Committee Minutes 7th March 2017 at ILTSC

Present: Martin Archer, Abi Bailey, Neil Chapman, Richard Joel, Jane McCarthy, Helen Waddington, Sue Williamson, Shirley Wood – ALSO Gaenor Coy

Apologies: Peter Lewis, Dick Waddington, Hilda Coulsey,

Minutes of February Meeting : Agreed.

PW has updated website for winners for 2016 and added the file re; changes for 2017.

Calendar updated and FB highlighted HDSRL and League counter to be at Dragon’s on 1/6

Upcoming events – Dales Way update from Neil – March not feasible. Neil looking at end June / early July as possibility and will look into this.

HC will aim to refresh the noticeboard in ILTSC, which currently is empty.

**Running the Club**

1. Harrier and Volunteer of the Month

Harrier of Month: Nominations overwhelming for Paul Stephens for completing an excellent 21 Rombald’s Stride, and in very consistent times, year on year. Other nomination Jane McCarthy for 1st lady Rombald’s.

Volunteer: Helen Waddington for providing the HoM summary every month and Steve Weston (and Team) for organising the Ilkley Fell Race.

The Harrier of Month was voted Paul Stephens and Volunteer voted Steve Weston.

1. Fell Race Review: Following a complaint by a member of Friends of Ilkley Moor, Bradford Council had been in touch to notify the Club of the nature of the complaint. Steve Weston has confirmed that he has been in touch with the Council and the tone was very much about working together next year to avoid any further issues. There seems no cause for further concern. Pete Bland will need to ensure they hold a valid licence to sell at the event if they wish to next year. There may be a need to keep the van off the grass – this will be discussed in the planning of IFR 2018.

Val has volunteered to upgrade and manage the first aid box for the Senior Club. The box should also hold some copies of the Accident Log Form which can be printed from the FRA website. Abi Bailey will contact Val to see if she can help provide kit for the first aid box, however Val has this in hand.

1. HDSRL / XC etc…..Gaenor attended the meeting to run through the current and preferred option for simplifying the registration and payment of XC events going forward. This followed the detailed emails from both Gaenor and Andrew Sheldon (the latter discussing HDSRL). Gaenor confirmed that setting up an electronic entry system would be a STRONGLY preferred option to facilitate the organization of XC entries. It was discussed that IDEALLY, the Harriers website would have a link to event entry, along the same lines as set up for the ticket sales of the Awards Do. For XC, this would allow Harriers to enter the WYXC series, the PECO series and Championship (Yorkshire, Northern, Nationals) races using electronic entry and payment. Members would be expected to pay the cost of the Series entered (eg. £12 for WY) – no refunds - but the Club will cover the entry/ payment system admin charges.

Assuming the above can be set up, we would recommend that HDSRL is set up in the same way and propose the same system of runners paying for the races in full (£10 for HDSRL series) with the Club covering entry system charges. Given the recent and in many cases huge inflation in race entry costs, the Committee believe the HDSRL league in particular offers great value for money with food available after each race.

Subsequently it was discussed that Paypal (used for the awards do) on its own isn’t the full solution, however some electronic entry system will be pursued and Gaenor, Andrew and Hilda will do this aiming to set up, preferably with a link from the Harriers website.

With regard to HDSRL, it is still for discussion how to minimize the administrative hassle of distributing numbers. If we can instigate payment and entry on-line, with clear closing dates to enter all five races (and possibly a second and final date for late-comers) we would hope to encourage earlier take-up (we could advertise ‘only 30 places left’, ‘only 20 places left’ etc.. on the website. Numbers to be left at Club on a Tuesday night for collection or held and distributed at the races (Hilda and Val have volunteered).

1. Beginners Group: Most likely to start early May - 2nd or 9th, same arrangements as before, with Jane B coaching. There is interest already. - HC to organise and Petra will do too in the 6 weeks. Propose to continue into Improvers as last year. We retained around 20 as members in Oct. Abi Bailey pointed out the need to think ahead an make sure we have Tuesday night run leaders in place to take these ‘future’ runners once they have (hopefully) been retained by the Club. Abi specifically pointed to the lack of leaders at a ‘steady’ pace, a little quicker than Antonio’s group but not as fast as many of the groups that go out. This remains an ongoing issue – trying to get regular run leaders across the ability groups. Abi will hope to identify possible run leaders - maybe ASKING if people would be willing to lea a group.
2. Membership: We have a small handful of regular attendees that haven't renewed - I’ve mentioned this on Tuesday and I’ll do so again, if necessary. New members keep coming in ‘dribs and drabs’.
3. Juniors; Nothing added by Shirley additional to Facilities Update.

**Developing the Club**

Shirley expanded a little on the update provided in the Notes to Committee Meeting. Committee noted the expectation and hope that Sport England should reply within a month of February 13th as to whether the submission for a 50k grant ticks the relevant boxes an the application can continue. Once this is known, it is hoped that Shirley and the Steering Group can re-present the Facilities plan on 21st March (Tuesday). In the event that the Sport England grant is not forthcoming, the plans can accommodate a re-design to achieve the critical facilities. The proposed 145K investment loan can be launched once various usage agreements have been put in place. Timing of the EGM and presentation to the Senior Club is very important as the timing is fairly tight to dovetail the building works to be commenced by the Football Club in June.

**AOB:** Yorkshire Sports an Outdoor Festival in Ilkley September 2018. It was noted that Shirley and Hilda attended the meeting. We will wait to hear if this concept is to be taken into further planning (probably June 2017) before considering further what our role (Ilkley Harriers) might be.

Next Committee Meeting 4th April 2017 at 8.30pm at ILTSC