

TRENT PARK RUNNING CLUB

MINUTES OF THE “VIRTUAL” COMMITTEE HELD ON 29 JULY 2020

Persons present: Brian Bowie (BB), Andrew Dench (AD) in part, Natasha de Souza, Christine Hawker (CH), James Joy (JJ), Phillip Ley (PL), Jason Maloney (JM), Anthony Plewes (AP), Robert Pick (RP), Chas Taylor (CT), Paul Ward (PW).

Apologies: Adam Bowman (AB), Kath Sinnott (KS)

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Matters arising from the 27 May 2020 committee meeting:

- There were no matters arising that would not be dealt with in the current meeting.

Club’s response to Covid 19 (AD & JJ)

- AD joined the meeting. AD said that there were three issues which he would like the committee to consider:
 1. PPE for leaders. It was agreed that the club would purchase 20 sets of PPE kit costing up to £40 per set which would include items such as hand sanitizer, first aid kits and waist bags. This would also recognize the commitment from leaders.
 2. With regard to triathlon AD was uncertain whether TPRC needed to follow England Athletics or British Triathlon covid guidelines. AP confirmed that the triathlon section of the club was registered with British Triathlon and we should be following their guidelines.
 3. There was the option for the club to plan activities with no maximum group size. However, in order to do this the club would need to demonstrate that the activities were taking place in a Covid secure environment. AD was not satisfied that we could demonstrate this. After discussion it was agreed that the present booking system allowing a maximum group size of 6 was working well and should remain until England Athletics changed their guidelines which was expected in the next few weeks.
- The committee thanked AD for the enormous amount of work he had done on the club’s response to Covid 19.

Races & Running (AB & JJ)

- Although AB could not make the meeting he provided an update report. The first 3 races in the Metropolitan cross country league have been cancelled. There was very little activity other than virtual races.
- CT had spoken to Malcolm French who organizes the Sunday cross country league. These races are unlikely to take place in 2020.
- It was likely that there would be no cross country races this year.
- The club’s virtual handicap continued although there were few new entries.
- Discussion took place as to whether the club could organize its own races using the handicap format.

Juniors (PL)

- 45 minute training sessions were being offered to the juniors on a Saturday morning. One week was age group under 15/17 and the second week under 11/13. The sessions were

staggered with each coach taking one or two sessions. These sessions were very successful. Small groups working well. Demand was likely to increase.

- There were currently 6 junior coaches for Saturday morning sessions.
- Fiona Hathaway and Gavin Douglas would restart Thursday evening sessions from September.

Coaching (PW)

- We have an increasing number of leaders and coaches who are offering training sessions on Clubtrac.
- The number of members who are booking on the Clubtrac system is also increasing as they get used to the system.
- The club has had three sessions back at the track which are working well. The juniors are currently not using the track but are likely to from September. The sub 20 group have enquired whether the club could book the track from 6pm rather than 6.30pm to allow them additional time.
- PW was looking for more members of the sub 20 group to become licensed leaders and coaches.

Leaders & coaches (PW & CT)

- We have 40 coaches listed on the England Athletics website of which 29 are licensed. CT and CH have been sorting out various issues with the England Athletics website and our coaches with the aim of getting as many leaders and coaches licensed. Once leaders are licensed England Athletics insurance becomes valid. The way forward is to ensure that all leaders obtain their DBS, have a leadership or coaching qualification and undertake the online safeguarding course. Nine club members are booked on the LIRF course in September.

Triathlon (AP)

- Some events were now taking place although the larger triathlons had been cancelled.
- Open water swimming was now available at a number of venues.
- Furze field swimming pool had reopened. Pete Hughes would do a risk assessment in order for Monday evening sessions to restart.
- Queenswood. Pete Lambert had not heard anything from them.
- The Club's Triathlon Championship had been cancelled for this year.
- Insufficient demand for tri clothing meant that the order would not go ahead for the time being.

Membership (CH)

- Very little to report with membership having been suspended. The club has accepted 6 temporary members.
- Liz Moss was planning to open the Southgate Hockey Centre on selective days from next week but showers and changing rooms would not be available. Membership could not be restarted until normal club facilities could be offered.

Social (NDS for KS)

- Not much to report due to covid 19 restrictions. The annual dinner dance has been booked for 14 November 2020 at Hadley Wood Golf Club. They were talking to a band for the evening's entertainment.

Communications (JJ)

- JJ has been heavily involved in running the Clubtrac booking system. JJ was concerned that there were serious issues with Clubtrac and we may need to look for an alternative.
- JJ suggested that some parts of the weekly newsletter should be on the club's website.

Finance (JM)

- Very little to report. There was no income due to membership having been suspended and only minor outgoings.

Chairman's report (CT)

- Donation to Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service (WRAS). Prior to the previous committee meeting David Arnold had submitted a proposal to make a donation of £2,000. This was discussed at the previous committee meeting, the outcome of which was that the committee members felt that the donation fell outside the objects of the club and therefore the committee could not sanction the payment. The committee's decision was passed by CT to David Arnold who has responded that he was not happy that the minutes did not provide in detail the committee's reasons behind their decision. The following action was agreed:
 - David Arnold's proposal would be posted on the club's website next to the minutes of the last meeting so that members could see the details.
 - Invite David Arnold to submit a proposal to members for them to consider.
 - There was some discussion in the past regarding the club having an annual nominated charity which members could chose. A nominated charity would give members the opportunity to consider WRAS or an alternative charity as appropriate.
 - CT has been in contact with Cluttons who are the managing agents for the new Berkley Homes development. Cluttons have been helpful as regards car parking and have agreed to mention Trent Park running club in the residents' newsletter. Cluttons confirmed that work on the swimming pool has not yet been started.
 - CT had received an email from Ray Bull regarding the club's message to members re coronavirus and requesting an update on the Southgate Hockey Centre. CT agreed to forward the email to the committee members.
 - CT had received a communication from Pete Lambert regarding the development by TfL of the Cockfosters station car park who wanted to know whether the club wished to comment on the development. The committee agreed that this was a matter for individual members and not the committee.

Next year's committee and AGM

- The proposed date for the AGM is Monday 19 October 2020. JJ agreed to look at how we could have a virtual members meeting if we could not use the Southgate Hockey Centre and maintain such social distancing guidelines as exist nearer the date.

AOB

- It was agreed that Andrew Dench should be officially appointed as the club's covid coordinator. The committee members expressed their thanks to Andrew for fulfilling this role.

Date and venue of next meeting

- The next meeting would probably be another virtual meeting but we could decide nearer the time. The date will be Wednesday 30 September 2020.
- The meeting closed at 9.20pm