



**HYDE PARK HARRIERS AGM 19th MAY 2020
HELD BY VIDEO CONFERENCE**

Present - Committee:

Phil Fisher (Chair)
Naomi Adkins
Lorraine Beavis
Zeni Bellwood
Richard Edwards
Clare Evans
Rebecca Gray
Phil Hammond
Amy Young

Members: See attached list.

1 **Welcome and Introduction**

PF welcomed everyone to the meeting, saying that this was the time of year when we report on the activities of key workstreams, review the achievements of the club during the year, vote on any major issues, elect committee members and give the members the opportunity to share their views.

2 **Minutes of previous AGM**

The minutes of the previous AGM were approved.

3 **Election of new members**

As previously explained, PF had decided to stand down as chair after one year in office. Other members whose terms had come to an end were Nicola Forwood, who had decided to stand down and Naomi Adkins who wished to stand again. There had been one nomination for Chair (AY) and two nominations for ordinary committee members.

PF thanked NF for her valuable contribution to the committee and the insight and energy she had brought to the club.

AY had been a committee member for the last two years, organising leaders and coaches. Paul Ramsden proposed, Debbie Brown seconded and AY was unanimously voted as Chair.

NA explained that she would like to continue on the committee for another two years, helping the club to be the best it can be. NA's election was proposed and seconded and unanimously approved.

Two nominations for ordinary committee members had been submitted – by Jonathan Spain and Robyn Johnson.

JS said how much he enjoyed running with HPH and, having been leading for nearly a year, he now wanted to be more involved in the running of the club. Richard Edwards proposed, Curtis Broadhead seconded and JS's nomination was unanimously approved.

RJ had loved being involved with HPH and now felt she would like to give something back and be more involved with the running of the club. Rob Butler proposed, Zeni Bellwood seconded and the nomination was unanimously approved.

4 HPH President Role

PF explained that Rick Pullan, who had been Chair and was currently President, had decided to stand down and former Chair, Kay Jefferies, had agreed to stand as President.

RP advised that he was standing down because he felt the role of President needs to be more involved in the club and he had recently not been able to attend as many club events as he would like. He thanked everyone for their support and was confident that having AY as Chair would be good for the club and that KJ also would add a lot of energy to the club.

PF noted that RP was in contact with Tom Williams in putting together the history of the club.

KJ advised that she was more than happy to step into the role of President and was looking forward to continuing working with the club.

5 Chair's Report

PF reported on key activities in the past year:

The introduction of Harrier of the Month had been good to show recognition of members' contribution to the club.

May began with the Calderdale Way relay organised by Becky Gray and Adam Lomas.

June was the Summer Mile, which is a big part of the club year, bringing in funds for the club. Thanks were due to Sam Dooley who had been race director for a number of years and was joined this year by Kay Jefferies, Trevor Raddings and Debbie Brown.

Also in June and continuing into July was the introduction of Club Run, where a coach had delivered sessions over a number of weeks, which had gone on to influence a number of club activities through the year. Thanks to AY and NF who were instrumental in bring this opportunity to the club.

July was the Leeds 10K, with volunteers coordinated by Karen Wilcock. Thanks to Karen and to KJ, who coordinated volunteers for the Vale of York half later in the year.

August was an exceptionally busy month, with:

- the second annual parkrun day, running all Leeds parkruns in one day.
- Leeds Country Way, with thanks to CE for organising;

- Country Trail Race, thanks to RG for organising
- Go-Tri events, led by Julie Robson, who had been instrumental in getting a number of people involved in triathlon for the first time.

September saw the Leeds Country Way Relay

October included the Yorkshire Marathon, with a Viking boat which was also nominated as Harrier of the Month.

In November Toby Adkins and James Underwood were nominated for Harrier of the Month for the leaders' data they had produced. This shows how many people attended club each week and the average number of attendees and leaders. This data give us an insight into what we do.

December was the first PECO race and the Christmas party

In January Michael Vargas had organised an Escape Room event which had been very successful. PF repeated the invitation given at the October open committee meeting for anyone to feel free to organise any social events.

March brought the Coronavirus, when PF and Graeme Miles, the Tri Club Chair, took the decision, just before England Athletics made their announcement, to suspend all club activities. Since then the club had grown in importance in many ways and particular thanks were due to:

- Rebecca and Matthew Gray for starting the (now weekly) Sunday evening quiz;
- Toby Adkins for hosting a virtual quiz every Thursday
- Amy for the COVID19 virtual relay

The last two months had shown that the club remains relevant and would return once things begin to improve.

EA's latest advice, following the recent relaxation by the government, was for a limited return to training for performance athletes, clubs and venues, which did not apply to HPH. The EA guidance would continue to be kept under review; it may be that the club would return initially in a slightly different way in the first instance.

PF added his thanks to NA and ZB for taking over the weekly round up from him

In conclusion PF thanked everyone for what they had done during the year, making the club an amazing family to be part of.

6 Treasurer' Report

The income statement was shared and RG summarised as follows:

- A small surplus of £95, compared to a deficit for the last few years
- Balance sheet similar to previous years. Spare vests should be included as assets;
- 2021 forecast showed a slight surplus even assuming no further income during the year.

With regard to the Summer Mile for 2020, Sam Dooley had advised that Leeds City

Council would not give the necessary permissions to run the event in June. The team were looking into holding it later in the year on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. AY stressed that the council's view on this was yet unknown, but the race would be held if at all possible.

7 **Membership Update**

CE advised that current membership was 160, split evenly between male and female members. This was lower than the same time last year, when we had 203 members. Some had not renewed due to the current situation; some had moved clubs, and some had moved away. Under current rules 160 would still give us two places in the 2021 London Marathon, although that depended on what happened to this year's deferred race.

