Ladywell. Joh has taken over responsibility for handing out vests from Adrian Musson, with notifications on new members coming from the Member Mojo website and this was working well.

There was a wider discussion on club kit including the SOAR vests that had been sourced by individual members but were not club kit. The committee were happy with this since the kit complies with club colours. There were questions as to whether the official vest should



include the club name on the back in the same design as the SOAR vests. It was decided this should be something to discuss at committee meeting.

Ladywell 10,000 Organiser: although not listed in the committee posts within the club rules, it was felt that Dave Morgan should be co-opted onto the committee as a valued current member.

Assembly League Manager: another non-committee post that falls under the remit of Road Manager, Richard Elliott has been doing a fine job and will continue in the role.

#### Committee Posts:

President	Alan Curtis
Secretary	John Barron
Treasurer	David Devlin
Membership Secretary	Bernie Hutchinson
Social Secretary	Katie Rowlands
Coaching Secretary	Ted Aston
Communications Manager	Phil Marsden
Track – Men	Pete Lighting
Track – Women	Victoria Buck
Road – Men	James Bowler
Road – Women	Katie Rowlands
Cross country – Men	John Gilbert / Dan Pettitt
Cross Country – Women	Sarah Hanley
Welfare Officers	Neil Gordon-Orr Susie Fairbrass
Young Athletes' Manager	Spenser Lane
Ex-Presidents	
Posts without portfolio	Adrian Musson Norman Fairbrass Dennis Fairbrass

#### Non-Committee Posts:

Trophies Secretary	Dan Pettitt
Road, track, cross country captains	
Website Manager	Norman Fairbrass Jules Gevers Georgina Wylie
Newsletter Editor	Owen Hind
Records Secretary	Len Reilly
Vets Manager – Men	Luke Armitage
Vets Manager – Women	Kate Williams
Club Championships Organiser	Rob Laing Ben Cook
Kit Manager	John Barron



Motion (Len Reilly): Reinstate the cross country championships as a separate race. Pete Boxshall, Ken both pointed out that the South of the Thames Senior race had been designated the club champs and this was stated on the fixture list. Len said this may be the case but as things stand this is not mentioned in the club rules. But Pete felt that another race might be more appropriate for the women, as the SoTT race was a longer distanced than many would be used to running.

Outcome: leave for now but worth discussing in Committee whether a different race might be more appropriate to designate.

Motion (Len Reilly): There should be more opportunities for Vets to represent the club in team competitions. Dave Morgan mentioned that he had discussed the possibility of a prize giving at the Surrey League fixture at Lloyd Park, and maybe the Vets division could be part of this. Len has approached Surrey League about a Vets team competition, since at the moment there are only standings published for individual Vets.

The Committee would be happy to discuss Vets team opportunities.

Motion (John Barron): The sub-committee felt that certain members were deserving on Honorary Membership and was keen for this to be voted on at the AGM, namely Ken Pike, Norman Fairbrass, Dennis Fairbrass and Adrian Musson. Len pointed out that the club rules define requirement for honorary membership to be "long, exceptional and meritorious service" and have at least 75% vote at the AGM. There was a vote *en bloc* which was unanimous in favour.

Dave Morgan pointed out that honorary members still require to be EA affiliated if competing, since the club had bestowed the honour on some current athletes.

#### London Marathon Club place draw

The club has two places to give away for the 2020 London Marathon. 15 people put their names forward and Eric Karsenty and James Steatham were picked from the draw.

#### Election of Honorary Auditors

Pete Lighting mentioned that Sean Fitzpatrick was happy to be considered for the post.

#### A.O.B.

Dave Morgan mentioned that tickets were still available for the Christmas party coming up on Saturday, and had a card reader available for payments.

*The meeting was closed at 10.25pm*