



Chester Triathlon Club

AGM 2015 Minutes



Wednesday 18 November 2015

Mollington Backford and District Hall, Station Rd, Backford, Mollington, Cheshire CH1 6NT

In Attendance:

Amy Edwards	Daniel Craigen	Iain Wood	Julian Evitts	Nania Mason	Scott Sealey	Tony Dooley
Amy Gittins	David Press	James Morgan	Karen Harkness	Neil Jenkins	Sean Simmons	Traci Shipley
Andy Hamilton	David Taylor	Janet Morgan	Kenny Begley	Nicola Perrins	Simon Ellis	Xavi Fabregas
Angela Green	Debs McQuair	Jan Rogers	Kirsty Seddon	Nigel Shannon	Simon McAllister	
Barrie Cavanagh	Diane Duret	Jenny Broster	Lee Flinders	Nigel Waterhouse	Stephen Spall	
Bernadette Pedder	Dominique Miller	Jim Barrow	Leigh Jenkins	Philip Broster	Steven Walker	
Bree Sutcliffe	Gillian Clingham	Jo Harding	Linda Worrall	Ravi Jayaram	Sue Ellis	
Carole Griffiths	Graham Nellist	John Andrew	Maria Salcedo	Rob Monk	Susan Fourie	
Chris Malpass	Hannah Rayfield	Jonathan Parry	Mark Price Jones	Rosemary Symms	Susan Haslam	
Ciara Murphy	Ian Jameson	Jonty Norris	Michael Waring	Sally Napthen	Toby Shipley	

Apologies:

Alison Leavens	Claire Sutcliffe	Mark Worrall	Rebecca Holland	Peter Timson	
Bethan Hughes	Cara Fishburn	Jean Ashley	Chris O'Hara	Colin Wilson	

2014 AGM Minutes Approved.

Matters Arising

Covered within Agenda Items

Captain's Report – Andy Hamilton

Fair to say that this year has been both a tough and challenging one for the club. Would like to think that despite all of those challenges that we have all come out the other side a little stronger, closer and wiser.

The year started with a 75% change to the Exec, Mark Jones and Ian Jameson taking over the Vice Captain and Treasurer positions respectively and myself as Captain. Diane continued as Club Secretary and had her already brimming workload increased by keeping us gentleman in line for the next 12 months.

Would like to take the opportunity to thank Jan Rogers for steering the club admirably through the previous 2 years, and for her never dwindling contribution, dedication and devotion to the club.

Swim

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Chester Triathlon Club



Bad start this year with the swim, which has always been one of our strongest areas. After a significant leak was found at Christleton, we lost the use of the pool until October, which meant we had to look at alternative arrangements. With the ongoing work and closure at City Baths, this meant the times available were few and far between, at unsocial hours and more costly venues. We offered sessions nonetheless, but quickly apparent that the numbers and revenue generated fell short of our costs and were a drain on the Club's cash balance. After review, it was decided that an increase in swim costs was necessary. An EGM was called in July to agree this & give the club more flexibility to review sessions on more frequent basis.

In total, due to pool closures and associated cost increases, the club lost nearly £7,000 pounds, causing a serious dent into the money that the club uses to operate. Ian will provide more information in his financial report, adding weight to our proposal later in the AGM.

It has been said anecdotally that the club isn't a swimming club, but the loss of the sessions this year proved that these sessions are not just about swimming but about ensuring we have a club community, where people meet up, chat, talk, arrange bike rides, runs and other activities.

Luckily, we end the year in a good position. Both Christleton and City Baths are open, fully functional and hopefully swim sessions will return to the bumper numbers at the end of last year. Some sessions are still under-utilised, so I urge all members to start getting back to all sessions.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Chris Malpass for steering us through the very rough waters this year, and for his commitment to the swimming section of the club.

Bike

The club saw another change in Bike Lead during 2015, with Amy stepping down and Dave Press taking over as main bike lead supported by other people including Ali Leavens and Nicola Perrins.