Membership fees had been increased by £1 this year due to EA's planned increased registration fee. However, on 26th March, after the launch of our early bird scheme, EA had announced the deferral of the increase, so those members that renewed before 26th March had paid the higher fee. It was proposed to invest the additional fees back into the club, rather than administer individual refunds, but if anyone specifically wished to have the £1 refunded, they were asked to contact the committee, and this would be arranged. Anyone joining now would pay the lower fee.

8 **Constitution Amendments**

Two amendments to the club's constitution were proposed:

Item 3.12 – change references to 'secretary' to 'membership secretary'

Item 5.7 – amended to include specific reference to the holding of meetings by video conference.

The proposed amendments were approved.

9 **Updates from sub-committees and key workstreams.**

(a) **Coaching Committee**

Lucy Rider provided a pre-recorded video in which she advised that, since obtaining her coaching qualification in September, she had done some marathon coaching. Those races had all since been postponed but as they were rearranged, she would be able to offer more guidance.

Jack Rose advised that he was both an HPH and a triathlon coach. He had proposed putting together 5K track sessions but that had not been possible due to the current situation. He was considering whether anything could be done remotely in the meantime and would aim to organise monthly track sessions once things were back to normal.

Curtis Broadhead had coached three members since last year's AGM, working with those members twice a week and leading them to 5K or 10K PBs. Again, this had stopped due to COVID but he hoped to be able to coach more members in the next three to six months.

PF thanked all the coaches and hoped to have more coaches trained in the future.

(b) Leaders update

AY thanked all who had led during the year. The club had funded eight people through the LiRF course during the year and more codes were available for those interested in leading once normal conditions return.

Two leaders' forums were held during the year, one in spring and one in the autumn. The data produced by Toby and James enables us to see how many people were running in each group.

Thursday sessions had been discussed by the committee. It seemed that quite a few attendees were not members and the committee would keep that under review to ensure the club was offering what its members wanted.

AY called for all members to consider stepping up to lead.

The Kirkstall Hills sessions had an average of 24 attendees at each session, so that was popular and would continue.

AY gave a particular call-out for those leaders who had led more than ten times in the year.

(c) Run & Talk

LR provided an update by video.

The club's Run & Talk champions were Zeni Bellwood, Robyn Johnson, Rick Pullan and Sara Scholes; Ben Hartley had also expressed interest in becoming a mental health champion.

These were particularly difficult times from a mental health perspective and LR stressed that the most important thing for those experiencing difficulties was to talk to someone.

LR had run some Zoom calls instead of the usual Run & Talk sessions as she was aware that many people were struggling with motivation. There had also been photo-challenges on the Run & Talk page, together with articles that people may find useful.

(d) Club Competitions

RE reported that the competitions had been very successful. Some changes had been made to the scoring on the parkrun championship and some more may be introduced during this year, including the award of volunteer points.

Some changes had been made to the on-road championship races and others were being considered. Consideration was also being given to including some virtual races in the current year championships.

RG reported that the fell championships had had a good year, with several people taking part in their first fell race. She noted that fell races were likely to be the first to return as they were much smaller and lower key.

PF had been advised that the payments for PECO this year had been increased from £1,000 to £1,200. It was hoped that HPH would receive £600 of this for our contribution to organising a race.

(e) Triathlon

Graeme Miles gave an update on the Triathlon section, which had also cancelled all sessions following guidance from B-Tri. Although swimming was now allowed, no open water sessions were planned in the near future.

Summary for the past year was as follows:

- All sessions were registrable on the Spond app
- Cash payments ceased and a card reader enabled all payments to be made direct to the bank account.
- Some venues had been changed which had been a great success
- Tri kit gives members a clear identity
- Six international triathletes had represented the club all over the world
- The under-23 European champion was a club member and Cat Macguire was the Yorkshire champion
- Go-Tri continues to be very successful
- Some virtual competitions had been set up following the cancellation of several events
- Grant money had now come to an end, but the club remained in a very strong financial position, with a positive cash balance.
- Membership numbers were up to 40-50
- Work would begin over the next few weeks developing a strategy for the next two or three years. This would be aligned with the running club so that the two groups complimented each other.

(f) Social Events Update

No social events had been possible during lockdown but RG stressed that anyone could organise events and any ideas for social events were welcome. Any events could be posted on the HPH (members and friends) Facebook page.

(g) COVID-19 Relay

AY announced the results of the recent relay, which the 'Odd' team had won by just 100 metres.

10 Any Other Business

No items of any other business had been submitted prior to the meeting.

AY saw this as an opportunity to shake up what we do as a club, with a lot to think about alongside the day to day running of the club. As Chair, she wanted to focus on being the friendliest club in Leeds, and also looked forward to working with the Tri club.

Attendees:

Kay Jefferies
Adam Lomas
Toby Adkins
Alison Hargreaves
Anna Stocks
Aron Fulton
Heather Fulton
Clair Hougham
Claudia Bauer
Mark Hadrill
Deanna Howley
Dote Stone
Emily Tasker
George Sullivan
Gina Jacobs
John Blatherwick
Jack Rose
James Underwood
Jo Rhodes
John Pratt
Jonathan Spain
Julie Haddon
Lee Taylor
Lizzie Coombes
Louise Gardham
Julie Robson
Andy Judd
Maddie Nowak
Matthew Gray
Mohammed Aslam
Nichola Moreland
Nicki Derrick
Jamie Ryan
Oli Clarkin
Paul Farmery
Paul Ramsden
Rick Pullan
Robyn Johnson
Graeme Miles
Naomi Kellett
Matilda Rhodes
Debbie Brown
Steve Brown
Rob Butler
Ralph Kidner
Clare Maxwell
Laura Garratt
Richard Garratt
Laura Hastings