

HYDE PARK HARRIERS

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

SUNDAY 19 JANUARY 2025 AT 6PM

<https://meet.google.com/xsw-fham-www>

Present:	Toby Adkins	(TA – Chair)
	Bethany Chambers	(BC – Committee Member)
	Clare Evans	(CE – Membership Secretary)
	Ed Shakespeare	(ES – Committee Member)
	Ellie Williams	(EW – Committee Member)
	Grace Roberts	(GR – Club Secretary)
	Richard Garratt	(RG – Committee Member)
	Sam Hadfield	(SH – Social Media and Communications Lead)
	Katherine Kirkham	(KK – Club Treasurer)
	Curtis Ledger (up to point 12.2)	(CL – Committee Member)
Apologies:	Sharon Nahal	(SN – Committee Member)
	Honor Baldry	(HB – Coaching and Development Lead)

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 Minutes – All

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee on 01 December 2024 were approved as circulated and will be uploaded to the Club's website.

3 Sessions and Coaching

3.1 TA reported updates from HB (in HB absence) – HB uploaded a video on the Club's FaceBook

page explaining coaching developments for 2025 to members

- 3.2 Coaching applications (LiRF and CiRF) all spaces now allocated. **Action point - KK** to reimburse members payments for these once requested.
- 3.3 Other members with CiRF are offering training/support: CM is providing at-home strength workouts, LR is providing marathon training plans.
- 3.4 Beckett Track cancellations due to weather – the committee was happy with recent communications. It was noted that it is best to cancel sessions a day in advance where possible to allow members to rearrange any plans with plenty of notice.
- 3.5 It was noted that Tuesday sessions are growing in numbers with a large number of new runners who may not know group running etiquette. **Action point – GR** to post in both group leaders and main HPH Facebook groups with reminders about group etiquette (signalling, messages etc), navigating road crossings and tips on managing larger groups.
- 3.6 Headtorch runs – currently there is moderate interest in these with CB and DS leading next session at Roundhay. February will be Ilkley Moor CE offered doing an Armley/Bramley potentially March. **TA to add CE to headtorch leaders group.**
- 3.7 Couch to 5K sessions – NA had a few runners join for the first session on Tuesday – with interest building.

4 PECO – All

- 4.1 The Committee would like to thank the volunteers for their efforts at Middleton PECO particularly NA for race directing. All reports indicate it went very well, with notes from previous hosting years proving very useful. These are stored in the Club's Googledrive for future years.
- 4.2 Stockfield PECO has been rearranged due to weather – all captains are informed.

5 Membership – Clare Evans

- 5.1 CE reported the Club has 270 members at present, which is similar to this time last year. Currently, 1 pending transfer from Scottish athletics – noted that this was a difficult process as Scottish Athletics is separate from England Athletics.
- 5.2 CE reported that she will be on holiday during the first week of membership renewals and will arrange renewal information email prior to holiday and will process membership renewals/applications upon her return. **Action point – All committee** to support replying to membership queries during this time.
- 5.3 SH raised the possibility of automating membership emails. CE reported that there is usually normally one email sent to inform members when membership is open alongside a Facebook post, and a reminder email half way through March. **SH to think and make suggestions to improve – e.g. benefits of being a member.**
- 5.4 London marathon ballot:
 - 5.4.1 Both entrants have claimed their places for 2025. Both entrants have reported potentially needing to defer – due to the process, this is the responsibility of the runners nearer the time of the race. One of the Club's ballot winners from 2024 deferred to 2025, unclear

whether the member is running in the 2025 race. **Action point – CE** to check in with this member.

5.4.2 TA raised the need to re-word the Club's current ballot policy – current policy suggests the place will be re-balloted if runner is injured.

5.4.3 CE noted LM's deferral policy is very time generous.

5.4.4 EW pointed out the risk of club places not being used.

5.4.5 ES suggested just having the option there for anyone selected in the club ballot but who can no longer run, to let a re-draw happen.

