

HYDE PARK HARRIERS

Minutes of a meeting of the committee (the **Committee**) of Hyde Park Harriers (the **Club**) duly held and convened at the Edge on Sunday 10 December 2023 at 5pm.

Present:	Amy Ramsden-Young	(AR-Y – Chair)
	Clare Evans	(CE – Membership Secretary)
	Curtis Ledger	(CL – Committee Member)
	Grace Roberts	(GR – Committee Member)
	Jonathan Spain	(JS – Committee Member)
	Katherine Kirkham (from minute 8)	(KK – Club Treasurer)
	Laura Garratt	(LG – Committee Member)
	Richard Garratt	(RG – Committee Member)
	Toby Adkins	(TA – Club Secretary)
Apologies:	Danny Clayton	(DC – Committee Member)
	Xeni Perry	(XP – Committee Member)

1 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.

2 Previous Meeting Minutes

2.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Committee on 29 October 2023 were approved as circulated (subject to AR-Y's comments shared by email on 01 December 2023) and will be uploaded to the Club's website.

2.2 It was noted that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee on 10 September 2023 would also be uploaded to the Club's website.

3 Membership Update

CE reported that the Club currently had 276 members, with two pending membership applications which would be processed in January 2024 for extended membership.

4 Social Events

- 4.1 In relation to the Club's Christmas party on Friday 15 December, the following was noted:
- 4.1.1 112 tickets had been sold, which would go a long way towards meeting the minimum spend requirements of the booking;
 - 4.1.2 the logistics of arranging the drinks and food included within the ticket price were being dealt with via the social committee and it was anticipated the venue would also have suggestions on how best to do this;
 - 4.1.3 the Club has the venue from 5pm, with members invited to arrive from 6pm;
 - 4.1.4 the Club's beers were likely to be available for collection on the day of the party – AR-Y will co-ordinate; and
 - 4.1.5 the Club's thanks was expressed to the social committee and in particular the member (PS) who had worked extremely hard to make the necessary arrangements.
- 4.2 GR advised that she was continuing to make progress with the board games evening socials and had found a potential option that was more financially viable – a further update will be provided in January.
- 4.3 AR-Y proposed to arrange a kit swap evening in early 2024, potentially combined with a physio evening, at Hyde Park Book Club – TA will provide AR-Y with the contact details for booking space with Hyde Park Book Club, who have indicated they are keen to collaborate with the Club.
- 4.4 TA advised that he was still intending to arrange a social in early 2024 and will provide an update at the next meeting.
- 4.5 The Committee noted that LURGY Challenge #30 would be taking place on Wednesday 20 December and should be promoted using the Club's social media where possible.

5 Volunteering

- 5.1 CL reported that he was still seeking confirmation of the volunteering numbers with EvenSplits/RaceBest and the associated rebate on the Summer Mile costs.
- 5.2 The Committee discussed how best to recognise the contributions of volunteers (both at PECO and otherwise) including:
- 5.2.1 whether volunteers should be given an extra drinks token at the Christmas party – it was decided that this would be difficult to implement (i.e. thresholds) and most volunteers were helping because they wanted to, rather than for reward;
 - 5.2.2 if it would be possible to capture the names of run leaders in the weekly round-up (similarly to how parkrun captures the names of volunteers each week) – it was decided this would add an unnecessary extra level of administration and complexity; and
 - 5.2.3 listing the names of the PECO volunteers in the Christmas email by way of thank you – CL will provide the confirmed list to AR-Y.
- 5.3 JS and CL noted that they were in the early stages of preparing for the 2024 Summer Mile event,

including confirming a date. It was noted that it would be helpful to have some additional members join the organising committee – ideally, they would be highly motivated and energised about the organising process (including selling tickets and finding potential sponsors).

- 5.4 CL noted that the Club had developed a strong relationship with the Eventeer team in relation to the Jane Tomlinson Run For All events as a result of the number and commitment of volunteers that the Club has provided for their events – the Eventeers have donated a large number of gels to the Club as a result and were very keen to work with us on future events.
- 5.5 CL will review the likely dates for Club volunteering in 2024 and confirm to the Committee at the next meeting.

6 Club Competitions/Championships

- 6.1 The Committee noted that a provisional list of races had been pulled together and suggestions were being offered by the Club's members – it was decided that the list would be reviewed and the races confirmed at the next meeting of the Committee and, in the meantime, the Committee would continue to canvass suggestions from the Club.
- 6.2 The Committee discussed the parkrun championships and it was decided that, with effect from the 2024 season, these would require self-submission from members who wanted to take part – they would be required to send in their best time from the relevant run. This would drastically reduce the amount of administration of the championship. It was noted that a degree of common sense would be required from both the Committee and members regarding submissions – a member accidentally missing the deadline for submission should not be penalised, but equally it would not be acceptable to provide months' worth of results.
- 6.3 It was noted that the Club continues to take its lead from UKA regarding gender in its championships and would continue to do so.
- 6.4 LG and CE reported that all league tables were up-to-date and the Committee expressed its thanks to both for all their hard work in maintaining the results and league tables.

7 Club Standards

TA reported that:

- 7.1 he had submitted ballots for the UKA elections as discussed on the Committee's Facebook page; and
- 7.2 the Club's GDPR policy would be updated at the next review to include a statement that the Committee may deputise individuals to process data on the Committee's behalf (particularly in relation to championship result processing) but any such deputies would be required to adhere to the same data processing standards as the Committee themselves.

