

HYDE PARK HARRIERS

Minutes of a meeting of the committee (the **Committee**) of Hyde Park Harriers (the **Club**) duly held and convened by teleconference on Sunday 28 April 2024 at 6pm.

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

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee on 24 March 2024 were approved as circulated and will be uploaded to the Club's website.

3 Membership Update

- 3.1 CE reported that the Club currently had 218 first claim members, which was one less than the same stage last year.
- 3.2 The Committee discussed a change in approach of purchasing club vests – it was decided that the Club would shift to ordering as and when required, rather than in bulk. This would avoid the Club stockpiling kit and potentially holding obsolete items (e.g. the older style of vests which were being updated by Fastrax). There would be a minor cost consequence of ordering on

demand and therefore the cost of items would be slightly increased accordingly. The Club would no longer require members to automatically purchase a club vest on joining but members would be encouraged to do so and reminded that they needed to wear club colours when entering races as a member of the Club. The Club will also maintain a small holding of the most common vest sizes to reduce delays in distribution to new members.

4 Finance Update

- 4.1 KK shared details of the Club's finances which would form the basis of her presentation at the Annual General Meeting (**AGM**). It was noted that the Club held a healthy and sensible level of cash and was not encountering any cashflow issues.
- 4.2 It was noted and discussed that the Summer Mile had generated a small profit for the Club but is not, as a rule, a significant source of income. It was noted that there may be ways of reducing spending (i.e. potentially replacing physical trophies with virtual records). KK will include discussion of the Summer Mile as part of her report at the AGM. It was further suggested that, with JS stepping down from the Committee, it may be helpful for another member of the Committee to join the Summer Mile discussion group – KK would be the obvious candidate given the relevance of income/expenditure to the event.
- 4.3 It was noted that the Club's England Athletics club affiliation fee had been paid.

5 Social Events

- 5.1 The Committee noted its thanks to the social committee and specifically the member (**PS**) who had arranged the Club's Awards Evening, which had been very successful.
- 5.2 AR-Y noted that she had paid a £50 tip to the staff at Springwell following the Awards Evening and it was agreed that this would be reimbursed by the Club.
- 5.3 AR-Y also noted that the Club's regular contact at North was leaving her role – she had been a very helpful liaison with the Club.
- 5.4 It was noted that upcoming social events would include post-race socials following the Leeds Marathon and Half and the Calderdale Way Relay.

6 Annual General Meeting

- 6.1 AR-Y updated the Committee on the status of preparations for the AGM:
 - 6.1.1 the event will start at 7pm at the New Headingley Club;
 - 6.1.2 DC and AR-Y will liaise to arrange pizza, for which attendees will be asked to contribute towards the cost;
 - 6.1.3 there will be elections at the AGM for the Training & Development Lead and Social Media & Communications Lead roles and (depending on the outcome of the aforementioned elections) for the ordinary committee member roles – this will be administered by paper ballots at the outset of the AGM and will be counted by CL along with an independent member of the Club;
 - 6.1.4 as TA will be appointed as Chair but is also serving as Club Secretary, AR-Y will co-chair the AGM with TA, with TA taking the minutes; and

6.1.5 the various slides and sections of the AGM presentation will need to be completed by the relevant Committee members in advance of the AGM.

6.2 TA advised that, following the AGM, he would arrange an initial meeting of the new Committee and would invite all existing Committee members to facilitate a handover. The new Committee will reallocate all existing general roles (i.e. the round-up email, Spond, etc). TA asked that all members, especially those stepping down, think about the jobs they do for the Club so that they can be handed over smoothly.

7 Volunteering

7.1 CL noted that:

7.1.1 he had posted to promote the volunteering opportunity at the Leeds Marathon and Half Marathon – there is no minimum number of volunteers required, but the more the Club is able to provide, the more free spaces at future races will be provided by RunforAll. Those volunteering will need to obtain accreditation to access the stadium and also apply for parking spaces if required. The Committee will remind the Club to get involved in the event during the pre-run briefing on Tuesday nights and at the AGM; and

7.1.2 recruitment of volunteers for the Summer Mile had also begun.