5.4.6 ES noted that the policy needs to be worded that no one feels under pressure to run it.

5.4.7 **Action point - TA** to produce draft policy to discuss at next meeting

6 Finance – Katherine Kirkham

6.1 KK reports the Club currently has a healthy bank balance and is putting together a summary for the AGM.

6.2 Croptops – KK reported all member have paid except three:

6.2.1 Two members have not paid but have received their items from FB (AW and LL).

6.2.2 One member has not paid but also not received their top (LJW).

6.2.3 CE has communicated this information to FB. **Action point - TA** to check-in with FB with regards to these points.

6.3 Christmas party finances:

6.3.1 KK reported that the Club has not yet received the deposit back from the venue.

6.3.2 Assuming the deposit is returned, the Club subsidised the event to ~£170 (partially due to last minute food vendor changes).

6.3.3 **KK to chase up with Paul Sawyer (PS) whether we get this deposit returned.**

6.4 KK raised that no money has been received this year from Run For all/Eventees – **Action point - CL** to check with RFA if we are missing payment. Unclear whether 'goody bags' were given in place of payment this year due to volunteer numbers the Club provided.

6.5 KK reported that the Yorkshire Vets association fee has been paid for the Club.

6.6 LiRFs/CiRFs – KK responding to members claiming back their course cost when contacted by members. £1000 has been allocated in the budget for coaching licences.

6.7 TA raised that an email from IONOS containing an invoice for website had been received – KK confirmed this is paid by direct debit.

7 Communications – Sam Hadfield

- 7.1 SH reported drafting a blog to inform members of changes to the way we communicate in response to the planned communication changes. All in agreement SH to share to members.
- 7.2 Discussion was had as to changing the regular day to send the Club's newsletter:
 - 7.2.1 In addition to the previous suggestion of Sunday evening, SH also suggested Monday night due to it being pre-run club. This was generally agreed to be a logical date but queries over the time needed by The Committee to generate the roundup email.
 - 7.2.2 It was also raised that Sunday evening may miss some race achievements over the weekend. TA noted that the part of the chair's blog purpose is to celebrate members' achievements. When to change date?
 - 7.2.3 SH suggested changing the day of the email in March after new membership – this would allow The Committee to get used to the new spreadsheet first (replacing current use of the Keepnotes app).
 - 7.2.4 **Action point - SH** to setup a separate newsletter team meeting to go through specifics of new format & to update the comms planner.
- 7.3 Club promo video – no further developments to report. **Action point – SH** to investigate when time allows
- 7.4 Social media updated policy – GR drafted additional paragraph, all in agreement on wording. **Action point - GR** to add the new paragraph to policy.

8 Volunteering – Curtis Ledger

- 8.1 Leeds Marathon volunteering 2025 – CL to meet with RFA shortly. Will ask about options for location etc. and report back to the committee
- 8.2 VoY volunteers confirmed to RaceBest? – **Action point - CL to contact with MH**, KK confirmed no payment into club accounts from this.
- 8.3 HPH parkrun takeover at WHM – TA noted the Club hasn't done a parkrun takeover for a while, **Action point - TA** to suggest to the WHM parkrun ED team. It was suggested that March would be good timing for new membership.
- 8.4 Leeds Ironman volunteering – CB (Tri Club Secretary) is organising a team of volunteers. TA reported that it was agreed that the money from this would go to the Tri club.

9 Welfare – Curtis Ledger

- 9.1 CL reported there is an ongoing issue being dealt with.
- 9.2 Co-ordination with tri club welfare:
 - 9.2.1 CL reported being in contact with GM (Graeme Miles) at the tri club.
 - 9.2.2 It was suggested that the HPH welfare email is used for both clubs. CL proposes rather than giving Tri club direct access, any tri-club related issues would be forwarded to Tri club. Several points were raised as to the suitability of this – especially concerning confidentiality. It was decided that it would be appropriate to set up a separate email

address for Tri-club welfare. **Action point – TA** to create a separate email address for Tri Club welfare and contact welfare officer at the Tri club to arrange this.