Dave and the team have built on the good work that Amy did the previous year and ensuring weekend rides continue in all weathers, with a strong cohort of navigators ready to plan routes and lead the charge into the yonder. The Thursday evening bike rides during the summer were well lead and organized, and as always, proved a great way to get together and train especially in the absence of swim sessions.

Turbo sessions were well attended last year with the addition of the beginner sessions, and a full progressive training plan throughout their course. Those attending saw massive benefit. This year's turbo have started again, and I encourage anyone who hasn't attended to do so.

Run

Running is the conifer in the Chester Tri forest and continues throughout the year and always delivers. Track and the Tuesday night runs are still popular with track seeing increasing numbers year on year.

We saw some headlight runs started earlier in the year, kicked off by Paul & Sharon Plested and hopefully continue again soon. Weekend runs are back on the menu with some great and challenging routes already being dreamt up by Dave Taylor and Co.

We continue to be affiliated to UK Athletics (England Athletics) and a number of cross country and running leagues. Our mens and women's team continually perform. I'm proud to say that its the women showing us how its done, regularly coming in the top 1 or 2 in those leagues.

Unfortunately, we have continued to experience problems this year with runners competing under the club name, without having paid their membership or EA subs. This needs to stop. We run alongside some of the best running clubs in the UK, and stand shoulder to shoulder with them as equals despite being just a "triathlon club". People who wish to race for the club, need to ensure their subs are paid prior to racing.

Reminders will be sent out to encourage people to re-join in April 2016. It goes without saying that as a result of having a reduced number of affiliated members, we now receive a fewer places for London Marathon every year.

Training weekends / weeks

The club had several very successful training events over the course of the year.

It started with 34 club athletes venturing to Majorca on a Spring Training Camp for a week's tough saddle based action in one of the World's mecca's of cycling. Covering 300 miles over the week, not to mention long runs, tough organized swim sessions and of course, some tapas and Cervezas. It was very tiring but rewarding week and the feedback after the event was great, and hopefully this can be built on next year.

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The annual late summer/autumn trip to the Lake District was the usual roaring success and saw a group of nearly 40 people through themselves widely around the stunning country side. Unfortunately, some key people and personalities missing but a fantastic weekend and planning already underway for next year.

A big thank you to Kenny Begley , Jo & others for organizing this.

Races

I won't steal any of the race directors' thunder on races but it was another great year for all our races.

However would like to mention our flagship race, the Deva which saw 1300 athletes descending on Grosvenor park and the balmy waters of the river Dee. This a direct reflection of Dan's relentless handwork on this race which he has built up from Race of the year 2013, to being a triple header of qualification and competition with World & European Qualifier status and English Standard Distance Championships this year. With increased sponsorship, funding and race improvements he has, yet again, shown the world how triathlons are organized.

Alan Cronin

This year saw something that no club should ever have to endure. In June we lost Alan Cronin, in a tragic cycling accident that robbed not only Clark and his family of a wonderful father and man, but also the club of someone very special and a great friend to many.

To many of us, Alan was Chester Tri. His devotion and commitment to the junior section was second to none. I am sure there will be people on the podiums around the UK and wider for many years to come who will be there as result of Alan's hard work in help developing the next generation of triathletes.

Of course he didn't just help with the juniors, but he was also a key player in the wider club through coaching and leading, and also in helping us put on our events. He is, and will continue to be, greatly missed.

As most of you know, we lost Alan just before the weekend of the Deva Triathlon. Over the next few days, what I witnessed that weekend will live with me forever. Despite each going through our own personal shock and grieving, we pulled together as a club at one of the most difficult times imaginable to ensure we put on a world class event. The feedback from the event would suggest we did just that, and of course, would have been just what Alan wanted. We will talk later in the meeting about how we wish to honour Alan's memory.

Coaching:

The club has seen more developments with coaching, with 4 coaches gaining Level 2 qualification this year. With changes in the way the BTF class Level 1 qualifications, need to ensure more coaches come on board and progress to Level 2. Massive benefit to the Club and members by being able to offer more quality and advanced levels of coaching. Going forward, one of my real hopes and desires is that the Club move into being able to offer coaching facilities to individual or groups of members in a similar way to other clubs and organizations. However, need to ensure we have a stable and capable infrastructure in order to be able to support this.

