

ROADHOGGS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, 26 January 2016 at L.C.C.C, Grace Road

Apologies: Ron Atton, Mal Blyth, Martin Capel, Ceri Davies, Lucy MacMillan, Charlotte Milstead, Hitesh Pandya, Emma Raven, Trudy Sharpe, Sid Smith, Terry Woodhouse

In attendance: Dan Bannatyne; Jacqui Brown; Richard Curtis; Keith Dakin; Brian Feldman; Amy Gasper; Barbara Hermann; Lee Hubbard; Dale Jenkins; Alison Lodwick; Dave Lodwick; Tom Martin; Steve Martin; Ben Milsom; Tim Parry; Mark Ramsden; Kim Richardson; Steve Robinson; Colin Smith; John Stew; Dave Swan; James Thurman; Barry Waterfield; Steve Wheeler.

Minutes of 2015 AGM: The minutes were agreed.

Matters Arising:

- i. The Club had taken steps to build up its coaching strength: John S, Dave L and Dan Bann are all at various stages of the CiRF.
- ii. A second parkrun has been established in Leicester: the Leicester Victoria parkrun. The Club has volunteered to mount a “takeover” on Saturday, 5th March 2016 – the essential volunteer positions have been filled, but more support would be very welcome so that Roadhoggs can paint Victoria Park maroon. Thanks to Richard Norton firstly for his work as a member of the core team that negotiated the launch of the Victoria Park event and secondly for volunteering to be Race Director for our “takeover”.
- iii. We have been nurturing our Beginner Group graduates over the year and have had good success with integrating newcomers into the Club. Thanks to Keith, Dan Bann, John S and Alison for “buddying” the newcomers.

Chairman’s Report:

- i. Overall, 2016 has been a very good year for Roadhogg: we achieved 100 members for the first time in the history of the club; 72 members ran at least one LRRL race, with nine “ever presents” (Fabio, Keith, Dale, Alison, Dave L, Clare, Ben, Ferrante and Chris); more than 40 members ran in cross-country races; Jackie and Dale both achieved Gold Standards and they and Emma won LRRL prizes.
- ii. We organised three highly successful races during the year: the first Bradgate DRL cross-country in January still holds the record for the number of participants in a DRL race and yielded an enormous amount of positive PR for the club whilst the recent re-run didn’t have quite such a big field but was still a massive success – thanks to Kim for the organisation and Ian for assistance with the course; thanks to Dave S and Colin for organising a very successful Kibworth LRRL in March – thanks also to Ron and Mal for setting out the course and to Ian and Richard who were our Chapter 8 traffic marshals and car parking supremos. Huge thanks to everyone who volunteered to help with any (or all) of the races – your efforts were much appreciated by runners from other clubs.
- iii. There have been developments with regard to coaching and athlete development: (i) we now offer a range of distance options on Wednesday training nights and (ii) we have been offering coached drill sessions on Thursdays throughout the summer and autumn.
- iv. Many thanks to the committee members

Treasurer’s Report:

Colin delivered his final report as Treasurer:

I've enjoyed the majority of my 26 years as Treasurer. Whilst there has been a lot of co-operation most of the time, it wasn't an auspicious start. I took over from someone who was also treasurer of a ladies' rounders team – who managed to get the accounts mixed up. When I took over, there was virtually nothing in the bank. Having decided to simply draw a line under things and start again, Kim came in with a £600 kit bill. We managed to get through the crisis, with an austerity programme, and went from strength to strength.

2015 has been a very good year, in large part due to a profit of more than £600 from the three races that Roadhogs have organised. We also generated a surplus on the presentation evening and raised £140 via *easyfundraising* (Steve R alone raised more than £50 through this route). I want to thank all members for their co-operation, particularly with regard to the payment of Summer League race fees – we had only a £10 deficit on these this year.

The overall surplus for the year was £850 and the balance at the bank going into 2016 is more than £2500. This is a very good position to be in, particularly as there are no race promotions planned for the coming year.

Colin closed by thanking Steve W for auditing the accounts.

