

## Roadhogs Committee Meeting

20 March 2017

1. **Present:** John Stew, Alison Lodwick, Dave Lodwick, Tom Martin, Ben Milsom, Kim Richardson, Sid Smith, Dave Swan, Terry Woodhouse, Steve Wheeler
2. **Apologies:** Dan Bannantyne, Amy Barnes, Keith Dakin, Brian Feldman, Barbara Hermann, Barry Waterfield
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016:** AGREED
4. **Matters arising from the minutes not appearing elsewhere on the agenda:**
  - a. 2017 membership subscriptions have been set at £28 for full members and £16 for social members
  - b. Following discussion at the AGM, the following have been put forward to be trained as Leaders in Running Fitness (LiRF): Jeannette Franklin, Shaun Heaphy and Terry Woodhouse
  - c. The branded event shelter made its debut at Kibworth and attracted much favourable attention
5. **Finances**
  - a. The club is currently holding circa £4000 in the bank
  - b. Last year's operating surplus was just short of £800
  - c. Nearly £600 in donations (both one-off and via Easyfundraising) were received
  - d. Expect a small operating deficit this year as the cost of the event shelter (circa £1000) more than accounts for the profits from Kibworth. Other anticipated costs include Manor Road showers fees, kit costs, presentation evening and three LiRF training places
  - e. Recruitment to date in line with last year
  - f. Anticipate that affiliation fees will be similar to 2016 (circa £1100 - £1200)
6. **Membership**
  - a. Currently have 57 full, 9 social and 14 honorary members
  - b. 9 new members have joined in the last few months (5 full, 4 social)
  - c. A small number of active members have yet to renew for 2017 (will need to be chased) so total membership for the year is anticipated to be 80 – 90. Some disappointment was expressed that the club seems to have plateaued at this level of membership for some years. It was noted that the Improvers Group launched in parallel with our last Beginners' Course has been a useful source of new members. Terry reported that Scraftoft Joggers attract many members via the local community Facebook page, but it was acknowledged that the group operates in a discrete geographical location
  - d. A small number of members have decided not to renew, all for personal reasons (relocation, injury etc) – no one has left to join another Leicester club
  - e. Dave L advised the meeting that the club has received a request from the parents of a 14 year old that he be allowed to join. Nathan has been coming to Wednesday training for several months, with Richard C (who has DBS clearance) acting *in loco parentis*. However, Richard is relocating to Wiltshire in the coming months, but Nathan's parents would like him to be able to continue running with us. It was noted that, whilst our club policy is not to accept under-16s unless they are the children of members and run with them, there is no insurance reason why young people cannot join. Given that Nathan has been running with us and has full parental support, it was agreed that he should be permitted to join as a social member, subject to parental signature on membership application and a written understanding that he makes every effort to ensure that, on training runs, he does not become isolated from the group.
7. **Coaching & Athlete Development**

- a. Tuesday sessions have been offered throughout the winter months and have built up a small but regular following and the hard work is being translated to improved performances in races.
- b. Dave L advised the meeting that a member has approached him with a view to him providing additional one to one coaching on a "paid for" basis. As the club paid for Dave's coaching qualification, he was seeking the Committee's approval for the arrangement. No objections were raised, provided that such arrangements do not interfere with Dave's capacity to provide coaching for the club as a whole and that members are not pressurised into opting for the paid-for option.

## 8. Member Achievements

- a. LRRL team positions:
  - i. Vet Women 1/8 Division 1 (B Team 6/10 Division 1)
  - ii. Vet Men 8/8 Division 2 (B Team 7/10 Division 1)
  - iii. Senior Women 4/8 Division 2 (B Team 4/19 Division 2)
  - iv. Senior Men 8/8 Division 2 (B Team 2/8 Division 2)
- b. Recent recruit via the Improver Group, Aruna, completed first half-marathon recently in a time of 2 hours 10 minutes and came in under the hour at Markfield
- c. Cross-country:
  - i. Much better season than last, with full teams in all bar one race: Sam J and Ben had particularly good seasons; plenty of new runners, who have kept coming back
  - ii. County Championships (team co-ordinated by Brian): Vet Ladies won Bronze
  - iii. National Championships: had team out for the very first time
  - iv. Midlands Championships: Ben raced
- d. Road Racing:
  - i. James B and Mark R will be missing for part of the season (family commitments and injury)
  - ii. Good to have Sam and Lee back running; Max B is a good prospect for the future; Ben and James T – trying our best!

## 9. Kibworth 6 Debrief

- a. Leicester Runners' survey feedback:
  - i. Complaints re. location of finish funnel – but out of our hands as dictated by Run Britain standards, referees and race assessor wanting finish off the road
  - ii. Complaints re. online entry – but inevitable, as first race under new regime
  - iii. Lots of praise/appreciation for marshals
- b. Will be able to re-use a lot of this year's preparation. The close work with the school has paid dividends – the school's management were very happy and will be using a light touch next time.
- c. None of the clubs that brought tents used them, so we were close to breaching the fire limit on the venue. Same happened at Stilton – only we pitched a tent (even though the race limit had been increased on the basis that tents would be used). Requesting/requiring clubs to use tents is a legitimate way to relieve pressure on venues: the League will have to look at how tent use can be enforced
- d. The League will be also be discussing what happens in the event of a race being cancelled to ensure that the organising club is not out of pocket.
- e. As the League is now footing the bill for the TTRO, additional toilets and medical cover (circa £900 per race all told), it is likely to sustain a loss on every race (600 entries are needed for break-even)

## 10. Other Business

- a. Steve W advised that he has received a letter from the club's insurers reminding us that damage or injury covered by dogs accompanying runners is not covered and that owners should ensure that the dog has its own insurance. We need to make members aware that is the basis on which dogs are permitted as running buddies at training.
- b. Committee night: No day of the week is ideal for everyone. The least worse options are Monday and Tuesday and it was agreed that we will try to alternate meetings on these days.