

Chester Triathlon Club Minutes for :

Committee Meeting on Wed 29th June, 8pm at Hoole Community Centre

Apologies : Ian Jameson, Chris Malpass, Sally Napthen, Sean Simmons, Jo Harding

Present: Mark Jones, Sue Ellis, Dan Craigen, Kirsty Seddon, Jan Rogers, Dave Press,
Ciara Murphy, Iain Wood (Amy Edwards for the start of the meeting)

Items for discussion:

1. Matters arising from last meeting on 11th May/actions completed.
 - a)Most actions done.
 - b) Junior newsletter circulation to the wider committee not happened.
 - c) Considering awards: to be done after all races are done & dusted.
 - d) New kit has arrived, and a stock-take will be done, & announcement put in the newsletter **Action :AE**
 - e) JR – presented scheme for allocating London Marathon places, which was agreed as below :

Over the past few years we have seen a decline in the number of Chester Tri members joining England Athletics, this decline has led to fewer London Marathon places available to the club. Correspondingly we have seen a rise in the number of club members applying for the places. The places have been awarded by those meeting the criteria placing their names in a hat and then being drawn at random.

I am proposing changing this in line with a number of other running clubs to have the decision made by a committee who will decide on those people being awarded the places based on a points or criteria system. Prior to awarding the places those individuals interested in applying will have to submit the following:

- Been a member of Chester Triathlon Club and England Athletics for >6 months
- Have a recent VLM rejection letter (must be the letter so please ensure this is provided)
- Have represented (raced) as a member of Chester Triathlon Club
- Provide a summary of where you have provided support to the club, these can be helping out at any of the Chester Triathlon Club Events , coaching, as a committee member or any other aspect you feel could be considered.

The London Marathon Places will be announced at the AGM and those wishing to take a place must be present to accept it, or arrange for someone to do so on their behalf.

Timings:

Notify Club of proposed changes – End July

Apply for club places – end September

VLM rejection letters send mid October

Submissions for VLM Club places end October

Sub - Committee review applications – prior to AGM

Chester Tri Club VLM places awarded at AGM

Action : Put this notification in the newsletter & on the website - JR

2. Update on BTF findings re. the complaint raised against the club – Mark

For the benefit of those who were not already aware, Mark explained that post the lifting of her suspension, a club member raised a complaint with the BTF against 5 individuals on the committee. They sent their responses to these allegations back to the BTF, who had a case management group look at the evidence. The BTF wrote a letter with their findings which stated that while ‘no one individual’ was found guilty of bullying, they found that the Committee as a whole was guilty of ‘institutional bullying’. The individuals utterly refute the original allegations, as well as the fact that the accusation has now been extended by the BTF to the whole committee. The individuals have collectively lodged an appeal, which will be heard by the head of TE. No date set. Unlikely to be until end of July.

DP – feels that he has been made implicit in the complaint by the nature of the BTF letter and findings, and therefore feels everyone on the committee should be informed of its contents.

For reasons unknown, and not having made it clear in the first instance, Linda Haywood has told Mark that it was not intended for the letter to be sent to the whole committee.

Some leak of this letter has led to unhelpful rumours. IW - It would not be clear to people whether the complaint against the club would have been to do with AL or to do with the Dom Miller.

MJ – A letter to all members, giving a bit of a general update on the club and a lead-in to proceedings with a new constitution and need for people to start thinking about volunteering for roles etc. to be sent out. **Action : MJ & SE**

3. New constitution – Sue

SE went through a 1st draft of a proposed new constitution. Some elements were removed or altered, and a fruitful discussion was had, to produce a 2nd draft. (see attachments)

4. Restructuring of the Committee – Mark

MJ – Led a discussion on re-structuring of the club committee, which would tie in with:

- a) the new constitution
- b) bringing the club in line with the way the BTF recommend club management
- c) Making meetings more manageable
- d) Spreading responsibility across more than just 4 individuals.

There was agreement amongst everyone present that having more elected members would be positive. It was agreed that the number should be 7, so voting on issues could not produce a stalemate. Various possibilities of roles and the volunteers that would form sub-groups were discussed. :

Having a Gents & Ladies captain was considered, but rejected, however the issue of gender representation was agreed to be important.

DC – Race organisation would be best coming under liaison with the Treasurer, i.e. not one of the elected posts.

Agreed that Coach Lead or Coach Liaison should be one of the additional positions

This will continue to be firmed up along with the constitution, following more consultation and feedback.

5. Thanks to Dan & feedback from Deva race.

Lots of positive feedback.

There is concern about the safety of swimming in the river from the council, re water quality. A few people (6) are known to have been ill after the event. DC does provide pre race info about not competing if participants are ill before- hand. Anti-septic wipes are available at transition tables. This is clearly a critical issue, where it is hoped the council will continue to allow us to use the river.

Middle distance went well, but would compromise the Olympic race if it was a qualifier. There would be too many people on the run course. 230 raced and really enjoyed it. Likely to have made a small profit.

6. Rise Above Sportive – Dave Press

DP – requested feedback about the financial incentive offered by Rise Above Sportive, as per the info in his email. Value of the discounts to go to club funds, to then be available for bike outings in the future. e.g. velodrome. Approved.

Thanks to Dave for his consistent input and organisation of bike rides.

7. Leagues – Iain

Club sprint champion -

I lost track of details here completely ... please could you email me the lay out Iain

8. Weekend away in September : Promoting Stoke Club Champs

Not discussed – time ran out – 10pm for room booking.

We need to have a meeting with coaches to get a grip on what's happening there, and cover items that we have not had time to discuss at the last 2 meetings. No need for everyone to attend .

Section reports

Bike Dave P

. Thursday evenings are well supported by navigators and riders. We've had a long ride with lunch break on Saturday 25 June and another two rides planned for 24 July and 13 August.

Swim Chris M

Update from me re the open water swimming bit is that I've asked the main people who swim coach who'd like to coach. Once I know we've people interested we can then look at dates.

Once we've done that it will be all systems go!

Run

Races

Christleton 5k went very well, we had a field of 412 and we made £1,591 profit for the club.

Membership stands at 470, EA members 96 (Sean)

Divas is going along fine - just need people to sign up as marshalls. Dan has sent a link out for me and Leigh is putting it into the newsletter for next week too. (Sally)

Treasurer's report

attached

Coaching

Social

Kit

AOB

Next booked meeting is on 7th September

Traditionally the club has not had a meeting over the summer holiday period, however, given there is so much happening, we will need to schedule in another one. I will plan it for after the BTF appeal hearing.

AGM is booked for Wed 2nd November in the main hall at Hoole Community Centre