The Future:

As you will be aware, I am stepping down as Captain. There has been much speculation as to why, but those on the committee and close to me know the real reasons.

Its been a difficult year for me, as due to injury I have been unable to race (although some people think I just couldn't be bothered which on some days is true) you feel a little bit of a fraud being the Captain of a triathlon club but also I felt I didn't achieved all the things I wanted to for the Club. Add to this, all of the issues within the Club, its taking its toll on me personally and I feel I needed to step back for a while and take some time concentrating on me, and the things I want to do.

Unfortunately, there are some people in the Club that continue to think it's appropriate and permissible to constantly moan, groan, snipe , criticize and backstab without ever putting their neck on the line and standing up to be counted. I ask that those people, who know who they are, to take the opportunity to get more involved and understand better the inner workings of the club and why decisions are made, in the hope this may make them think before they act. If not, perhaps the club would be better off without them.

Some of the behavior and attitudes I have experienced over the past few months from a small minority (but in some case senior members of the club) has been nothing short of shameful. I hope this now stops and that the Exec and committee going forward can carry out what is necessary to run and continually develop this great club.

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Chester Triathlon Club



In spite of that, I wanted to finish by saying that it would simply not be possible to do what we do, as well as we do, as often as we do, without those people who do give their time and hard work to ensure this club continues as the premier Triathlon club in the North, and in my view the UK. This starts with the committee, to the leads, to the race directors, to all the coaches, our social secretaries, our armies of volunteers we get race after race, weekend after weekend throughout the year. I thank you all and look forward to watching the club grow and grow.

Vice Captain's Report – Mark Jones

Took up the role 12 months ago, at the time, was asked why. If people don't volunteer, there is no Club so please volunteer and get involved

Secretary's Report – Diane Duret

The Club remains affiliated to all the organisations as of the previous meeting:

British Triathlon Federation

England Athletics

British Long Distance Swimming Association

Cycling Time Trial Association

Matters arising from last year were membership of ASA and British Quadrathlon Association.

ASA membership investigated by myself and Chris Malpass. Very complicated process including the need to submit the Club Constitution for approval and change if necessary. Conclusion was that the time commitment required to meet the criteria for membership is not in the Club's interests. This conclusion was presented to Committee and accepted as a decision. Put to meeting to accept this decision. **Approved** Membership Secretary of the BQA, Jean Ashley, contacted for further details. Only need to affiliate if we are putting an event on. **No Further Action**

Committee has introduced the role of Coach Liaison, Jan Rogers, who works with the 3 Leads and the 3 Level 3 Coaches in a team approach.

Thanks on behalf the Exec to Andy as Captain as stepping down.

Thank you to everyone who has supported and given guidance over the last 3 years. Hopefully that will continue for whoever takes over. We are a big Club now. I have raced all over the country and everywhere competitors say 'Chester Tri, fantastic club, I love your race'. Eyes are on us as a Club, we are no longer a small undertaking. The Exec and Committee has a big responsibility in managing all of it. Members reminded to appreciate that all are volunteers with lives and training and those that take up a role do so to their best to support the Club. Hope there will be more recognition of this and an end to those who take on responsibility being subject inappropriate behavior and attitudes. As secretary, have been involved in disputes, some of which have threatened legal action against the Club. It is for this reason that processes and deadlines are put in place to ensure transparency and fairness apply to all. It is disappointing when this is challenged and people attempt to overturn it.

Unfortunately, Colin Wilson has decided to step down as Welfare Officer. He has been a sterling member of the Club giving very freely of his time as Coach, Treasurer and Welfare officer. He sends apologies but I am sure you will all join me in thanking him.

One of many unsung heroes within the Club, would like to thank the Race Directors, who will be given a little something to thank them for all their hard work. The Club also wishes to thank:

Phil Broster - looking after the Bike Boxes

Linda Worrall - banking the money for the Club

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Chester Triathlon Club



Amy Gittins - being Bike Lead

Dan Craigen - looking after all the IT queries for the Club on top of everything else he does

Chris Malpass - the huge efforts he has gone to to keep us swimming this year.

