



ILKLEY HARRIERS

Draft Minutes of Committee Meeting held 12th March 2024

1. **Attendees:** Jonathan Turner, Rob Budding, Neil Chapman, Hilda Coulosey, Vince Gibbons, Jeff Green, Nick Kealey, Andrew Overend, Paul Stephens, Jean Sullivan, Dawn Turner, Becky White, Petra Bijsterveld
Apologies: Caroline Tong, Kate Archer

2. **Minutes from last meeting of 9th January 2024 - agreed**

3. **Matters arising**

Harriers race league

The races weren't properly debated at the last meeting but have appeared on the website. Whilst she wasn't querying the choice of races Hilda Coulosey questioned Dan's revised scoring formula which effectively "penalised" those usually runners who scored highly by automatically reducing their points to (the max of) 100 .

HC cited various scenarios where this could and has happened and she felt it was unfair and went against the integrity of the scoring system. The "winner" might actually not be the highest scorer because of this penalty and deduction of points.

JG pointed out that no system is perfect and Dan was trying to tweak the system to prevent a runaway winner. HC suggested using the same scoring as parkrun which has been looked at before.

As the league is in its very early stages and the first scores haven't been calculated JT will speak to Dan and ask about changing the new clause, which is already on the website. It was noted that the league races will need to be published earlier (ie November if possible) next season.

PS suggested we take time to debate this further - we never have done - and go back to Dan and ask him to tweak the scoring system.

JS is thinking about taking over the league from Dan, who has already said he will be stepping down after 3+ years, and will chat to him and Jane McCarthy before deciding.

Dobson & Robson - still waiting for a reply from Duncan re vests.

4. **Membership report**

No updates this meeting - around 400 current members.

Treasurer's report

Bank balance currently £20,548.30

JG will update re CASC next time

Lloyds - can put £10k in a saver account. JG to send a proposal for the committee/officers to decide.

Update from Secretary

Nothing to report this month.

5. **Club admin / database switch**

PB sent a document in advance of the meeting with her suggestions for moving the database for the payment provider from loveadmin to membermojo and to change the membership year to start 1st April. Looked at around 15 clubs to see how they ran their years and which database provider they used
Reasons for moving - Loveadmin are ok but less responsive now, low staffing, don't facilitate credit card payments just paypal and direct debit. DD works fine but can be a bit confusing as it's not a recurring payment. They promised an upgrade which never happened. They plan to charge £50 a month going forwards which doesn't suit us as we don't have a steady income each month.

Membermojo have a better support system, used by LBT - good feedback. PB been in touch and happy with them. They use STRIPE and PAYPAL.

EA was considered but ruled out as PB not totally convinced by their website, echoed by PS and JT.

PB happy to do the work involved in doing the switch. PB can export the database and upload it and set up the forms etc..

Questions: EA option is there a charge? PB not explored but PS thought EA were not a good option - risk is they are too big and membership wouldn't be their priority.

Why should we give members Paypal option as it costs more - some people just go with that option as it's easier and quicker. It's 50p extra - which we should monitor and raise fees if necessary.

Fees for MM - £95 per year up to 500 members plus transaction fees for PAYPAL & STRIPE.

Another advantage, don't need a password to log in.

Timescales - the move to new provider is independent of changing the membership year and can be started asap. PB thought maybe a few weeks and is happy to do this.

Switching the membership year should be straightforward as it's NOT in the constitution but we still need to advise the members of the change.

However, the date of the AGM is in the constitution and when the financial year is - we need to change this formally.

So we need to set our fees in advance of the 2025 renewals.

We will need to have a six month block from end of this year to next April.

Changing the financial year and membership year will make it concurrent with EA's financial year. If someone joins afresh we have to pay twice effectively because we register everyone.

PB also asked that members pay within 2 months rather than 3 - this is in the constitution so it will need amending.

The committee agreed in principal - fine print to be decided - to changing the financial year and membership year.

PB suggested we charge half a year from October to April 2025 and a full year from then on.

