

Chester Tri Club MC Meeting Minutes

13th June 2018

Present : Chris O'Hara; Sue Ellis, Leigh Jenkins; Andy Hamilton, Nigel Waterhouse; Neil Thomas;
Mike Waring

Apologies : Ian Ainscough, Susie Fourie

1. Deva Race

A number of participants of Deva Race have reported stomach problems after the race. Some participants are simply reporting for info, others want to know if water was 'tested'.

If there is a sewage release, it would take approx. 4 hrs to pass through. Therefore a release on Saturday would be unlikely to affect people on the Sunday. Rain before the race, washing off from fields up stream is more likely to be the cause. NW will try to contact Welsh Water for info re sewage release. It will be factored in to Risk Assessment e.g give people warning of increased chance of infection, or in the case of the Deva Divas, could change to a duathlon in worst case scenario.

AH – Noted that it is also possible that there are other legitimate reasons why people might have a bad stomach after an open water race in unfamiliar water, with unfamiliar nutrition.

It may also be a case of more people reporting an issue than in the past, rather than more people actually being affected.

News reporting in a local paper seems inappropriate – should consider doing a press release to emphasise the positives of the races. A Pre-race press release would be very positive and could potentially short circuit negative reporting. **Action : Leigh to co-ordinate some pre race press coverage for Deva Divas.** Plenty of material about entrants and their challenges/achievements to write about.

Dan brought in some paid bike course marshals to cover need for marshals, and release people for other posts. More communication between race team and other committee might make race set-up easier. Dan is holding a post race 'wash-up' meeting.

2. AG reps

Going to have a male/female rep for each age-group. People will be asked to self nominate. To be a person who should be approachable and a good conduit for members to become familiar with. Might encourage more championship participation, and more social interaction.

Mike W suggested tying it in 3 championship age groups, so only 6 people required, instead of 20. COH would like to try it as proposed, and adapt accordingly. **Action : COH to follow up with Jess re publication.**

3. Run

Diane Duret ran a beginner session at track – only 2 attended.

Track is doing well & there are a variety of run sessions, which offers a lot of choice to people, but means that some sessions have small numbers. In overview, running is in a healthy position. SE commented that club needs to keep the importance of key sessions in sight, and ensure that they are well run, well coached and well structured, before spreading out to other things. Remain aware of the possibility that resources can be spread too thinly, leading to decline in quality of what is offered.

Mike to speak to Dave T & Kelly about doing a classroom seminar on pacing for running. SE will do booking of venue etc if it goes ahead.

4. Kit

Bioracer kit was ordered more than 6 weeks ago and not yet dispatched. So racing kit will be late for race season. Nothing can be done now.

A bright (pink!) towel suggested as likely to be very popular. Rucksacks also to be considered. Amphibia bags can be personalised. Kit team to look at options.

5. Coaching

Swimming cover still very poor. Coaches have not been putting themselves on the rota, so AH, although it is not his preferred method, is proposing returning to a paid swim coach.

NT - Would provide consistency, likely to be best option for club.

Others all in agreement. Club members would prefer to have a paid coach than no coach at all, or inconsistent coaching. AH has taken the load to a great extent, and this cannot continue.

Could be for a year only while new coaches come on board.

For mon & Fri – 4hrs/week

Likely to be financially 'doable'. (RM was paid £20/hr)

Next steps : Develop a role description, investigate possible candidates, work out costs.

AH to lead , with support from COH & NT.

Discussion tended towards opening the opportunity for a formal, contracted arrangement – to include coaches within the club, as well as outside. There will be a formal interview process.

Ensure that existing, regular, swim coaches – are included in the discussion.

Recruiting new coaches : SE suggested holding a Q & A session for an hour one evening, for talking to people interested in coaching, but unsure how it works, how much commitment etc is required. To be re-visited later, given time needed now for actions on swim coach (above).

Emma Brunning is booked for September 15th to take a Coach development session on swim coaching. Places to be offered to our current swim coaches first. **Sue to notify coaches & Collect names, & Make booking at City Baths.**

6. Deva Divas:

NW – Prep for Deva Divas & Aquathlons is in hand .

7. Trimark

COH & SE are meeting with Oliver Heald on 19th June to pass on info, and progress the application. All MC forms have been returned. About 50% of coaches have returned forms.

SE to contact Hannah to see where she is with the Welfare portion of the application.