Men's Road Running Captain's Report:

Mark R delivered the following report:

Throughout the past year there has been some terrific running done by the men in both winter and summer league races as well as in other additional road races including half and full marathons.

To name just a few; Dale Jenkins, James Boyd, Fabio Caraffini, Ferrante Neri, Ben Milsom, Dave Lodwick and Robin Meynell have all produced some fantastic, consistent performances over the course of the last year. In the Senior Men's Division 2 we narrowly missed out on promotion to the top division by three points (finishing third out of seven teams) and in the Veteran Men's Division 2 we finished a very respectable fifth out of seven teams. Dale Jenkins deserves special praise as he finished the season with the second place Individual Award in the Vet 55 category, to add to the even more highly contested Roadhogs Athlete of the Year award!

In addition to the overall men's team performances, many runners either earned 100% awards (Fabio, Keith, Dale, Dave, Ben Ferrante and Chris) whilst many others completed most or some of both the summer and/or winter league races (including James Boyd, myself, Nick, Will C, Hitesh, Peter, Steve R, Steve W, Tom Martin, Baz, Edgar) enabling some to score overall individual points. It's also been great to welcome new men into the club, some of whom have gone on to participate in some of the races (including Shaun and Marcus).

Barry Waterfield reached the milestone of making it round 100 league races which was a highlight of the year – cheered on by family, friends, Hoggs and Hoggettes at the Joy Cann 5. I'm sure you will all agree that Barry is an inspiration to all of us.

We also entered men's teams in the Livingstone Relays and in the Leicester University Relays challenge at Victoria Park, representing the club in a positive manner.

This year is looking promising; we have already seen returns to Wednesday night training from injury and family/work commitments by Rob Milstead, Lee Hubbard and Tom Martin. Nick Cobley has recently run well in cross country events, demonstrating the quality runner he is. Dan, I'm sure, will also participate in racing this year and is doing a great job with John and Dave in offering coached sessions on Thursday nights.

It's great to see new members including Tim and James Thurman join us to bolster the ranks and hopefully help the club strive for improvement. Ben (2015 winner of the Most Improved Athlete award) and James, in

particular, have run some very quick times and notable PBs at recent parkrun events at Braunstone Park and Victoria Park, and can hopefully transfer these improving times and hard training sessions to the league programme. Nathan Adams has also posted some very quick PBs at recent parkruns and will hopefully make an appearance at some league races this year. Ben, Fabio and Ferrante also deserve special mention for superb individual improvements over the past year at various distances.

I shouldn't overlook the great job Keith Dakin does in his role organising some fun, exciting social events throughout the year as well as the Annual Awards Presentation Night with John Stew. Thanks also to the staff at Grace Road for doing a superb job in enabling us to use the venue, and for the quality of the food. Also, a big "thank you" and mention to Kim for the great job that he does as Men's Cross Country Captain and to Dave Lodwick, Dave Swan, Steve Martin and Colin for all the work they coordinate behind the scenes to make the club tick over, exist and grow.

Finally, my message to all the Hogs at the club is to continue pounding the pavements, trails, fields and roads around Leicestershire and beyond and I wish you all a happy, injury and illness-free 2016.

Ladies Road Running Captain's Report:

Jackie delivered the following report:

The ladies have had a really good year. We got the numbers out and did well in both the Senior and Vet leagues. There have been great individual performances, with particular mentions for Emma Raven and Clare Mendes. I've been very proud to have been captain for the last three years and wish everyone well for next season.

Cross Country Captain's Report:

Kim delivered the following report on behalf of himself and Jackie:

In the second part of the 2014/15 cross-country season, our men's and ladies' teams gave their best and finished 6th and 7th respectively in the top half of division 2 of the Derby Runner league. But disappointingly our combined team, which was competing with the bigger clubs in division 1, were finally relegated but only just; we finished level on points with Wreake Runners and lost out only on a countback of individual race positions.

