

Roadhoggs Committee Meeting

The Cricketers

1 October 2013

- 1) Present: Ron Atton, Jackie Brown, Mark Chamberlain, Keith Dakin, Alison Lodwick, Dave Lodwick, Steve Martin, Kim Richardson, Colin Smith, Sid Smith, John Stew, Dave Swan
- 2) Apologies: Malc Blyth, Barry Waterfield
- 3) Minutes: Agreed
- 4) Chairman's report:

Dave S congratulated Team Captain Jackie and all the ladies on the success of the Ladies Teams this season, with the Senior Ladies A and B and the Vets all topping their divisions. He expressed the view that the Men's Teams had done well to avoid relegation, given the strength of the competition in their divisions. He felt that another high light since the last meeting had been at Hermitage, when Alison successfully completed her 100th consecutive LRRL race. He noted that we had attracted more new members recently and that Wednesday training is attracting a large crowd.

- 5) Treasurer's report:

Colin reported a balance at the bank of £1,300, with no outstanding bills to pay. Two outgoing are due before the end of the year which will reduce the balance to around £1000: (i) a payment of £50 will be due to the University (use of Manor Road showers) and (ii) Derby Runner cross-country pre-Christmas race entry fees. As we normally spend what we collect in subs, a reserve of £1000 is a sensible contingency. However, it was noted that, as we will not be organising a Winter League race this year (see item 9 below), other income will be down by around £350. With regard to subscriptions, the consensus was that, subs should remain at £25 (plus £10 England Athletic affiliation, payable separately) although this may need to be revisited if the LRRL increases the entry fee for Winter League races.

- 6) Men's Road Running Captain and Coach's report:

Mark reported that the club has recently recruited two new members with really good potential (Ferrante and Fabio). James and Drew achieved PBs in the Nottingham Half-marathon and both did a really good job in the Round Leicester Relay. Mark felt that the relay went really well and he thanked Dave L for stepping into the breach at short notice. There is to be a relay event around Victoria Park in November (organised by the University of Leicester) and 22 members have signed up so far, so

we will be able to enter 5 or 6 teams. The recent Club Handicap event went well, with the new course felt to be a lot safer. With regard to coaching, Mark continues to be available to members. He has recently advised Nick to rest.

7) Ladies Road Running Captain's report:

Jackie was delighted that the Ladies have been responding in numbers to the call to turn out for races, particularly at the John Fraser 10, enabling the teams to win their divisions. She asked if the League awards could be re-presented at the presentation evening and there was unanimous support for the suggestion. There are a good number of ladies amongst the new recruits and a lot of the ladies are signing up for cross-country, too.

8) Cross-country Captain's report:

Kim reminded the Committee that the Derby Runner league starts in October. There has been interest from a lot of the new members and Roadhogs will be able to field a decent squad once again.

9) Race News 2014

Dave S reminded the Committee that the Club had been asked to organise the Kibworth 6 Winter League race in 2014. However, Fleckney and Kibworth have now exercised their option to stage the race in the coming season. There was a discussion about whether the Club should organise a summer (non-league) race. It was noted that, whilst Glooston is well-received by the relatively small number of runners who enter, it has never made the club any money, so cannot be considered as a substitute for a Winter League race in financial terms. A Summer League race is out of the question, as the number of proposals already exceeds the number of available slots and we do not have a fully-researched proposal to put forward. Dave L informed the Committee that if it was decided to organise a race in the summer, he would not be in a position to act as Race Director, given his other commitments. It was agreed that the club will not organise a race in 2014.

10) Social News

a) Presentation Evening

To take place on the last Saturday in November (30th). Two venues have been identified: (i) Aylestone Leisure Centre (£150 room hire plus £40 kitchen hire, cash bar) and (ii) Leicestershire Country Cricket Club (free access to venue and kitchen, cash bar). It was agreed that that the Cricket Club should be used (with Mark being reimbursed £40 deposit already paid). Ticket price - £10 per adult, kids go free. Following the success of last year's Western theme, this year's theme will be French.