Becky Holland – being Kit Manager

These coaches in particular are there *every week* and make sure that the sessions are planned and go ahead:

Sally Napthen - Tuesday night run

Dave Taylor - Tuesday night run and the Track

Kelly Crickmore - Track

Nania Mason - Juniors

Megan Ravetz - Juniors

Simon Greenwood - Juniors

I wish the new Exec every success.

Treasurer's Report – Ian Jameson

At the end of 2014, the operating balance was £28 000. Changes made to allow race money to go straight to the Race Directors to ensure clarity.

At the end of 2015, the operating balance is £10 770. All invoices are settled and up to date.

Some changes since January 2015. Account changed to allow online banking so payments can be made by BACS. All accounts now split into cost centres for clarity.

Thank you to everyone involved in registering and collecting money at sessions. A special thank you to Linda Worrall and Nania Mason for counting it all up and banking it.

Dee Mile/Swim Update – Chris Malpass (CM)

Dee Mile:

1st of all like to thank volunteers, event wouldn't happen without their help and support. 2015 was my final year of organising the event. Since taking over highlights are:

- Participants have grown from 100 to over 300
- Added a novice event – including juniors
- Moved to the meadows as a event location
- Added chip timing
- Introduced waves
- Changing rooms / toilets been added
- Entry system vastly improved
- Clubs membership to the BLDSA
- Upgraded 1st aid cover

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- Safety cover on the river also improved
- Upgraded swim finish
- 2015 highlights
- Over 300 entrants
- 38 people took part in the 1k (33 in 2014)
- 268 people took part in the 2k (264 in 2014) (297 in 2014) (306 in total 2015)
- Finish on the opposite side of the river to usual
- Pontoon for people to get in at the start
- Start location new
- Bag drops added
- Marquee for registration, bag drop and changing tent

Good luck to Ciara Murphy who takes over as Race Director!

deemile@chestertri.org.uk

Swim Lead Update

2015 has been a tough year with two pools being closed – like to thanks help and support through this (including members). Pool time limited, so we've been lucky to get what time we've had. Attendance to sessions has been really low – gym memberships? Uni cancelling sessions last minute early in the year? Losing circa £1k a month

Reviewed sessions and made changes accordingly – Price up from £3 to £4 (still cheaper than other tri sessions and just council turn up and pay public swims), sessions dropped. Currently being closely monitored and more changes will be made as required – regular contact with pool operators. Need 20 swimmers per session across the whole week just to break even.

To be clear – if current sessions aren't consistently well attended, more cuts will be made. Let's support the sessions we have, rather than questioning why we haven't got x, y or z.

Current sessions are becoming more popular and are nearly where they need to be. Plans for Christmas are currently being looked at.

Dearnford Lake – looking to do more next year

Successful flume session earlier in the year

Really would help move swimming on if we had more regular coaches (swim tech lesson plan....)

Clive Roberts National Masters Champion (1500m), Sean Simmons 3rd male at Buttermere 5k swim

Communication is key – come and speak to me with any suggestions / challenges – thank you to those of you that have.

swim@chestertri.org.uk

Deva Triathlon – Dan Craigen (DC)

Just like to congratulate everyone who helped out at the event this year, our events continue to get better with every year and this is reflected in the comments from the athletes who participate.

This year was incredibly difficult for all club members, being so soon after the tragedy of Alan's death, the fact that we came together to put on the event was a tribute to the club, the friendships formed and the willingness of many people in our club to pull together, support each other and show what our Club is about.

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Chester Triathlon Club



A total of 1301 entries were received this year, largely due to the event being selected as the Triathlon England National Championship and a World and European Qualifier.

It was the best field ever and the previous records were broken. The new registration in St Marys church was a hit, as was parking arrangements on the Sat. Feedback once again suggested that the event was the best ever.