So far in season 2015/16, we are not attracting as many runners as we were doing. And we have lost most of our better runners this season, and for work, personal or moving reasons, and we miss them. James and Rebecca Bostock consistently finished in high positions, and picked up our awards at the 2015 presentation evening. They were well backed up by Vicky Sutton and Jackie Brown for the ladies and by Dave Pearce, James Dunham and Dale Jenkins for the men. But only Dale is currently still running with us. On the plus side we do have Nick Copley back, and Emma Raven and Fabio Caraffini have joined us and, along with Steve Robinson and Ben Milsom, have improved and now scoring good points for the team. So we are holding our own at mid-table in division 2 but not yet managing to push ourselves into contention.

In 2015 we welcomed several new runners, although some were one-offs and we would like to see them back. And we welcomed back some older faces; it's always good to see some regular runners come back to the cross-country team. We have mentioned a number of individuals, but must add that our cross-country team also has the ever-reliable runners who turn out for us time after time and, wherever you are in the race, you may score points for us and the team depends on you.

Roadhogs also ran in open events during the year such as Arnesby, Charnwood, Gaddesby and Huncote. We have little or no interest in the County and Area Championships, but we will still keep promoting these within the club and we are always willing to enter a team if there is enough interest.

We must mention the cross-country league two races hosted by Roadhogs in 2015 at Bradgate Park, both of which attracted around 600 runners, more than any other race in league history. This is a super venue for a cross-country event and we have gained a lot of credit from other clubs for the success of these events, as well as making a bit of money for the club. We thank everyone who helped or ran on the day.

Finally, we have kept our friendly cross-country spirit and jolly banter, we appreciate the club tent, and we really appreciate Trudy's post- race cakes. Cross-country is quite a different challenge to road running and we hope more runners join us in 2016 and experience it for themselves.

Election of Officers:

The table below sets out those nominated for and appointed to officer roles for 2016.

Office	Appointed	Nominated by	Seconded by
Chair	Dave Lodwick	Colin Smith	Keith Dakin
Vice Chair	John Stew*	Barry Waterfield	Dave Swan
Treasurer	Steve Wheeler	Colin Smith	Steve Robinson
Men's Road Running Cpt.	Mark Ramsden	Kim Richardson	Dave Lodwick
Ladies Road Running and Cross Country Cpt.	Amy Gasper	Alison Lodwick	John Stew
Men's Cross Country Captain	Kim Richardson	Colin Smith	Dave Swan
Social Secretary	Keith Dakin	John Stew	Barbara Hermann
Membership Secretary	Dan Bannatyne	Keith Dakin	Mark Ramsden

The following were reappointed to the Committee:

Appointed	Nominated by	Seconded by
Ron Atton	Colin Smith	John Stew
Barbara Hermann	Alison Lodwick	Amy Gasper
Alison Lodwick*	John Stew	Barbara Hermann
Steve Martin	Dave Swan	Keith Dakin
Colin Smith	Dave Swan	John Stew
Sid Smith	Dave Lodwick	Kim Richardson
Barry Waterfield	Keith Dakin	Kim Richardson

* Club Welfare Officers – appointed by the Committee

Membership subscriptions:

Traditionally, the annual Membership Subscription has included free entry into (i) all races in the Derby Runner Cross Country League, (ii) all races in the LRRL Winter League, and, (iii) the Livingstone Relays. Whilst this model results in a relatively high "headline" subscription, it includes generous benefits, particularly for those members who enter a lot of races. However, conscious that all members are able (or wish) to race extensively, the Committee wished to

seek members' views on whether traditional model should continue in 2017 or if an alternative configuration would be preferred. During discussion, views expressed included:

- £40 was considered to be excellent value for money
- The basis of the subscription is transparent - it is up to members to decide how many/few races they enter
- Roadhogs is a very welcoming and friendly club – this is more important to people than a few pounds more or less on the subscription
- The consensus of the meeting was to continue with the current model for as long as possible

Club London Marathon place:

Currently, members who have entered the ballot for the London Marathon and been unsuccessful are eligible to enter a draw for the Club's allocated entry, subject to having completed five or more LRRL/DRL races during the year but regardless of whether they have previously benefitted from a Club entry. Club entries are being reduced by the organisers which means that Roadhogs is likely to receive only one for 2017. The Committee wished, therefore, to seek members' views on a proposal to exclude from eligibility those who have competed in the London Marathon via the Club entry in the previous 5 years. In discussion, views expressed included:

- Running in the London Marathon is a wonderful experience – we should ensure as many members as possible who want to enter have the opportunity to do so
- 5 years is too long – 3 years would be preferred.
- Should we ask for evidence of rejection in the public ballot?
 - Roadhogs is the only L.R.R.L club that does not currently ask for evidence
 - Whilst it has been the club's ethos to trust members and take people at their word, it would be good governance to ask for evidence and would eliminate a possible source of friction in the future
 - Some members were disappointed that the club's traditional approach in this matter should be abandoned
- The consensus of the meeting was to support the proposal but with an exclusion period of 3 rather than 5 years and that all those who wish to enter the draw for the club place should provide evidence of rejection in the public ballot.

Presentation Evening 2016:

The format of the annual Club Presentation Evening (a hot buffet with entertainment provided by members of the Club and an informal disco) has been unchanged for several years. The Committee wished to seek members' ideas for an alternative format. In discussion, the following views were expressed:

- The current format is enjoyed by those who attend, but numbers have been falling and do not justify the huge effort involved
- Other clubs have a much more formal, dinner-dance style event – a
- Considerable overlap between people who attend the presentation evening and the AGM – need to send out a survey/questionnaire to all members to get broader range of views
- Proportion of membership who are interested in the social aspects of the club has fallen – numbers attending all social events have decreased over recent years
- Presentation evening food was excellent, but the "home-made" entertainment not necessarily to everyone's taste

Dave L thanked members for their contributions, which would be discussed further by the Management Committee at its next meeting.

Open floor:

The following matters were raised by members from the floor:

- i. Dave S asked for a volunteer to replace him as one of the club's L.R.R.L delegates. Dave L explained that:
 - a. Each club is entitled to send two delegates to each L.R.R.L Delegates Meeting
 - b. There are four meetings a year, held in Groby
 - c. The Delegates Meeting manages the League and chooses the races each year
 - d. Dave S has been a delegate for many years; Steve M and Kim are also past delegates
 - e. Dave L will continue to attend, but a second delegate would be helpful. John S volunteered to succeed Dave S
- ii. Brian said that he had only been in the club a year, but had really appreciated the welcome and support that he had received. He has found the club very friendly and really enjoyed running with Roadhogs – thanks to the membership's commitment to the Roadhogs' ethos.
- iii. Amy raised the issue of car sharing, which is becoming increasingly important due to pressure on race venues from increased participation. She felt that a more co-ordinated approach, based on "car share leads" for different areas of the city, would be beneficial and offered to take the lead in developing this. The meeting thanked her for her suggestion, and willingness to take the proposal forward.
- iv. Amy informed the meeting of a new initiative (Heartsafe) aimed at training runners in CPR, prompted by events at a recent Derby Runner cross-country race, when a competitor suffered a cardiac arrest and received CPR from fellow-runners. Dave L was able to update the meeting with the news that Heartsafe had already contacted the Network and planning was underway to begin rolling out training to clubs.

AOB:

- i. Kim reminded the meeting of the Derby Runner League cross-country race the following Sunday.
- ii. Dave L informed the meeting that times at Braunstone parkrun (but not Victoria Park) can now be counted toward County Standard awards.
- iii. Dave L informed the meeting that the Network is investing in a new chip-timing system. From Summer 2016, disposable chips attached to race numbers will be used. For Winter 2017, new reusable chips with proper ankle bands will be used.
- iv. Dave L informed the meeting that there would be a drills workshop led by Gemma Hillier-Moses on 4 February 2016 at Anstey Martin School.
- v. Jackie enquired about whether there would be any further coached sessions? Dave L explained that there had been very little interest once the weather got colder. John S offered the use of The Meet FOC for strength and conditioning sessions, on either Tuesday or Thursday.
- vi. Dave S asked about arrangements for the forthcoming Stilton 7 L.R.R.L race. Dave L explained that a new team within the club was undertaking race management and that there would be a number of improvements (including access to the whole venue; an accurately measured course; finish outside the venue). Parking would still be at a premium and car sharing would be essential.

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