- b) Keith thanked Dave L and Alison for hosting a very successful Club BBQ.
Thanks also to John for providing the kit, burgers and sausages free of charge.
- c) Rae, Vicky, Amy, Rich, Keith, Will, Ian and Dan took part in the Equinox 24 team race at Belvoir Castle over 21st/22nd September. It was a great event, really well organised and has the potential to be an annual fixture in the Roadhogs summer calendar.
- d) Forthcoming events:
 - October – quiz night
 - November – presentation evening
 - December – curry night
 - January – skittles evening

11) Network news:

Jackie asked Dave L to pass on the Club's congratulations to the Network for winning the East Midlands Network of the Year Award. Dave L informed the Committee that one of our members, Baz, was nominated as Regional Run Leader of the Year for his terrific work with the Scraftoft Joggers (although, regrettably, he did not win the award). The Network continues to fund specialist coaching sessions and Network clubs host "open" training evenings to share good practice.

12) 2014 Committee

It was agreed that the AGM should take place on 28th January 2014 at the County Cricket ground (date subject to confirmation). It was felt that the Committee as currently constituted is not wholly reflective of the club's profile (in relation to both age and gender) and Jackie agreed to seek volunteers amongst the Ladies to join the Committee

13) Other business:

- a) Protection Policy for Young and Vulnerable People
Alison and John S, as Club Welfare Officers proposed a draft Protection Policy for Young and Vulnerable People. It was agreed that, whilst we should not move away from the friendly ethos that the club has traditionally had, this was a serious issue requiring a formal, structured approach. Whilst there was support for the draft from those members who had had an opportunity to consider it in the limited time available, it was agreed that members should have a few more days to forward any comments to Dave S, Alison or John S. If no further comments are received, the Policy would be deemed to have been approved.
- b) London Marathon
Dave L advised the Committee that, as far as he was aware only two members had been successful in the public ballot for London Marathon places. It was

noted that the ballot places had been taken so quickly that a number of members could not even enter. In view of that, there was a discussion about the criteria used to enter the draw for the Club place(s) and it was agreed that, given that Club place(s) cannot be deferred, entry into the public ballot should remain a criterion (as a demonstration of commitment), but it was noted that it would be helpful for the Club to remind members of the competitiveness of the public ballot (cf the Turkey Trot) ahead of next year's event.

Kim was asked to submit the Club's application as a matter of urgency.

Mark informed the Committee that there had been complaints from "some people" (who he would not name) that last year's draw for Club places had been rigged. Dave L explained how the draw was undertaken: he printed the numbers 1 to 5 on separate pieces of paper which were folded and placed in a hat. On the 2012 presentation evening he invited each of the five members eligible to enter the draw to take out a piece of paper from the hat. Those members who drew out numbers 1 and 2 were awarded the places, with the member who drew out number 3 being the nominated reserve. Members of the Committee (with the exception of Mark) agreed that it was difficult, if not impossible, to see how a draw set up that way could have been rigged.

c) LRRL Block Entry

Steve M queried whether the person completing the block entry on behalf of the club would be in any way liable if a runner then had an accident or was injured in the race. Dave L and Alison offered to develop a form of words to be included in the invitation to enter a race via the club's block entry to the effect that by doing so runners accept the terms and conditions of the race and run at their own risk.

d) Run England Scheme

Dave L reported that 12 of the Club's recent recruits had registered for the Run England Scheme and that, therefore, the Club qualified for a grant of £100 or a free place on a first level coaching course. It had been decided to opt for the free place, which would be taken up by John S in November.

e) Round Leicester Relay

Dave L thanked Steve M, Mal and Ron for looking after the Roadhogg's handover area. He advised the Committee that the future of the event is in doubt, but that discussions are underway with a local corporate events management company to take on the organisation.