The event had a total Income of £113,500, which includes a grant from Triathlon England of £10k, a grant from Cheshire West & Chester Council of £19k and sponsorship of £7k.

The event total expenses were £112k this year, the major costs incurred were £35k for the new pontoon and associated equipment. £25k for the TV production, £8k for the cost of replacing the racking. We also increased our branding, equipment for the expo, facilities in the Park and replacement of some equipment which added to costs.

Overall the event made a profit of around £1,500.

Date set for Sunday 12th June in 2016. Due to this being the only viable date available to us and it clashing with the ITU event in Leeds, we have no qualification status next year. The good news is that there are no qualifiers on that date so all club members should be able to make themselves available to volunteer.

As numbers are likely to drop with no qualification status and the ITU race clash we have introduced a Middle Distance version of the event. This will be limited to 2 waves of 150 people setting off first. There will be an 8 hour cut off to ensure the event finishes after a respectful time.

We have a target of 700 starts for 2016 which is the break-even point of the event currently. We will aim to get National Championships and qualification status in 2017.

As always we need about 400 marshals to run the event, we were short again this year so we would really encourage everyone to put the date in their diary now.

Once again, thanks to everyone who helped!

devatri@chestertri.org.uk

Question:

Is there an expectation next year that the Deva will be able to generate an income?

The races have never had the remit to make a profit but always try to. Only the Dee Mile last year made a loss. This year there has been huge investment in the Club's race infrastructure. With the benefit of hindsight, the money may not have been spent but the decisions to do this were made a year ago, when the Club's financial status was better.

Question:

Who decided to introduce the Middle Distance Event?

Dan, as Race Director. Not intended to make a profit, just boost the income for the Standard Distance.

Comment:

This is a big decision to put on a Middle Distance in terms of expectation of commitment from club members.

Was considered to be the right thing to do to bolster the Standard Distance.

Question:

Couldn't it have been a Sprint?

No, too complicated to shorten the routes. Middle Distance is simple as it adds an extra lap.

Deva Divas – Sally Napthen

Feedback is that this was the best Deva Divas ever.

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Chester Triathlon Club



- 274 entries, down by 23 from last year.
- Made a slight loss this year but this race has never had the remit to make a profit.
- ? Reduced entries as Race for Life was on the same day. Will be on different dates in 2016.
- Many thanks to everyone who helps on training days and race weekend.
- Race Referee graded the race as Excellent. Unheard of for a race to get this rating.
- Deva Divas costs £10 000 to put on and costs are increasing.

devadivas@chestertri.org.uk

Christleton 5km – Andy Hamilton on Behalf of Aaron Riley

- £1200 profit
- Sell-out race with a waiting list
- 441 entries 330 runners
- Feedback was exceptional
- Chip timing was introduced
- Big thank you to everyone who volunteered
- Date for next year is 20/05/2016

christleton5km@chestertri.org.uk

Juniors – Nania Mason

- 70 Active members, 6 are training with the Senior Section but 10 are dropping out.
- 30 children came to the taster day
- 16 invited to join, 22 currently on the waiting list
- Session fee increased to £3 to cover costs.
- There will be a Duathlon in April/May 2016 and a Triathlon in September 2016. Both included in the North West Series
- Appeal for more Senior Section coaches to get involved with the Junior Section, please contact the Junior Coaches junior@chestertri.org.uk

Bike Update – Dave Press

I officially took on the bike lead role in June/July after having helped Amy to organise the winter rides last year, for which I'm confident that Amy would want to join me in thanking everyone who helped lead. During the summer I was grateful to Ali Leavens for organising and leading Thursday evening rides. They were well supported and thanks for leading them to Kathy Frankland, Andy Hamilton, Jo Harding, Rob Monk, Nicola Perrins and Phil Townsend. Tuesday experiment to not be repeated as no-one turned up. Monthly day rides were supported by about 20 people in all across May, June, July ending with Rise Above Sportive - approx 50 riders on a club start and Cavendish signed Chester Tri jersey- thanks to Stephen Spall for getting this deal from the organisers.

