

Annual Review 2016-2017 Committee Activity

The Committee as had another busy year continuing the development of the club, providing enjoying our varied training programmes, running of events and various social occasions.

On behalf of the committee and all members I thank all those involved in taking on the roles and tasks of running a successful club and in putting on our activities. We appreciate the significant organisation that is required by those that lead the tasks and also to those who volunteer to help. We are so grateful for all the support you give.

We always need input and help, we need new ideas, life moves on, ways of doing things change and we need to continue to ensure the club represents the views and wants of our members. Please if you are able to volunteer do and help to ensure the club contributes to the enjoyment of us all.

• Members

Numbers of members currently we have 313, of which 302 are first claim, and of these 277 are adults with 26 16-18 years old.

We have a very few members who don't renew quickly but subsequently want instant membership to gain access to a specific race or event and we propose to introduce a cut off date of end December, beyond which Petra won't chase and thereafter deal with renewal or new requests monthly.

• Membership process and fee

Petra Bijsterveld, membership secretary, introduced electronic renewal and payment processes last October and will continue with this for renewals in October. We will consider using an 'entry-central' type system for 2018, your comments with ways of how this might work best are welcome.

We are an affiliated club with England Athletics and our subscriptions include the EA fee which enables insurance and support; for us generally as a club, in putting on events, coach and leaders training and support and for members entering races in all athletics disciplines. Petra enables this by "ticking all the boxes" for each of us.

We appreciate that the information you give us at renewal, and other times, is confidential. A data security policy is in preparation so that committee members are are of their responsibilities.

In 2015 we reviewed and simplified the membership process and reduced total fees from £37 pp to £32. Since then EA have increased their fee by £1 pa i.e. by £2 each now we are in 2017, which we have been able to absorb until this point. We propose to increase our membership fee by £2 from £32 pp to £34 from October 2017. We will keep the same structure and therefore increase the Joint membership category from £56 to £60 pa and the Student fee to the EA fee. The EA fee increases in April 2018 again, probably by another £1 pp and we propose to absorb this as we have done previously.

• Beginners 0-5k and Improvers programme, new members

As last year we started a 6 week 0-5k programme at the beginning of May, with some 40 eager(?) attendees. Jane Bryant competently led the course ensuring considerable fun and accomplishment. Perhaps around 20 will continue through, initially as Improvers with Abi Bailey, and now beginning to be integrated with existing Tuesday groups.

Every month we have some half dozen new people come to try out our sessions and many stay with us so that our membership numbers have stayed similar to last year and the previous year, as members leave to relocate or to other activities. We rely so much on our coaches, Neil, Jane B and Pete and also the many group run leaders for encouragement.

• **Racing and our races**

We successfully organised “our” races; Ilkley Moor Fell Race, Ilkley Trail Race, Badgerstone Relays, Addingham Gala Fell, the Incline, Ilkley Aquathlon. Thank you to all those involved taking the lead and helping. Thank you to all those involved in organising entries, transport etc for the cross countries and road leagues, relays and representative events.

This year we have introduced electronic, 'entry-central', type registration to ease the admin involved in race number allocation as these are becoming increasingly chip timed races (names need to be registered before the day) and as we all get used to doing this anyway for external events.

• **Socials, awards and recognition**

Congratulations to all those who gained international and county recognition, from aged 17 to 70!

Our league programme with 24 races to choose from is well into the year and competition at the top is hotting up, 124 Harriers have completed at least one. If you think there are races we could include suggest to committee members or Jane McCarthy.

Look out for the Christmas social and Annual awards/ social event in January. These were very successful this year and will follow a similar format in the forthcoming months.

We nominate and recognise runners and volunteers each month. Ideas of how we might improve this process and make it more inclusive are welcome. We propose to continue to recognise achievements, but not to continue with the £10 vouchers.

Peter Lewis will continue to edit the magazine, he will always be looking for articles and interesting news items. Alison Weston has provided weekly news items and photos to the Ilkley Gazette. Please continue to send in news reports to the website.

• **EGM and modification to the Constitution**

An EGM was held on 2nd May 2017 and the Constitution was modified to include para 2.e “The club supports the development of local athletics facilities in furtherance of the club’s objectives including, as required, the participation in legal entities set up to provide these.” The Junior section continues to develop the business plan, organisation and funding options for the proposed facilities at Ben Rhydding.

Hilda Coulsey for the Committee