

## Chester Triathlon Club Committee Meeting Minutes

Date : Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April

Location : Hoole Community Centre

Apologies: Chris O'Hara, Mike Waring, Jess Archer-Clowes, Amy Edwards, Chris Malpass, Sally Napthen, Dan Craigen, Susie Fourie

Present :Mark Jones; Sue Ellis; Ian Jameson; Nigel Waterhouse; Leigh Jenkins; Ciara Murphy; Sean Simmons; Iain Wood; Iain Laird ; Nania Mason, Dave Press.

### Agenda :

1. Declaration of interest - none
2. Matters arising

Report from Chris : Spring Camp - was a big success with no safety or other concerns to report. Everyone really enjoyed themselves with everything including the hotel, food, cycling and banter exceeding expectations. The group got along very well with a get together / reunion in the summer already being talked about. Big success story was several people breaking their 100 mile duck whilst out there, which was great and the enjoyment on their faces afterwards was a proud moment !

Report from Chris : Development Plan - I'm keen to start driving this soon and one approach I'm considering is to have several independent face to face meetings with certain leads and key people with the main aim being to kick start the thinking and planning aspect of various objectives etc. I've viewed the plan on the website and was well impressed with how the format looks.

Sue E : Important for everyone to study the plan and use it to direct their actions and monitor progress. Not to just be a piece of paper that is filed and forgotten.

**Action : Everyone to spend a bit of time absorbing the sections of the plan which are relevant to them, and assessing what actions need taking to actually make it a reality.**

Actions from Andy H – progress with kit; coaches' meeting & coaches' training, and letter to members re code of conduct. ?? Unknown.

Iain W : Transfer of race entry without consulting race organizer, and consequent H& S issues, to go in to the letter mentioned above, re general reminder about codes of conduct and respect for coaches. Etc

**Actions: Andy Hamilton. Mark to arrange to meet with Andy to discuss.**

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Iain W : Further to that – could Dan do a deal for Chester tri members to reduce transfer/cancellation fee in the future ?

3. Races :

Juniors - Nania Mason

Juniors – started a Facebook page – closed group.

Doing fairly well re organizing of Aquathlon. Max capacity of 200 entrants. So looks as if there enough parent volunteers.

Query re some sponsorship e.g. from Trek. Is this something the committee, would approve ? Yes. Would be supported. Explore further.

Christleton 5km - Sean Simmons

Christleton 5km – Has confirmation that Law College car park will be available.

Starts at 7:15 Running according to normal format. Sold out at 500 places. Has a provisional license from EA pending confirmation of an adjudicator.

All marshalls **must** have the emergency number.

Age limit from 11 years old with parent's permission.

May look at giving a prize to junior age group in future.

Need 50 marshals – currently have 28

EA adjudicator still to be arranged – has not replied to Sean's emails y

Deva - Dan Craigen

Deva Divas - Sally Napthen

Dee Mile - Ciara Murphy

236 entries. Can take up to 500.

Finish will be back on the Groves side of the river. Pontoon will be attached via some bars that are already in position. Café also Groves side. Registration and parking on Meadows.

Boat company very co-operative.

Chester City band booked to play in the band stand.

Juniors age 12 – 16 only allowed to do 1km distance.

All LDSA guidelines being followed, regarding participation of children.

All race organisers in close contact with Nigel, who is keeping tabs on volunteer numbers via the google pages. Agreed that asking for volunteers/marshals face-to-face whenever possible, gets the best results. **All to do so, especially coaches at their sessions.**

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4. Sections :

Run - Susie Fourie

From a running perspective we have had quite a successful cross country & Borders League season though we could do with trying to attract more women to take part in both. The men in particular did well at the Borders League by winning division two and there were good individual performances too. However with the ladies team there is a bit of a yo-yo effect though somehow I think we've managed to cling onto our place in division one. 🙄

There have been some noteworthy achievements amongst club members in particular Scott Sealey & Steve Holliman taking on their 1st ultras and Jan Rogers & Jonathan Goulding are looking ahead to Dragons Back. Good results too at the London Marathon with members achieving good for age times allowing them to compete again next year if they choose.

There are many off road/fell runs coming up on the calendar which I'm posting on our FB page for those who are interested.

Finally the date of the Borders League AGM has been set for 3rd July-Mark & I will be in Edinburgh as he is participating in the 70.3. I'm hoping we'll be back in time to attend it, but if not I'm going to ask Mike Waring if he'll be able to attend just in case (along with Nicola or perhaps Mark Robinson-Mike is going on race director course & Mark on run lead) as it is imperative that we have representatives at the meeting because Chester Tri will be expected to host a race next year & we get 2 votes at the AGM

Swim -

The committee hopes that organization of some club open water swims is imminent and dates to be added to the club calendar.

Action Chris Malpass . Chris O to discuss with Chris M

Bike - Dave Press

Rise Above Mark Cavendish signing of our club jersey. I've chased this down several times and thought that I'd had a breakthrough in January when someone working for Arete said that they had found the jersey as yet unsigned and they asked me what dedication I'd like. I've heard nothing since despite several emails to chase it up. Today I spoke to another person (Simon) at Arete who said that Mark is no longer their client and that is why we may still not have the jersey. He promised to try and find out what has happened.

Winter weekend rides finished and Thursday evening rides started last week. The aim is to have two leaders for one group which may split if there is a wide disparity in pace between riders in the group. **I could do with a few more volunteers to lead the rides.**

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Chris O'Hara has volunteered to lead some weekend tt style rides. The idea is to ride as a group from Chester to Deeside Industrial Park where we will have a tt route that we can tackle for a few circuits before returning to Chester as a group. Maybe coffee on the Park before returning. The tt riding would not be independently timed but we would allow a 30 second or minute gap between each rider setting off. Chris and I will be riding down to the Industrial park to plan the tt circuit. Chris will need some volunteers to lead some of the rides since he cannot commit to every weekend.