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Turbos on Thursdays 6:15 to 7:45 started 15 October until April - thanks Jan Rogers, Aaron Riley, Rob Monk, Andy Hamilton, Ali Leavens

Velodrome session organised for 15 Dec 8pm to 10pm £25 sign up on nifty entries. We need 30 entrants and currently got 10 so will open it up to non-members - thanks Nicola Perrins

Winter rides started 10 October and will run through to end of April on Saturday at 9:30 or Sunday at 10:15. I may try setting up a survey to canvass opinion on start time for weekend bike rides, but for the time being they will stay at 9:30 on Saturdays and 10:15 on Sundays- thanks to Tony Dooley, Sue Ellis, Kathy Frankland, Amy Gittins, Angie Green, Andy Hamilton, Andrea Mageean, Rob Monk, Jo Morris, Alan Needham, Nicola Perrins, John Robb, Mike Waring, Shona Simmons, Bree Sutcliffe. There were even more last winter and more volunteers for this year would be helpful.

In September, Boughton Hall Cricket club were very grateful for our loan to them of the turbos for their charity event: "Ashes Bike Ride" simulating riding from Lords to the MCG. We got the turbos serviced as a result.

I've tried to improve the discounts offered to members at bike shops - so far got improvements at Bike Factory and Specialized Concept store 15%; with Wrexham Velos 20%

bike@chestertri.org.uk

Run Update – Mark Jones on behalf of Kirsty Seddon

Thanks to all coaches at Tuesday's runs and Wednesday track sessions. These are always well attended. Borders League - Men 4th in division 2. Women 1st in division 2 so gained promotion. The club is always well represented at these races. Please ensure you have valid England Athletics membership before you race.

XC - these aren't well represented so the club will only be competing in 1 league this year The North West XC

EA Membership - had been an issue but thanks to Diane Duret & Sean Simmons for their vigilance in this matter.

run@chestertri.org.uk

Kit Update – Andy Hamilton

On going saga. Online kit handler stepped away from the agreement in May 2015 as not profitable for them. All our kit reclaimed from them and currently held by Andy Hamilton. 252 orders placed via eCommerce at a value of £13 000. Since then, 90 orders at a value of £5000; £2000 of orders were placed in the 2 weeks prior to the Rise Above Sportif. The Club currently holds £6000 of stock, mainly as race kit. We have run out of some kit but looking to replace it.

Massive delays from MTG bike kit supplier. Lead time should be 6-8 weeks but has been up to 20 weeks. However, the kit is good quality and will stay with MTG. They have a new team in place who are committed to meeting their delivery targets. There is £4500 in the Club's PayPal account, specifically for kit. The Club owns the website which will continue to be the pathway for placing kit orders. Amy Edwards takes over as kit manager and is based at the Coffee Shop, Hoole Community Centre. Kit orders are to be made on the website and can be collected from the café or orders will be posted out 2nd Class once a

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week. No option to try the kit on prior to purchase but Amy will endeavour to provide an exchange if the size is wrong. It is very important to check the size guide on the website prior to ordering as Italian sizing and very small.

Run vests are held by Kirsty Seddon. Contact run@chestertri.org.uk for these

Junior kit is via a different supplier. Bree Sutcliffe will liaise with Andy over this.

Proposal to Increase Membership Fees – Andy Hamilton and Ian Jameson

Current Situation:

- Current Membership is £25, and has been for several years without change.
- In that time, ongoing costs for the club have increased year and year, which have been absorbed by the club cash reserves.
- The clubs financial model has been wholly dependent on making a considerable profit from one or more of the club races, Deva in particular and having money in the bank accrued from previous years
- No other revenue streams have been sought during the previous few years.
- Club has lost over £8842 this year as a result of swim sessions.
- Due to required investment, the Deva will make no or little profit, and the contributions from other races is negligible.

Membership Revenue:

- Currently have 538 members.
 - This includes juniors, and honorary members.
- Senior membership £25
- Junior membership £10
- In total, the Club receives around £11,500 per annum in subs.
- This equates to receiving approx £21.50 for each member.

