

## **Minutes of Macclesfield Harriers Committee Meeting**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 7:00pm**

**Macclesfield Leisure Centre**

**Attendees** – Keith Mulholland [KM], Bob Lynch [BL], Mark Godden [MG], Ian Humphreys [IH], Kim Eastham [KE].

**Apologies** –Ruth Groarke [RG], Dan Hunsley [DH], Kelly Hough [KH], Owain Morris (OM) Rachel Gilliland [RGi], Mark Wheelton [MW]

1. **Previous minutes/actions:** approved.

### **2. Welfare & First Aid reporting [KE]**

We recently received a welfare report regarding an off-lead dog chasing a young athlete and his father (on a club track night) whilst training on the grass trails around the clubhouse & track.

Whilst no-one was hurt, the incident was upsetting.

We would like to remind parents that dogs should be always kept on leads and in control at club track sessions.

**Action: DH to remind parents of junior members that dogs should be always kept on leads and in control at club track sessions.**

### **3. Finance and Membership [MG]**

- a. Club income to date this year is £10607
- b. ~130 members renewed in April.
- c. Overall senior membership is 119 members less than in 2025
- d. Junior membership is ~152-over 50 down on 2025
- e. This is likely to be due to members not yet renewing for 2026

**Action DH, KH, OM, EL-further reminder to renew membership needed from section heads to all members**

### **4. Kit update**

A new club kit manager (Sarah Cassie) has volunteered to take over from Ruth Groarke who has decided to step down from the role this month; huge thanks from

everyone at the club go out to Ruth who has modernised and simplified our arrangement with DP Sports over the last two years.

## **5. Section Updates**

### **a. Road Running [OM]**

Races in the club Road Running Club Championship continue to be well attended

Members are encouraged to submit road marathon results to Owain Morris if they would like them to be counted as results in the Road Running Club Championship

The club is grateful to new run leaders who have stepped up to lead some of our regular weekday evening runs and we are now often able to run 3 different pace groups (A, B, and C) on Thursday evenings

### **b. Fell & Trail Running [KH]**

Great attendance at our new Weds night social events, with about 20 people at the Church House and Boars Head following the fell runs.

First aid course finalised and oversubscribed.

### **c. Cross Country-no update**

### **d. Track and Field**

Macclesfield hosted a very successful 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in 2026 of the Cheshire T&F Grand Prix (CTFGP) on 26<sup>th</sup> April with 270 athletes (inc. 56 Harriers members) entering over 500 events between them; the tuck shop did some sterling trade, taking £470 in sales, almost covering the cost of lunch and expenses for the officials.

*NB: Crewe & Nantwich are hosting Round 2 of the CTFGP at Macclesfield track on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May*

Macclesfield are hosting 2 league matches on 18th/19th July; these will require significant support from our officials in order to satisfy league rules; 3 of our more experienced Macclesfield officials are currently unavailable for family reasons

There were some useful lessons learned leading up to the meeting as we only just got Trackmark approval for our throwing cage on the day before the event, which was entirely out of our control. Trackmark accreditation has now been granted for another 3 years, with track surface deterioration identified as a significant issue that will need to be resolved before the next inspection in 2029.

39 Harriers members have entered the Cheshire T&F Championships on 9th/10th May in Warrington

Jim Rowley is stepping down as Club Statistician and will be replaced by Dan Hunsley on a temporary basis until a permanent replacement is found; there will likely be a high frequency of applications for club records with the new junior age groups coming into effect in April 2026. Many thanks to Jim Rowley for all his work on Club Records in particular he overhauled the whole records book and provided regular updates.

Following recent membership renewals, we currently have 152 junior members (U10 to U20) compared to 204 in February of this year; the waiting list (see age group numbers below) is still long enabling us to start building numbers back up again, which is normal for this time of year:

- U10 but already age 9 (28)
- U12 (92)
- U14 (34)
- U16, U18 & U20 (28)

## **6. AGM feedback [KM]**

- a. Venue: It was thought that the Rugby Club venue with two rooms worked well
- b. The food provided was excellent and the overall cost acceptable.
- c. The AGM attendance was on the low side-to be improved in 2027
- d. A number of medals and awards have not been collected
- e. The shared spreadsheet for trophy return worked well
- f. Mixed discipline awards require an additional volunteer to take charge of it
- g. Fantastic job done by Gayle and her husband in organising the evening!  
Many thanks!
- h. Date of 2027 AGM **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March**

**Action: DH, OM, KH please remind awardees to collect medals/awards from the Clubhouse**

**Action: RGi to book two rooms at Rugby Club for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March**

## **7. AOB**

- a. There will not be a Startrack course this summer.
- b. IH will be joining the current Welfare team of MW and KE.
- c. MW will be stepping down from the lead Welfare role in March 2027.
- d. BL to meet next week with Everybody Leisure to discuss track renewal and plans to improve infield drainage.

**Action: RGi to update Club Officials list that is displayed in the Club House**

## **8. Date for next committee meetings**

**15 July 2026; 10 September 2026; 11 November 2026**