The Rise Above is not happening this year but I'd like to promote another sportive which a good number of the club might be interested in entering. Currently my favorite is the Evans cycles Ride-it North Wales ride on Sunday 8 October which starts at Mold Leisure Centre. There are several routes, but I suspect that most will be interested either in the long route (77m / 124km / 6855ft Climbing) or the medium (60m / 96km / 5495ft Climbing). I've contacted Evans to check it out and to see if they'd be interested in offering a club discount. *(Unfortunately this is the date of the Chester Marathon which involves a large number of club people, so Dave may re-consider which sportive to target.)*

Last year I led a weekend ride once a month planned as a whole day out with a lunch stop and partly as preparation for the Rise Above. I'd like to organise the same again this year and link it to the Evans ride if we promote it as a club. However, I'll not be able to do a weekend ride every month, so will need a volunteer who can cover the months I can't manage (June and I might be unreliable in July).

A few weeks ago one of the ride group leaders hit a pothole and as a result veered into a parked car as he came off his bike, He damaged the car and the owner made it clear that she expected payment for the damage. It appears as if our membership of Cycling Uk has paid off. An incident report has been completed and submitted to the insurers that come with our membership of cycling UK and it looks as if they will manage the whole situation and the individual concerned will not have to be further bothered with the matter.

The Cycling Uk clearly excludes cover for TT events. I'd like us to clarify whether we have any club insurance that covers us when we run TT events as part of the winter league. **Action : Sue**

*(In the meantime, Sue has also put something in the next newsletter about the discounted individual membership of Cycling UK, for third party liability cover.)*

I've not yet looked into a ride leaders' course.

Ways to encourage more leaders. – another workshop, personal contact, start as a deputy leader. Leigh volunteered to assist, with Dave to navigate.

Dave going to be away all of June, and may be tied up in July. **Will need leaders to take the longer monthly weekend rides.**

Bike leaders can build in hill reps/efforts/chain-gang in to Thurs night rides. They are not meant to be just a social ride.

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5. Finances -

Ian Jameson.

We are currently running around 1K down on our projected spend / income at this time of year. Our annual running costs are projected to be 14K

Swim is running 1K behind projected revenues . ( Have been a lot of payments out recently)

Bike, Run Juniors and Sundry expenditure are all on track with where they were last year

Membership fees are 2K behind projected income (9.7K v 11.8K)

Coaching is 2.5K ahead of budget (but we still need to pay Iain Wood)

I have paid the 6.7K invoice for the website design.

I have moved the money from the deposit account into our current account in readiness for our switch to Unity bank. The only thing stopping the big move is ensuring Leigh and Chris are au fait with navigating the bank website in order to authorise payments.

I am very close to populating the revised layout of last years accounts (as a result of Chris Hulses input). This has taken longer than planned mainly due to the work involved and other time commitments on behalf of both Ian and Chris.

Reduction in membership numbers by approx. 50. Need to try and gauge reasons why people have not renewed. May be possible to do a survey monkey. Would also be good to know how many new members join over a 6 month period. Lower numbers will mean fewer people to volunteer.

While looking at accounts with Chris Hulse – some things have become more complicated. In setting up the new account, there is a focus on making the accounts as clear and transparent as possible. The new accounts will include the race accounts, and an inventory of assets.

6. Social - Iain Laird

Social events are going well, and there are lots of ideas in the pipeline, with a social event happening roughly once per month.

Ideally set a date sooner rather than later for end of season party. People seem to want an earlier party rather than a Xmas party. Likely to use same venue as last year as it worked well.

7. Kit -

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Report from Amy : There are no outstanding orders and all items ordered this year have been dispatched within 7 days.

According to the FB survey, Andy is going to order fleece jackets, Hi viz vests, short and long sleeved running tops, and running jackets. He'll also order to restock any gaps we have in the existing stock. We will aim to have deliver by end of May. Some people have expressed an interest in aero suits, but as these are really expensive Andy will be asking for prepayment on orders for these.

The new website looks great, but we are missing the place where it says how the kit ordering system works, eg how long you can expect to wait, how to collect etc. I'll be sorting this out as soon as I can, and will liaise with Nicola and Mike. **Action : Amy**

8. Communication - Leigh Jenkins.

Website is running well and most people who need access to the site, have covered how to do it. The evening arranged on the 19<sup>th</sup> April to show people how to edit, had a very small attendance.

Triathlon plus magazine been in touch re Chester Tri featuring in a section. **Will require input from some of our coaches for this, to write a short piece each e.g. on coaching tips, training programs, nutrition. Leigh to co-ordinate.**

Leigh looking for someone to do a monthly report for the local press.

9. A.O.B.

Sean – Arranging drinks & pizza at Ring 'O Bells for marshals after the 5km.

Regatta contacted Sean re sponsorship for the race. Not clear what they would provide or what they want in return.

Ciara – Tesco will donate cakes for cake sale at Deva race.

Nigel – speaking to David Lloyd about doing something for reciprocal benefit with Chester Tri. E.g reduced rates; use of a meeting room. Question is what is wanted in return from David Lloyd.

Ian J – Mallorca trip was a triumph.

Susie – Needs ideas on how to get more female runners to participate in races.

Would like to see run sessions posted on facebook day before the session.

Sue – The Race Directors course which is being run by EA and arranged by Borders League Committee, is being held on May 13<sup>th</sup>. We have Mike Waring, Nicola Perrins, & Steve Buckle attending, and Susie Fourie on a waiting list.

**Next meeting is at 7:30pm on Wed 31<sup>st</sup> May**

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