What Do You get Currently:

- **Base Costs**
 - £5,000 (website running costs, storage, bank charges, room rental, affiliation to various sports bodies)
- **Regular Expenditure**
 - £10,500 (as above + subsidy built in for swim losses 6K, bike £500, Run £500, Kit £1000 and £2,500 for the social activities/ club run events).
 - £5000 extra for coaching qualifications, bike boxes, additional equipment to repair or replace and the unexpected....
- **Current Total Operating Total Costs**
 - £20,500
 - Shortfall in current Membership revenue of approx £10k
 - As mentioned, this has previously been covered by cash reserves and revenue from the races, primarily Deva.

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Proposal:

- Club increases membership fees to £40 from this year 2015-16
 - No change to Junior Fees.
- Providing membership numbers stay roughly same, this will see an increase in revenue from memberships to £18k. We do expect some attrition due to the increase but should be small.
- With the increase in swim costs, and losses from the sessions reduced or stopped this will ensure the club can at least break even going forward.
- Any future revenue generated from the races, will be added to this figure which should add to the total and allow for us to build up some cash reserves.
- This proposal is wholly supported by the current Exec and Committee.

Additional Considerations

Club look to bring onboard sponsors to provide a further revenue stream

Question:

How does this compare with other Clubs?

MerseyTri - £25 but a smaller club with fewer sessions and coaches.

Knutsford - £50

ManTri - £20-250 but incorporates a range of access to sessions and session payment.

If the Club had not had money in the bank at the start of the year, the Club would have "gone under"

Is the comparison slide from the EGM available to view?

	Squad	Technique	Non-members	Sessions per week	Membership	Notes	Days / Times
CWAC / Brio Pools	£4.75			-	£35 pm		General Public Swims Only
Chester Tri	£3	£3	£5	10	£25		Mon 6-8pm, Wed 6-7am Fri 6-8pm Sat 3-5pm Sun 9-10am 5-7pm
Wrexham Tri	£4	£4.85*		2 (?)	£12.50	*Buckley LC Tri Specific Swim Session - open to non-club members	7.30pm Thurs (official session) , 6pm Fri Buckley LC - plus hold 'unofficial' sessions at various venues eg Masters sessions at Mold LC
Mersey Tri	£3*			5	£20	*also have an agreement where they can swim with Liverpool Masters Only 3 Lanes	Liverpool - 9pm Mon, 7pm Wed, 8pm Fri. Wirral - 8pm Tues, 4pm Sun (5 pools)
Stockport Tri	£5	£7.50*		3		*coached sessions by Harry Needs Olympic swimmer – by booking only	7.30 & 8.30 Tues, 7.30pm Fri
Knutsford Tri	£5			3	£50		9pm Wed & Sun, 6.30am Fri (1 pool)
ManTri	£4 / £0**			11*	£25 / £220**	*Seperate seasons for beginner, intermediate and advanced **Gold membership includes ALL sessions	6.30am Tues-Fri, 7pm & 8pm Mon, 6.30pm Tues, 8.30pm Thurs, 9pm Fri, 8am Sat, 6.30pm Sun (2 pools)

The above info is what is available from the respective websites, coaching standards, number of lanes available and attendance unknown.

Comments:

£40 is half a decent pair of trainers or a tyre.

The increase equates to £1.20 per month.

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Vicecaptain@chestertri.org.uk

Secretary@chestertri.org.uk

Treasurer@chestertri.org.uk



Chester Triathlon Club



Hockey Club membership is £75 without all the extra benefits. Not a good comparison as we do not have a permanent premises.

Question:

Shouldn't we be making sure that the races make a profit?

Cannot be guaranteed as eg. If Deva had to be cancelled, would make no income. We do always try to breakeven on races and sessions.

Question:

Could a smaller increase be managed but move to pre-paid subscription?

Unfortunately the infrastructure is not yet in place to do this.

The aim is to cover costs and break even, eg. A fee for borrowing a bike box is going to be introduced.

Question:

The races attract members won't this help?

This is not necessarily a benefit as the sessions become overcrowded and hamper the quality of the session.