9.2.3 It was queried what welfare policies were in place at the Tri club – **Action point - TA & CL** to liaise with Tri club to establish a protocol for when matters are raised which may cross over both the Club and the Tri Club.

10 Club Competitions/Championships – All

10.1 It was noted that TNT has been rearranged due to weather, but will still be part of the Club Champs. **Action point - CE** to inform members of this.

10.2 Awards evening –proposed date 11th April 2025. **Action Point - All** to think about possible venue and awards.

10.3 Veterans’ club records – TA reported this is now live on the Club’s website.

10.4 YVAA membership payment – confirmed as detailed in point 6.5.

10.5 Race selection for 25/26 – Committee to decide on races for the 2025/26 season, **Action point – ES to look at fell races, CE – to look at road races, RG- to look at off-road.**

10.6 EW shared their ideas for a new format for the championships:

10.6.1 Suggested having a separate Summer and Winter champs. Each would include 5 road and 5 off road races.

10.6.2 For this new format, it was suggested to just have 1 division

10.6.3 The fell champs would be kept separate due to the specific nature of these races.

10.6.4 The majority of the committee were in favour of this new format. **Action point – EW to lead on developing this new format for the 25/26 season.**

10.7 CE shared a mock up of the current champs if all were combined to 1 division:

10.7.1 It demonstrated that changing parkrun champs to best of 9 or 10 out of 12 parkruns would not induce a huge change to the current results, but could make it more competitive. It was raised that parkrun champs in current format (12) increases regular participation, but changes proposed to account for injury/illness

10.7.2 It was raised that proposed changes may reduce participation, especially for newer participants. To address this, GR suggested a small prize for runner who attend all 12 parkrun events or having ‘bonus points.’ **Action point – all** to consider this for next meeting.

10.7.3 Combining into one division induced a lot of change into road and off road champs. It was suggested to introduce a prize for either most improved, or highest ranking new member.

11 Club Standards – Grace Roberts

11.1 GR reported that club standards are now back to 7/7 on EA portal due to members’ LiRF

renewals coming through on the system.

- 11.2 GR reported contacting EA as to the time scale of renewal process once paperwork had been completed. The answer was variable. To prevent long delays, **Action point - GR** to do regular checks (monthly) to pre-empt when licences will expire and encourage relevant members to start the renewal process.

12 Social Events – All

- 12.1 Christmas party – the Club would like to thank Paul Sawyer, the social committee and KK for their efforts organising the Christmas party.
- 12.2 TA noted that Springwell is now closed – the Club needs to consider what other venues we can use. **EW to post on Facebook group for venue suggestions.**
- 12.3 Rich Cartright suggested a club trip to see Leeds Rhinos as there is a discount available for group bookings. **Action point – TA** contact RC to encourage this social event.

13 Any Other Business – All

- 13.1 Billy Bland recces – RG reported several recces planned. RG will communicate the minimum acceptable kit required to participate and will be doing kit checks to ensure safety of runners.
- 13.2 AGM date – TA noted the AGM should be held on a Tues to encourage participation – suggesting either 6th or 13th May. CE, CL and KK's committee positions are up for renewal. **Action point – All** committee encouraged to think about potential suggestions. Also, if any committee wants to stand down early, to please notify TA prior to the AGM.
- 13.3 Videos at sessions/races – it was raised that some members have been reporting being uncomfortable at photography/filming at sessions or races. The Committee detailed their approach of filming/photography is acceptable at sessions as long as the filming is obvious and there is a channel available for people to opt out of any imagery. The Club / Committee have no remit to prevent people taking images in public spaces.

14 Future Meetings – Grace Roberts

Poll to go out to the Committee for February dates.