**HYDE PARK HARRIERS**

Minutes of a meeting of the committee (the **Committee**) of Hyde Park Harriers (the **Club**) duly held and convened at Hyde Park Book Club on Sunday 10 September 2023 at 4pm.

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| Present: | Amy Ramsden-Young | (**AR-Y** – Chair) |
|  | Clare Evans | (**CE** – Membership Secretary) |
|  | Curtis Ledger (from minute 5) | (**CL** – Committee Member) |
|  | Danny Clayton | (**DC** – Committee Member) |
|  | Jonathan Spain | (**JS** – Committee Member) |
|  | Katherine Kirkham (from minute 12) | (**KK** – Club Treasurer) |
|  | Laura Garratt | (**LG** – Committee Member) |
|  | Richard Garratt | (**RG** – Committee Member) |
|  | Toby Adkins | (**TA** – Club Secretary) |
|  | Xeni Perry | (**XP** – Committee Member) |
| Apologies: | Grace Roberts | (**GR** – Committee Member) |

Notice and Quorum

It was noted that the meeting had been duly convened and that a quorum was present for the purposes of the Club’s constitution.

Previous Meeting Minutes

* 1. The minutes of the meeting of the Committee on 06 August 2023 were approved as circulated.
  2. DC will arrange for the agreed minutes of the April 2023, June 2023 and August 2023 meetings to be uploaded to the Club’s website.

Membership Update

CE reported that the Club currently had 254 members.

Social Events

* 1. It was that the Club’s London Marathon draw would take place on 03 October 2023 at the Club’s regular “first of the month” social, with DC and TA to preside over the draw.
  2. The following matters were discussed and agreed in respect of the draw:
     1. a member (**EB**) who had somehow been missed out of the draw last year would be entered twice in this year’s draw; and
     2. those who had led a sufficient number of Club sessions in the last year would be entered twice in this year’s draw – the exact threshold would be confirmed following review of the Club’s group leading spreadsheet.
  3. It was noted that the “first of the month” social could be advertised more, although it was being reasonably well attended.
  4. TA reported on behalf of GR that the Club’s trip to the Antrim Half Marathon had been successful and enjoyed by all participants with the intention of repeating it in future years and it was further noted that it would good for one of the participants to write a blog about their experience to encourage others to take part.
  5. TA also noted that GR was proposing to organise a board games evening as a social (which may have some associated costs).
  6. TA noted that Hyde Park Book Club had expressed interest in collaborating with the Club for future events and XP noted that Hyde Park Picture House had done the same.
  7. It was noted that the Club would hold its usual social following the Abbey Dash.
  8. Discussion of the Club’s Christmas party was deferred until KK could join the meeting (discussed in more detail in minute 13 below).

Volunteering

CL reported that the Club had had good attendance at the Vale of York races and he would confirm the exact numbers with Race Best for the purposes of the rebate relating to the Summer Mile costs.

Club Competitions/Championships

* 1. LG reported that all league tables were up-to-date (save to the races occurring on the day of the meeting).
  2. It was noted that JS and XP would attend the PECO annual general meeting on 11 September 2023 and would report back at the next meeting of the Committee.
  3. The Committee agreed that the Club would liaise with Rothwell Harriers regarding the hosting of the relevant PECO race and that, ideally, it would be agreed that both clubs would share the financial benefit of hosting equally each year (notwithstanding that the clubs would be alternating as “senior” and “junior” partners) so that there was less disparity in the Club’s finances each year.
  4. The Committee further noted it would be good to invite applications for the roles of PECO captains well in advance of the PECO season beginning and specifically noted the following:
     1. LG would write a short post on her experiences as a captain to encourage applicants; and
     2. the Club would look to resolve the issues around the gazebo, which was frequently cited as a concern for potential captains.
  5. TA reported that he had received an email from UK Athletics regarding a consultation for their competition rules but it was noted that the rule changes related either to under-18 competition, which was not relevant to the Club, or to the impending devolution of UK Athletics to the four Home Nations Athletics Organisations, which would not impact on the Club in any significant way and accordingly it was agreed that the Club would not provide input to the consultation process.

Relays

* 1. The Committee noted that the Club had performed very well at the Leeds Country Way Relay, despite several late notice changes to the participants.
  2. The Committee noted its thanks to all the members who had assisted in organising and facilitating at the Leeds Country Way Relay and it was agreed that it would always be best for the organising work to be undertaken by a team (rather than any one person) wherever possible.
  3. The Committee agreed that, for future relays, any member who originally confirmed they intended to participate would be required to refund the club for the entry fee in the race – in the event that they are not able to attend, the relevant member will need to agree reimbursement with their replacement.
  4. It was noted that certain other clubs subsidise entry into relay races, but the Committee agreed that cost was not usually cited as a barrier to participation.
  5. JS noted that he had not yet created the page for the Club’s website on relays, but he still intended to do so.

