

# MINUTES OF THE CITY OF CHESTER TRIATHLON CLUB

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Venue: Chester Rugby Club, Hare Lane, Chester

Date / Time: Thursday 15th November 2012 @ 19.30 hours

Attending (75) : Dominique Miller (Captain); Colin Wilson (Treasurer); Nania Mason (Secretary); Andy White; Jean Ashley; Linda Worrall; Peter Timson; Aaron Riley; Alan Cronin; Alison Leavens; Amanda Miller; Andrew Howarth; Andy Hamilton; Angela Green; Anna Pope; Bethan Hughes; Bree Sutcliffe; Cara Fishburn; Carol Coole; Charlotte Watson; Chris Malpass; Chris Standidge; Chris Prior; Ciara Murphy; Claire Sutcliffe; Claudia Miller; Dan Craigen; Dave Bottoms; Diane Duret; Duncan Harris; Erin Gotowka; Gill Brailsford; Gill Mead; Gill Clingham; Gina Riley; Iain Murray; Jacqueline Seattle; Jan Rogers; Jane Sharpe; Jan Morgan; Jenny Broster; Joanne Harding; John Young; Julie Shalloe; Kate Litherland; Kenny Begley; Kerry Ratcliffe; Kevin Dandy; Kirsty Seddon; Malcolm Sloane; Mandy Plant; Mandy Turner; Maria Salcedo; Mark Gittins; Matt Bridges; Neil Jenkins; Neil Thomas; Nicola Smith; Paul Seattle; Peter Harris; Phil Townshend; Phil Broster; Ravi Jayaram; Rob Monk; Sally Kilpatrick; Simon McAllister; Steve Eastwood; Sue Ellis; Sue Hubbard; Sue Haslam; Tanya Southern; Toby Shipley; Tony Fisher; Traci Shipley; Anya Miller.

Apologies: Sally Napthen; Becky Holland; Debbie Williams; Nick Eastwood; Kelly Crickmore; Simon Greenwood; Mark Wakefield.

### Welcome and Apologies

Welcome extended to those attending and Apologies read out for those unable to attend.

Nania M announced that the evening would commence with an EGM the point of which being to vote to change the Constitution and increase the Executive to 4 persons thereby introducing the position of Vice Captain.

The rationale for this being that as the Club had grown and subsequently the demands placed on the Captain, having a Vice Captain would allow tasks to be shared as well as create specific areas of responsibility pertinent to each post to better cope with the running of the Club.

Therefore the intention of the evening was to hold an EGM where Membership approval would be sought to alter the Constitution. A vote for an actual Vice Captain would take place at a later date.

This would be followed by a short break where Members would be invited to vote for a new Club Captain and then the AGM would ensue.

The Result of the EGM:

The Motion to increase the Executive to 4 persons and introduce the position of Vice Captain was carried.

73 - For

2 - Against

0 - Abstentions

Minutes from the previous AGM

Minutes deemed as a true recording of last year's AGM

Agreed by Jean Ashley

Seconded by Andy Hamilton

Matters arising from the Minutes

The matter of the lack of a Club Development Plan arose and why this was so. It was felt by certain members that the Club had had no formal plan for the past 3 years and therefore no clear direction, aims or objectives. Cycling was cited as a prime example and it was acknowledged that this was still a discipline where further development was required and the Club was endeavouring to achieve this.

Dominique M felt that the CDP should rather be a statement of what the Club was undertaking.

Captain's Report

Dominique Miller announced the following:

- Club Membership currently stood at 610
- As he was stepping down as Captain he thanked the Committee for their support
- We had won the BTF Regional Award for Event of the Year
- He introduced Alan Cronin as the new Club Treasurer and Diane Duret as the new Club Secretary
- He acknowledged that it was still a challenge to get members to volunteer and requested assistance in this

Secretary's Report

See above with regard to Proposal for a change in the Constitution

Nania M thanked members for their support over the past 3 years and wished Diane D every success in taking up the role of the new Club Secretary

Treasurer's Report

2012 Accounts available on request further to the Summary included in the Minutes

Colin W gave a summary of the Accounts for 2012 as outlined in the Minutes. He had produced a Summary of Accounts and a detailed Summary.

#### In Brief:

- As of 31st October the Club had £15,943.09 more in the A/C than at same time last year
- Total Club Funds amounted to £39,455.16
- The Club Events produced a positive and increased revenue for the Club
  - Bolesworth Duathlon: £834.83
  - Christleton 5K: £1139.82
  - Dee Mile: £3210.40
  - Deva Triathlon: £6181.92
  - Deva Divas Triathlon: £3236.44
  - Junior Aquathlon: £616.00
  - Junior Triathlon: £1340.74
  - Little Devas: £131.09
- Membership Subscriptions amounted to £11,865.91
  
- There was an overall profit of approximately £15,000
  
- Re. running costs of the Club - more was spent than taken in however the events supported this
- Over £3,000 had been spent on coaching courses
- Swim loss amounted to £1,800 due to the increase in pool fees at Christleton from £40 p/hr to £50 p/hr. Currently in negotiation with Brio Leisure re. pool fees for 2013

It was felt prudent to retain a cushion of £20,000 in the Club A/C in order to avoid the worry of not being able to pay for large expenditures

The EPIC re-development was discussed (current plans / meetings / questionnaire) as well as the possibility of pre - paying for a certain amount of pool time in the future. There were concerns as to what would happen when the City Baths closed and clubs would be looking for pool time when there would be fewer pool facilities in the Borough / neighbouring boroughs.