Comment:

Membership has increased as the early joining reduction has been removed, as have the couples concession.

Question:

Why wasn't this proposal better publicised so all members could have a say?

The Agenda was published well in advance and all members are invited and encouraged to come to the AGM.

Question:

Couldn't this be a staged increase over a couple of years?

No the money is gone and costs must be covered. The Club cannot base its finances on potential race income.

Question:

Will this increase be held at £40 for a few years?

Yes but period not set.

This increase is in order to allow the Club to operate at the standard that members have become accustomed to. Club costs have increased but the income has not so the Club needs to build up the reserve held in the bank.

Comments:

Better to have a big jump now and stick with it for a few years.

This is a necessary proposal but the Club should review its expected race income and how that will be spent. Races need to cut their cloth accordingly.

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Chester Triathlon Club



Question:

Could membership be discounted for those who volunteer?

No, not possible or manageable as not measurable.

Have race costs been reviewed?

We didn't know 12 months ago that we would be in this position. Decisions were made at the time for capital investment against profit. Hindsight is fine but this is the financial status the Club has now. It would not be desirable to jeopardise race quality in the interests of profit.

The figure of £40 has been arrived at as what is required to meet the operating costs of the Club. The races should not be an influencing factor.

Vote by Show of Hands:

For – 54

Against – 3

Abstain – 5

Motion Passed

Proposal for Alan Cronin Memorial

A request was put to the membership about how they wanted Alan and his contribution to the Club to be recognised.

Those responses were considered alongside the Junior Coaches responses and requests made by the family by the whole Committee.

Serious consideration was given to renaming one of the Junior events but the Junior Coaches expressed concerns over how the Juniors themselves would feel about it. Much discussion was also given to a bike ride but it was decided that it would likely be very popular and would be difficult to ensure the safety of a large group. Eventually we came to the following decisions.

Alan won the Club Member of the Year award this year. This is an award which is nominated and voted for by the members. It was decided that the trophy will be retired and given to Clark in memory of his dad. A new trophy will then be created which will be to reflect contribution to the Club. This will be called "Club Member of the Year in honour of Alan Cronin". Clark requested that it not be named after Al as he felt Alan would prefer that the focus of the award be about the winner rather than himself.

An off road run will be organised next year on the Saturday nearest to Al's birthday, probably in Delamere Forest. This will be all ability; all age so for the whole Club, Juniors and Seniors alike with coffee and cake at the end. The focus will be on the coffee and cake get together aspect, with as much or little running as people want to do.

Both of the above were approved by Clark.

Approved

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Chester Triathlon Club



AOB

- Any news on the website? - Hoping to get a working party together as is a very big job and has been on the back burner due to the kit issues.
- Is there a more recent Club Development Plan than the one on the website? – Yes. DCD to update the website.
- Can the bike routes be put on the website? – Contact Dave Press the Bike Lead
- Will the Strength and Conditioning Sessions be happening again? – Yes. Still in development but hopefully more information soon.

Ravi Jayaram – Would like to thank everyone on the Exec and Committee, especially those stepping down. Please minute how grateful the membership is. Spontaneous round of applause.

Election of Officers

Diane Duret steps down as Club Secretary. Sue Ellis nominated and seconded.

Passed by majority show of hands

Andy Hamilton steps down as Club Captain for the coming year. Although 3 expressions of interest, no-one was nominated and seconded within the timeframe, therefore it was put to the meeting that Mark Jones stand as Acting Captain until January 2016 when an EGM will be called to appoint a new Captain.

Approved.

The Executive positions of Vice Captain and Treasurer were unchallenged and the current officials are willing to remain in post.

Club Captain - To be appointed at EGM in January 2016

Acting Captain/Vice Captain – Mark Jones

Treasurer – Ian Jameson

Club Secretary – Sue Ellis

Thanks to all for attending.

London Marathon Entry Ballot

Several members produced rejection letters for the 2 club allocated places so names were pulled out of a hat.

Good luck to Bernadette Pedder and Scott Sealey.

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