7.2 The Committee noted its thanks to TA for organising the Woodhouse Moor parkrun volunteering takeover and TA noted his thanks to all the Club members who assisted. It was recognised that the event was particularly busy, potentially due to runners being inspired by the London Marathon, and therefore a good opportunity to advertise the Summer Mile at a similar time in future years.

8 Summer Mile

It was noted that preparations were now underway and further updates would be provided at future meetings – JS will be invited to join the meetings to update as the obvious liaison with the Committee, notwithstanding him stepping down as formal member of the Committee.

9 Club Competitions/Championships

9.1 The Committee noted that the links to the championship tables on the Club's website will be updated to the 2024/2025 iterations in due course and CE will share the updated Club membership list to allow the collation of the age-graded championship results.

9.2 The Committee discussed the parkrun championships and the proposal to make it simpler to track, potentially by way of opt-in. It was decided that, with the removal of the "best run at Woodhouse Moor at any time of year" element, the results have become much easier to track and therefore no formal opt-in would be necessary. The Committee will only track the results of those members who are obviously participating in the championship (i.e. those who do the specific parkruns during the first three/four months of the championship season). Anyone wishing to take part after this will need to expressly inform the Committee. This will be communicated to the Club's members alongside the April results.

10 Relays

10.1 It was noted that the Club's two teams were now entered for the Calderdale Way Relay and preparing for the day of the race – the relevant organising members continued to do an

excellent job. CE will liaise with them to ensure key details, such as the necessary race disclaimers and lists are covered. AR-Y suggested it would be good for photos from recces and the race itself to be shared in the main Club Facebook page to promote involvement.

10.2 It was noted that the Golden Acre Relay race was now open and the Committee would promote entries and organising teams.

10.3 It was further noted that the Leeds Country Way Relay race now had a confirmed date and the Committee noted that the Club would commence organising teams once the Calderdale Way Relay had occurred.

11 Club Standards

TA reported that there were no updates.

12 Sessions

The Committee noted that sessions generally seemed to be operating well, although it continued to be an uphill battle to recruit leaders well in advance of sessions.

13 Welfare

CL reported on one welfare issue relating to a member who had chosen not to renew their membership. It was noted that the Committee had swiftly responded to clarify the Club's position on the relevant matter and it was not anticipated that there would be further escalation. However, the Committee would endeavour to learn and improve from the episode in question.

14 Any Other Business

14.1 GR reported that the Track Day organised in 2022 and 2023 had had varying degrees of success, largely dependent on the weather. She noted that there had been significant positive feedback to the various shorter track distance races and accordingly there would be appetite for a more varied set of events, akin to a sports day. GR will progress with this, starting with identifying a suitable date when the Club can have access to the Leeds Beckett athletics track.

14.2 TA asked to clarify the Committee's approach to requests to join the closed Club Facebook group – it was established that, if an applicant has not answered the questions and agreed to abide by the community rules, they will be denied access with feedback to meet these requirements.

14.3 AR-Y advised that a member had asked to be supported by the Club in undertaking a Coach in Running Fitness qualification. It was decided that, in principle, this would be encouraged subject to the member completing the relevant application form and with input from the Training & Development Lead once appointed.

14.4 AR-Y advised that she was intending to add a description for the President role (i.e. as adviser and consultant to the Committee in general) to the Club website, along with a description of the role requirements (i.e. having served on the Committee and with a wider and deep experience of Club matters).

14.5 AR-Y advised that she was arranging an evening with a nutrition specialist for members to attend at the Edge on 04 June 2024 – further details will be provided in due course.

- 14.6 AR-Y advised that the HPH Triathlon Club were currently seeking a new chair and it would be a good opportunity to synchronise communications with the Club, with particular input from the Training & Development Lead and Social Media & Communications Lead.
- 14.7 CL advised that he will arrange polls for the Harrier of the Month decisions for March and April 2024, which will be published as a joint blog.
- 14.8 TA advised that he is liaising with a club member (AA) to arrange a potential memorial event for Rolf Neugebauer at Woodhouse Moor, celebrating his role as a parkrun timekeeper, likely to take place during the summer.

15 Future Meetings

TA will arrange the next meeting of the Committee, which will follow the AGM.

16 Close of Meeting

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