Colin W remarked that it was thanks to the revenue received from the Events that the Club could support the various activities on offer.

#### Coaching Report

Claire Sutcliffe gave the following information:

- She would be stepping down as Coaching Co-ordinator and Kelly Crickmore would be taking over the role
- Current Coaches: 18 active coaches with 10 at Level 1 / 6 at Level 2 and 2 at Level 3
- The Coaches between them volunteered an average of 33 hours per week to coach sessions which would equate to approximately 1600 hours per year
- There were 3 new Level 1 coaches: Lee Stockman; Simon Greenwood; Les Church
- Next Level 1 & 2 courses would not be until 2013. Aaron Riley was currently shadowing sessions in preparation for enrolling on the next Level 1 course. A number of members had expressed an interest in undertaking the Level 1 course but were yet to start shadowing sessions
- Members wishing to get involved with coaching were requested to contact Kelly C
- Claire S and Kelly C were due on the last weekend of the Level 3 course the following weekend

- Kate Litherland was currently taking the British Cycling Course Level 2
- Local Technical Officials Course: Neil Thomas; Mark Humphreys; Alan Cronin had attended the BTF Course earlier in the year
- She thanked the coaches for their hard work and commitment throughout the year

### Dee Mile Report

Chris Malpass gave a summary of the 2012 Race:

- There had been over 400 entrants in total for the Races with 335 participating on the evening itself which was again the biggest year in terms of entrants
- New venue for 2012 with registration / parking etc held in the Meadows
- Introduction of on-site toilet / changing facilities / shop
- Swim finish was changed from 2011 with a platform-type exit
- Various Leads were introduced for 2012 which had helped
- Largely positive feedback with areas still to be improved upon

With a view to the Dee Mile 2013 event Chris M gave the following account:

- Price would remain the same as 2012 although now the price would include any third party entry fees
- Event to open early 2013 (3 months earlier than in previous years)
- The Race would take place on 19th June 2013
- Location would again be on The Meadows
- There would be 3 Races again although the focus would be to make the smaller race larger in terms of entrants. He was also considering changing the start of the main race, potentially introducing two waves dependent on numbers

With regard to other matters relating to swimming:

- Swim sessions remained popular
- Members were reminded to swim in the appropriate session to their ability to ease overcrowding in certain sessions
- Sunday Technique sessions would remain on a rota basis therefore assistance would be required from coaches moving forwards
- He was looking to improve open water opportunities / specific sessions in 2013 to help members with open water swimming

### Deva Triathlon

Dan Craigen gave the following summary for the 2012 Race:

- The Race had been selected as a World Championship Qualifier event
- There were a total of 850 entries for the Race with 150 cancelling before the race and 100 no-shows leaving 600 actually competing
- Competitors were encouraged to cancel if they no longer wished to participate by offering refunds right up to the day of competing. Due to this no-one was turned away
- 68 of our own members participated which was the most ever
- Expressed thanks to all the marshalls. Very positive feedback highlighted the importance of having triathletes as marshalls
- Only criticisms were drafting and a busy run route in places
- Financially the Race made a profit of just over £8000. Most of the costs remained in line with the previous year although additional racking was purchased, this year there was the introduction of cash prizes and the goody bags were supplemented. Costs were also reduced by holding both events over one weekend. Where costs were shared between the two events they were split 75% Deva and 25% Divas

With a view to 2013 Dan C gave the following brief:

- The Race was once again a World Championship Qualifier for London and would take place on 2nd June
- The 2013 Event would be held separately from the Deva Divas
- The 800 places on offer had already been sold out and there was currently a waiting list of 285
- The maximum number of athletes that could successfully be accommodated without compromising the quality of the race was in the process of being evaluated
- The 2013 event would bring a raft of changes due to the increase in numbers:
  - . Transition would now be in Grosvenor Park
  - . A new bike and run route had been established
  - . The bike route consisted of one lap via Eccleston / Rossett / Borrass / Churton / Aldford and back into Chester
  - . Secure closed roads had been agreed upon in the city to protect the cyclists
  - . The new run route would be two laps of a slightly modified version of the existing route but eliminating the two-way sections by using Elizabeth Crescent and the Old Dee Bridge in Handbridge
  - . Registration and the Finish would be in The Groves by Hickory's