Summary of suggested changes:

Move membership year from April 1st to March 31st

Move database and payments to membermojo

Changes to be discussed and approved at the next AGM Sept 2024

Charge for 6 months on Oct 1st and then start new membership year on April 1st 2025

New members joining between April and October 2024 pay pro rata amount to cover time to Oct 1st (plus EA reg fee)

Inc price for student members by £1 above the EA (+NA?) fee or the club subsidies?

Future AGMs to be in March

Move financial year, treasurers help needed with this plus Stripe & PAYPAL accounts

Membership categories - the committee agreed to scrap the joint membership reduced fees (£8 discount) as it is no longer relevant and causes more work for PB. The website will need updating.

Post meeting note from PB:

"Further to Tuesday's meeting I have checked how many of the clubs I have surveyed offer family or joint membership and it's only very few indeed. This reassures me that we are not doing anything unusual in scrapping this.

I have removed the joint categories from the registration form so new members cannot register for joint membership, but the categories remain in existence for the current membership year. Members who are currently joint members will need to pay individually at renewal, so whilst we do not need AGM approval for a change of membership categories it does represent a price increase for those who have been paying for a joint membership, so it seems reasonable to at least inform members at the AGM."

6. Northern Athletics / England Athletics sub group findings

The sub committee produced a detailed report of their findings which was circulated in advance to the meeting.

The conclusions were:

EA - fairly happy with the set up, propose we continue as is.

NA - less happy, costs us over £900 per year (£2 per member) which we have to pay.

PS is going to write to NA expressing our dissatisfaction with the current set up and the costs involved and report back. WYXC also needs clarifying.

JT thanked the group for the work in compiling the report which helped simplify a complex area.

7. Pete Shields 10k update

NC brought the meeting up to speed with the latest updates. Most things are in place - the closed roads approval is the big stumbling point.

The route has changed a new road closure application needs submitting which NC is not worried about.

Martin's Law comes into affect this year - protecting people in public spaces - so the traffic mgmt company proposed parking a vehicle at either end of the course to protect people but this will still leave two routes open.

NC thinks Bfd Council are pointing out this new law as guidance but won't necessarily enforce it.

NC to notify the 300+ runners who did the trail race about the 10k. The race will have to be active on Racebest before we get road closure approval as it will be too late to attract entries.

The minimum number of entries would be 400 to cover the approx £6,000 race costs, we don't want too many entries because of the route - a double circuit out and back.

8. Members' survey feedback

JG circulated a report prior to the meeting. The feedback was useful and as a line in the sand it is something we can work with.

Definite appetite for more social activities, we need a social team setting up. To be discussed.

JG asked re transport for HDSRL but probably not as the entry fees are relatively low.

Summer away runs will hopefully happen again this year.

JS suggests asking someone to take on this role if we could think of a name.

We need a good venue to meet at as a club, say, once a month.

9. Celebration evening feedback

The reaction was overwhelmingly positive, the venue, the food, the awards were all given a thumbs up.

Negatives - more chairs needed, venue a bit.

NK asked whether we should book the club again next year? It was agreed - yes - and bear it in mind for other functions. BW said the cricket club are very keen for us to use the clubhouse more.

NK to contact them and book.

10. LD running course update (from Caroline)

V positive response, five sign ups now and volunteers available too.

JS asked if there was a charge? It was felt it is FOC.

11. Possible funding of fell/mountain course

Find out if there is any interest? JT to send msg

12. Addingham Gala

JT to email out - last chance for people to take it on

No one has come forward yet. NC has already applied for the licence and thinks we should go ahead.

13. Incidents

None reported.

14. Any Other Business:

Shirley Wood is stepping down as coach in 2026 - look at future integration - AO/RB?
IGS award - happy to carry on sponsoring this. JT to contact Helen Waddington.
Nell Bank have asked us to ask for volunteers at an event. JT to email / message out.

DONM 30th April 2024

Advance apologies from Jonathan Turner & Dawn Turner