

Roadhoggs Committee Meeting

The Cricketers

9 October 2012

1) Present: Jackie Brown, Mark Chamberlain, Keith Dakin, Alison Lodwick, Dave Lodwick, Steve Martin, Kim Richardson, Colin Smith, John Stew, Dave Swan, Barry Waterfield

2) Apologies: Ron Atton, Malcolm Blyth, Sid Smith,

3) Minutes: Agreed

4) Matters arising from the minutes:

Two vertical flags (sky chasers) have been purchased, each 3.5m tall in maroon with the club name and "Hog" logo. These will make it easier for members to locate the meeting point/tent at cross country and other races. Kim will take charge of one for cross-country races and Dave L will take charge of the other for road races.

5) Chairman's Report

Dave S noted that we have been fielding strong teams in the bigger events and congratulated the Men's team on their promotion whilst commiserating with the Lady Vets for just missing out.

The Chairman thanked Keith for the sterling work he has put in running with beginner runners and new members on training nights. He also recorded his thanks to Tom for his efforts in organising the block entry for the Summer League races.

6) Treasurer's Report

The club currently has a healthy bank balance of £1,162. This is good for the time of year, with no expenditure outstanding and two substantial recent outlays (kit and the sky chasers). Colin noted that the healthy position is largely as a result of the Secure One sponsorship.

Looking towards future expenditure:

- (i) ARC is not increasing subs but there will be a marginal increase in permit fees
- (ii) EA is changing its race fee structure – running club organised races will be charged a flat fee of £25, with commercial organisers being charged significantly more

7) Road Running Captain's Report

Mark hopes to complete his coaching qualification in the next week or so. He noted that overall performances have been consistent and that Ludo, Nick and Mark R have put in some excellent performances. It was pleasing to see the club field two teams in the Round Leicester Relay.

8) Lady Captain's report

Jackie reported that despite a spate of injuries the turnout of ladies had been good, with many signing up for non-league races as well. There had been an influx of new, keen, members. There had recently been another successful 'Hoggettes' night out.

9) Cross-Country Captain's Report

The Derby Runner Cross Country races have been agreed for the coming season, beginning with Markfield on 18 November 2012 and finishing with Holly Hayes Wood on 3 March 2013.

If the league decides to stage the end of season relays, Roadhogs will be asked to organise the event – in late March or April 2013. If so, Kim will arrange to book The Pavilion Leisure Centre in Huncote. He was delighted to report that 9 new members and 2 “returnees” have expressed an interest in running cross-country this season.

Kim also reported that there had been fewer Roadhogs acting as hares at the recent Primary Schools Cross Country meet, but there were volunteers from several other clubs and he was pleased to see the workload being spread more widely.

10) 2013 Races

Dave S reported that Fleckney & Kibworth had felt unable to stage this year's Winter League race at Kibworth and, therefore, Roadhogs would be acting as organisers again. The school has been booked for 10 March 2013.

After discussion, and in the light of the Kibworth development, it was agreed that the club would not organise a race this summer. We would take a year out to research alternative venues and potential courses closer to the City, noting that the remoteness of the Glooston venue seemed to be unattractive to many club runners.

11) Membership News

Membership numbers are holding steady with in the region of 60 – 70 fully paid up and life members. Steve agreed to look into the logistics of setting up direct debit mandates for the future.

Steve requested that members be asked to fill out a membership form when renewing their membership. He expressed concerns about the quality of the data he had for certain members.

12) Social News

Keith reported that there'd been successful curry and quiz nights, each with over 20 attending.

The Club Presentation Evening is to be held on Saturday 24th November at Aylestone Leisure Centre. The evening will feature a Western theme with a band, buffet and games. Full details already circulated by Mark, who expressed the hope that the pre-Christmas date would allow more members to attend.

Pirate night will be on the last Wednesday before Christmas and will use the same route (around Knighton and Clarendon Park) that we used for the last hat night.

13) Network News

Dave L reported that most recent developments had concentrated on young athletes, but he had attended training sessions at Barrow and Wigston as part of the club sharing initiative, designed to allow clubs to see how others organise their club nights. Mark said that the Network coach coordinators meetings continued to be a successful forum.

14) Riga

Problems arising out of the trip to Riga were discussed. There was a consensus that subsequent events had not been handled well and that the club had been shown in a poor light. The Chairman re-iterated that where issues of discipline or dispute were concerned that it was his responsibility to take the lead.

15) AOB

i. Constitution

Dave L reported that the club doesn't have either an up to date constitution or any formal policies and that this meant that we were not meeting governing body expectations. He also proposed that the club should nominate a Welfare Officer who would act as a point of contact for members with concerns about the behaviour of other members. Developing this role (and appropriate policies) would allow us to welcome athletes in the 16-17 age groups, who are legally regarded as children and therefore not currently able to participate in club activities. Dave agreed to circulate a job description to members and to draft a new constitution and accompanying policies to be presented to members for approval at the upcoming AGM.

ii. Subscriptions

England Athletics have increased individual subscriptions (the competition licence) from £5 to £10 per year. It was agreed that Roadhoggs would reduce their subscriptions for 2013 from £30 to £25 leaving members the option to pay an extra £10 if they wished to be registered with EA. Dave L agreed to write to members explaining the pros and cons of being an EA affiliated athlete.

iii. Lights

Dave L drew the committee's attention to the issue of safety on dark training nights. Alison had purchased a supply of flashing LED safety bands and it was proposed to encourage members wearing dark, non-reflective kit to buy or borrow one of these.

iv. AGM

It was proposed that the AGM should be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 29th January at the Cricketers in Aylestone.