

Final Draft Minutes – Macclesfield Harriers & AC Committee Meeting

Macclesfield Leisure Centre

Thursday 9th November 2023

Attendees – Keith Mulholland [KM], Mark Wheelton[MW] Barbara Murray [BM], Ray O’Keefe [RO’K], Emma Lord [EL], Mark Godden [MG], Sue Stockdale[SSt], Tom Whittington [TW].

1. Apologies - Kim Eastham [KE], Bob Lynch [BL], Steve Swallow [SSw], Kelly Buckley [KB].

2. Previous Minutes - The minutes of 14th September 2023 were accepted. All actions confirmed as complete.

3. Welfare and safety issues SSt provided a report on a range of issues including -

Ongoing member related welfare cases - No current further updates and actions to report

Accident Reporting - two accidents reported since the last meeting but only one reported correctly to the club

Agreed - All run leaders to be reminded that all accidents should be reported via the website where an injury results in assistance being required during the run. All run leaders also to be reminded of the availability of first aid kits and foil blankets for use if needed.

Action SSt to communicate the above via the club’s Run Leaders Facebook page.

Qualified Run Leaders - Committee had again been requested to revisit the issue of complying fully with the updated UKA first aid training requirements to have a qualified leader at every club advertised run. As previously agreed by committee whilst the club will aspire to achieving this, it is acknowledged that this will not always be possible.

Agreed - The ALL club runs continue to be advised on the appropriate FB page but where a qualified run leader is not available this is acknowledged by the group at the run and it becomes a ‘pop up’ event undertaken at club members own risk.

Action - SSt to also add this information on the run leader FB page and send to the club website admin. Run leaders to also cascade as necessary.

Volunteer Forms - SSt & MW have met to review and agree a new online volunteer form (for non-licensed volunteers only) to replace the old paper based system. The new template has been agreed with the website administrator. As such, completed forms will be forwarded to the welfare officers to then be verified by an appropriate club officer. Welfare officer to retain an overview of the volunteer process.

Agreed - Committee agreed their approval of this process.

Action - SSt to progress with the website administrator and the new system to be communicated through the website and club officials (with particular focus on track and field where the majority of ‘volunteering’ takes place).

Dogs at the athletic track - Following concerns at a recent club training session, to ensure the continued safety of young athletes, a subsequent review by the committee confirmed the following -

Agreed - Parents / carers of junior members, plus other athletes attending the track for training or events are requested to refrain from bringing dogs in the vicinity of the track and club house at drop off and pick up of athletes, that is around 6.00pm and 7.00pm.

Action - Coaches to cascade this information on training nights.

Review of FRA first aid training - TW confirmed that the 2 day course in September attended by 12 members had been both very successful and well received. The training had revealed the possible need for additional kit including bandages & 'wind shelters'.

Action - TW to review, cost up & report back at a future meeting.

4. Correspondence (MW)

UKA age group consultation - BM confirmed that the club had formally objected to the proposed age group changes. It was understood that these will however go ahead for the 2025 season.

5 Finance [MG]

MG reported the following:

- £360 donated to CRE8 from Terrys High 5
- £3500 invested in coaching and first aid training
- EA fees to be increased next year
- £937 interest paid on club accounts
- Probable balance budget at year end

6. Section Updates

Road Running [RO'K]

- 2 races remaining (Wilmslow Festival 10K & Stockport 10)
- Firm interest now being shown by a club member in filling the road running manager role.
- London Marathon places expected shortly & then allocated.
- Next year's road running championship races will need to be agreed asap

Fell [TW]

- It was confirmed that the various race series are now complete with more members entering longer races which is a positive development.
- Fell Relay Champs had 3 teams entered with a great performance by the open male team achieving a top 20 place.
- Fell Handicap date advertised as 10th December 2023
- Junior fell training and competing members will also be encouraged to run cross country. It was understood that any junior members competing in fell do so with family and not club support.

Trail [KB written submission]

- Run numbers varying up and down
- Decision made by run leaders to not require pre booking of attendance but this was to be encouraged where possible.
- Following one dog related incident the no dogs policy was clarified again with all leaders to avoid any further issue.

Cross Country [EL]

- It was reported that the first 2 races of the season have been well supported
- The best way to communicate updates with all members throughout the season is currently being reviewed.

Track & Field [BM]

- 2023 competitions completed and awards calculated.
- Grant awarded from Everybody Health and Leisure to support 2 young athletes with membership fees.
- Waiting list for U11 & U13 still very high (67 - U11 & 36 - U13). More coaches urgently required including for multi events groups (U15 / U17)
- First indoor sports league well attended (10 athletes). 25 athletes at regular training.
- County track and field champs to be held at Macclesfield 11- 12th May 2024
- U11 & U13 reminder to parents to drop off and sign in at club house on training nights.
- Discussions between the trustees of MADF & EHAL on future improvements at the track site continue to be progressed.

7. Club Colours

KM circulated an example of the new 'sublimated' club vest which was considered an improvement and is now available to purchase.

8 Vacant Club Positions for 2024

- Road Running Manager - as referenced above
- Track & Field Manager - BM confirmed that the role was now divided up between members and considered to be workable, although a specific manager would be preferable.
- Committee positions 2024 - 25 - The club chairman and vice chairman agreed to remain in post for a further year unless other members came forward and were interested in the roles.

9 Club Race / Club Supported Race

- TW reported that the following races were to date confirmed as 'club supported only' races where the respective RO applied for and held the licence / permit - Rainow 5 / Wincle Trout / Terrys High 5 / Langley Fete.
The designation for the Windgather and Gun Run races has still to be confirmed.
- Boxing Day Handicap - it was confirmed by the committee, that as with the club's FH race, the event would not require a licence / permit by the RO, provided that it remains a 'club member only' event and is advertised on the club website accordingly.

Action- MW to confirm with the ace organiser.

10 Macclesfield Running Festival

- KM confirmed that overall the event had gone well. He had reported a couple of improvements that were felt necessary back to the race organiser including the need for more allocated car parking and improved earlier communication to marshals on their defined roles.
- There were 977 runners across all Festival events
- Any resident issues / complaints were forwarded to the race organisers

11 Any Other business

MH & AC / Spunch (Orienteering) collaboration

TW proposed an in principle partnership to support several local events including at Teggs Nose. These were to be at no cost to the club and would be advertised in association with MH & AC.

Agreed - The committee agreed to this given the interest and involvement already by a number of club members.

Annual General Meeting

This has been booked for 22 / 03 / 2024 at Macclesfield Rugby Club

Date of next committee meeting – 11th January 2024 at 8.15pm

Meeting closed at 9.45pm