Club Standards

* 1. TA advised that there was nothing to report.
  2. DC will arrange for the Club’s updated constitutional documents (as approved at the August 2023 meeting) to be uploaded to the Club’s website.

Sessions

* 1. GR has now published the first of the group leader blogs, which will continue to be published on the first Wednesday of each month, and it was noted that it would good for these to be shared onto the Club’s Instagram account for extra publicity.
  2. The Committee discussed Group 1 and noted that the Club would begin offering “Group 1.5” to be led by a member (**SP**) throughout September, capped at 10 participants. These sessions would be reviewed at the next meeting of the Committee.
  3. The Committee noted that the Kirkstall Hills sessions would commence again on Thursday 14 September and it was very important that the concerns of members regarding the potential for participants to be isolated be monitored and addressed – this would be flagged to all leaders taking the Kirkstall Hills session.
  4. It was noted that one leader (**KL**) was happy to lead the session most weeks (including the weeks in which it would not be formally offered by the Club). It was agreed that these “unofficial” sessions were appreciated and would remain “unofficial” unless demand from participants required re-evaluation.

Events

* 1. It was noted that the Club would be providing volunteers for a takeover event at Woodhouse Moor parkrun on 21 October.
  2. It was noted that preliminary conversations were progressing regarding a Club trip in 2024, with destination, travel and accommodation options to be confirmed.
  3. The Club noted its thanks in respect of:
     1. the relevant members (GR and **JM** especially) for arranging and co-ordinating the Club’s Antrim trip; and
     2. the relevant member (**JP**) for organising the upcoming Club trip to the Skyline Festival in the Highlands.

Welfare

CL advised that there was nothing to report.

Finance Update

KK reported that:

* 1. the majority of relay race entry costs had been recouped from the relevant members;
  2. KK intended to discuss the costs and associated financial matters relating to the Summer Mile event with JS and it was agreed that it may be helpful for KK to attend the Summer Mile planning meeting for 2024;
  3. KK had been appointed as the primary user on the Club’s bank account, which would make administration of the account much more efficient;
  4. KK was looking into updating the individuals associated with the bank account to reflect the current officers of the Club (being KK, AR-Y, CE and TA);
  5. KK had been in touch with England Athletics regarding AR-Y’s coaching voucher to see if it could be refunded/extended but not yet had a confirmation due to summer holidays; and
  6. in respect of leading/coaching vouchers which were due to expire in the next few months, there were not a considerable number and KK was continuing to check the position regarding deferrals or similar with UK Athletics.

Any Other Business

* 1. TA noted that he had been forwarded an email from Northern Athletics regarding participating in their competitions and the Committee agreed that the cost (£2 per Club member) and the limited demand from members meant that this was not something the Club intended to pursue.
  2. TA reminded the Committee of the email regarding accepting new terms and conditions from England Athletics, which would be sent to all of the Club’s officers and qualified leaders. TA has diarised to check whether any of the Club’s leaders would be suspended on the Club’s portal if they had not accepted the new terms and conditions by 01 October 2023.
  3. AR-Y noted that she would having her baby within the next few weeks and accordingly the Committee would pick up whatever was needed in her absence.
  4. CE reported that she had arranged a discount with Sweaty Betty in Leeds, who would offer 20% off to all Club members and 30% for leaders in September and October, details of which would be included in the Club’s round-up email.
  5. AR-Y reported that North Brewing would be happy to prepare a Hyde Park Harriers beer, which effectively be one of their “standard” range but with the Club’s branding on the label – this could be progressed once a decision was reached regarding quantity.
  6. KK reported on the discussions of the Club’s social committee as follows:
     1. it was noted that one member in particular (**PS**) had done a lot of the work on this and the Committee noted its thanks; and
     2. the two main options that had been identified were:
        1. Springwell, which would require a £2,500 minimum spend on food and drinks and a capacity which was to be confirmed; and
        2. Mad Fran’s, which would require a £2,600 minimum spend, with a fixed £16 per person for a buffet.
  7. The Committee discussed the options and it was generally agreed that Springwell would be preferable given the Club’s close links with North Brewing, although the concerns of some members regarding Springwell’s distance from Leeds city centre were noted. It was noted that Springwell appeared to be flexible on dates and capacity, which was also helpful.

Future Meetings

TA will arrange a poll on the Committee’s Facebook page to determine the date of the next meeting, which would likely be towards the end of October.

Close of Meeting

* 1. There being no further business, the meeting was closed.
  2. TA will circulate a draft of the minutes and action points as soon as practicable following the meeting.