8 Sessions

- 8.1 LG noted that many groups were struggling to find leaders, often requiring "regular" leaders to step up at the last moment. The Committee discussed the issue as follows:
 - 8.1.1 group leaders should keep an eye out for opportunities to get new leaders involved;
 - 8.1.2 another group leading session would be held in early 2024 to encourage leaders to get

involved and discuss any barriers to leading; and

- 8.1.3 if a group did not have a leader, it would need to be cancelled – if this happens, it may give potential leaders the motivation they need to get involved.
- 8.2 The Committee then discussed proposed changes to the Club's Tuesday night run groups as set out in JS's proposals and the following points were noted:
 - 8.2.1 the proposed new structure seemed very sensible but did involve the permanent institution of 12 groups – the Club currently operates around this number, but there is more flexibility with "A" and "B" variations which do not need to operate if numbers are lower if any given week;
 - 8.2.2 the Club would trial the new groups throughout January 2024 – given that there were a number of Club assets that would need to be updated (i.e. website, leading guides, etc), it seemed sensible to ensure the new proposals worked before undertaking to do so;
 - 8.2.3 the new group structures would be notified to members as follows:
 - a) GR will post in the Club's group leading Facebook page to give leaders advance notice of the changes;
 - b) AR-Y will mention the changes in the Club's Christmas round-up email;
 - c) TA will send an email on 28 December 2023 (instead of the usual weekly round-up) with details of the changes for all members;
 - d) Spond will be updated for January 2024;
 - e) all Committee members will raise awareness of the changes over the coming month; and
 - f) the first session in January (on 02 January 2024) will involve a briefing to explain the changes and leaders will be asked to ensure their participants understand which group they have signed up to and the relevant pace; and
 - 8.2.4 the Committee thanked JS for his hard work in coming up with the new group structure proposals.
- 8.3 LG noted that it would be helpful to update the Club's library of potential routes for Groups 1 and 2 – GR advised she would pick this up.
- 8.4 The Committee noted that the issue regarding members using the front entrance to the Edge facilities appeared to have been resolved, with thanks to GR and CE for policing this over the last few weeks.
- 8.5 The Committee noted the feedback to the changes to the Kirkstall Hills session and it was agreed that the structured sessions provided by the relevant member (**JP**) were well-received, beneficial to participants and resolved many of the issues with the usual format of the session (i.e. reduced risk of participants being isolated over the route, etc). The key issue was encouraging participants to ensure they have read the Spond description to know what type of session they have signed up for.

8.6 CE advised that she had confirmed with the Edge that it will be open for the last run before Christmas (on Tuesday 19 December 2023) and the first run in the new year (on Tuesday 02 January 2024).

8.7 JS advised that he was intending to restart the Sunday long run sessions for those training for marathons.

9 Welfare

CL advised that there was nothing to report.

10 PECO

10.1 The Committee noted that the fourth races in the series would not be held at Wetherby (as previously suggested) but would instead be held at Middleton Woods – the PECO captains were aware of this.

10.2 It was also noted that the PECO socials were well-attended and the PECO captains would continue to take the lead in arranging these.

11 Finance Update

KK reported that:

11.1 having reviewed the Club's finances, the Club could absorb the £50 increase in club registration fees without recourse to members and that the increase in membership registration fees would be passed on to members on a pound-for-pound basis;

11.2 in relation to the coaching vouchers which were due to expire in the next few months, each of the relevant individuals had now progressed this and were in the process of booking their sessions – AR-Y will seek to defer hers;

11.3 the Club bobble hats had been ordered and paid for – KK will confirm and liaise with the Committee regarding confirmation of who has received their order;

11.4 KK is continuing to liaise with HSBC regarding the mandates for the Club's bank accounts and will need to speak to the bank in person to resolve, which she intends to do before the next meeting of the Committee;

11.5 the Club's financial position is generally as expected, with a boost provided by new memberships from those intending to take part in PECO; and

11.6 KK will be involved in the Summer Mile discussions to assist with budgeting (given the lumpy nature of expenditure in respect of the Summer Mile over the long term).

12 Any Other Business

12.1 AR-Y proposed the following dates for events in 2024 and will look into potential venues:

12.1.1 the Club's Awards Night on Friday 12 April 2024; and

12.1.2 the Club's Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 07 May 2024.

- 12.2 AR-Y noted the email received from a member (**TR**) regarding the potential for morning run sessions – the Committee agreed that the Club offered sufficient formal sessions, but members were very welcome to post their own plans and co-ordinate with each other to hold informal sessions as they saw fit.
- 12.3 In relation to the Woodhouse Moor markets, AR-Y advised that she had replied to indicate the Club would be happy to be involved and was awaiting a response. It was agreed that it would be best to host a stall during warmer weather and potentially to tie-in with promotion of the Summer Mile.
- 12.4 The Committee briefly discussed the Club’s London Marathon ballot places and it was decided that, given the intention of the ballot was to give opportunities to run the race to people who might otherwise not get the chance, the rules of the ballot be changed to state that winners of previous ballots will not be able to participate in future ballots.

13 Future Meetings

TA proposed that the next meeting of the Committee be held remotely at 6pm on Sunday 21 January 2024, which will be confirmed in due course.

14 Close of Meeting

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