It was stressed that the success of the Race depended on the volunteers. This year there were 250 volunteers but for 2013 it was estimated that 350 would be required. It was noted that some club members were seeking qualification to London however all members were urged to consider helping marshall at the event if they were not intending to qualify. Those members who had entered the race were requested to provide a non-member to marshall on the day. It was felt this was the only way to make the event successful. It would be greatly appreciated if those who would be able to volunteer could give as much notice as possible to assist in the early planning of the event

#### Deva Divas Triathlon and Bolesworth Duathlon

In the absence of Sally Napthen, Nania Mason read a prepared statement outlining the following for the two events:

##### Deva Divas Triathlon:

- 268 entries which was down on last year
- Possible reasons could have been that it was earlier than normal / perhaps because it was on a Saturday / some of the competitors had said they wanted to move up to the Deva but would have competed in the Divas had it been on a separate weekend
- Still a great success for all those competing with positive feedback. Many went on to compete in more triathlons over the Summer so the principle goal of getting women into triathlons was being achieved
- Chip timing was used for the first time which was a success
- A profit was made from the Race
- Great Report from the referee
- Thanked all the marshalls for all their help
- Deva Divas 2013 was to take place on 21st July and was now open for registration

##### Bolesworth Duathlon:

- 103 entries
- Numbers down on last year but still made a profit

- Competitors really enjoyed the Event on a very cold day
- Courtesy of Brian Mellor we were able to have the use of the old school at Harthill for Race HQ and cafe which had proved a success
- Sponsorship for prize vouchers was again by Global Bikes who had also assisted in setting out the bike course
- Referee was really pleased with the event with only one minor improvement suggested
- One of the competitors, Andrew Ashton of Optimum Ltd, had donated a cheque for £100 to use for prizes to try to encourage younger (17-21 year olds) into mountain bike sports
- Sally N thanked all the marshalls who had helped out on the day and all those who helped set up and take down the course - it was greatly appreciated
- Bolesworth 2013 was to take place on 17th March and was now open for registration

Sally N also announced that she was setting up an off-road triathlon at Bolesworth due to take place on 22nd September 2013. The swim was to be in the lake in front of the castle

### Junior Section

Alan Cronin gave the following report

- Junior section had 60+ active members with a waiting list
- Aquathlon in April attracted 120 entrants
- Triathlon in September attracted 240 entrants (100 more than any other regional race)
- Both Events made profits to the extent that after the Xmas Party was deducted they were making a positive monetary contribution towards the Club
- A sprint event targeted at 15-19 year olds as part of last June's Club Weekend. However due to poor advertising the event was withdrawn as a competition and took place as a free trial with a view to learn for 2013
- More Juniors were participating in senior swim sessions and becoming integrated into the Club
- If more pool time could be acquired on a Saturday there would not have to be a waiting list resulting in welcoming more members
- Need more Juniors to transition to bike / run sessions and Winter League
- There were actions upon himself and the coaches in the Club Development Plan
- He had been approached by a club and a town council with requests for assistance in setting up junior sections and events for them, the pitfalls and what issues might arise

Looking forward:

- We were going to work with local swim clubs to establish a minimum ability level, stamina and technique as we could not offer a "learn to swim" lane
- We would build on our relationship with the North West Region as there was an intention to organise two "super" events in the region. We would not be applying to be one as there was to be major development work undertaken at Christleton Sports Centre with unknown consequences on the space available for triathlons, limited catering and parking facilities
- There were 3 events being organised and in the BTF Handbook:
  - . Aquathlon in April 2013
  - . Triathlon in September 2013
  - . Deva XV - IXX in July 2013

### Club Kit

In the absence of Becky Holland, Nania Mason read out the following report:

- If members had suggestions with regard to new additions to club kit Becky H would consider these
- The pre-order process was now starting to work well
- Pre-orders for race kit were now being taken (tri-suits / tops / shorts stocked at Eureka) and orders would need to be in by the end of December
- Where possible preference was for members to pay online
- Post Xmas an order for summer cycling kit would need to be submitted
- There was some spare winter / summer cycling kit. If members were interested please contact Becky H to check size availability and prices
- Thanked Neil Thomas for organising the hoody order
- Any members wishing to assist in the kit would be welcomed

### Club Development Plan

A copy of the CDP was produced for Members to read.

It was acknowledged that its publication had been a long time coming. However it was noted by Dominique M that it was to be seen as a fluid document with many hours having been spent on it and changes made and he wanted to encourage the Membership to become involved in its creation so that some objectives could be ongoing and open to discussion. There was a discussion as to how much should be put in to a CDP with the feeling that possibly the more objectives that were laid down for the Club the less these might be achieved.

### Any Other Business

#### Election of the New Club Captain

Members standing for election: Jan Rogers and Andy Hamilton

Votes counted:

Jan Rogers: 51 votes

Andy Hamilton: 19 votes

Jan Rogers was duly elected the new Club Captain

Colin Wilson brought the Meeting to a close by thanking those present for attending and further thanking those who had volunteered or helped the Club in whatever capacity for having made it a successful year.