

## SOC Committee Minutes 1st March 2021 6.30pm via Zoom

Present: Ally Whitlock (Communications Officer), Beatrice Schaer (Committee Rep), Hannah Luffman (Social Secretary), Michael Smaldon (Committee Rep), Michelle Klein (Runners' Rep), Mick Turner (Secretary), Nikki Javan (Kit Officer), Ruth Pearson (Treasurer), Simon Webster (Membership Secretary), Tony Flowers (Chair). Peter Johnson (Runners' Rep)

Minutes of the meeting 14/01/2021 were approved

Matters arising from 14/01/2021 meeting

- Club rules/Constitution. MT & NJ had a conversation around this. **NJ to produce a roadmap for updating set rules in readiness for 2021 AGM in September.**

Action points remaining carried forward.

- Striders Strolls. Andy Elliott to communicate with the club when out of lockdown.
- C25K. NJ/PJ to plan for when back to running. **Note NJ has taken over from AW.**
- SW to add a 'How did you find us' question to the membership form.
- D&I monitoring and associated GDPR issues on membership form. HL/SW to investigate.
- Marathon Schedule. MK to pick up when possible.
- Website. **See below.**
- Ongoing D & I. **See below.**
- Croydon Half Marathon. No specific action points re this.
- Access to toilets at Sandilands. Protocols will have changed so further review/communication would be needed with Sandilands once we're nearer to being out of this latest lockdown.
- Run Leaders Q & A. James Burree ready to host. To be picked up when closer to return to running. HL to include slower runner inclusivity in Run Leaders Q&A to encourage runners from G5 to become run leaders
- Weekly e-newsletter. All ready to go but was postponed due to the latest restrictions.
- New member comms. In progress.

## Committee Strategy/Priorities

- There was a discussion around this to provide clarity for both club and Committee on what we're focusing on for the coming year, two years

....and more. Action point for Committee members to send TF their list of club priorities

## Chair

- Sandilands Committee meeting due in March
- Proposed works to Sandilands car park/lighting going ahead now.

## Finances

- 9 new memberships. Couple of Sandliands payments. Training and expenses costs included. Also some kit to be ordered. NJ to expense the kit she has ordered.
- Need a view on membership to see final effect but likely an outflow of cash this year. RP to look at the membership numbers needed to break even.

## Membership

- About 170 paid up. Last year we had c270. SW to send out individual emails for renewal.
- No decision taken on whether we ask for two years' subs for those who may have taken a break in 20/21 year.
- We are expecting membership to be down in 20/21. Can't be specific on full financial impact yet.
- PJ mentioned hardship funds from EA. RP to look at this. Though our funds surplus is likely to stop us being able to access these.
- Expecting 2 club places for VMLM based on membership numbers.

## Club runs

- Discussion around return to running and group numbers from 31st March. The Committee agreed to:
  - Keep within EA guidelines with groups of 12 for Wednesday and Sunday club runs within Covid secure environment as per our Risk Assessment.
  - AW to launch the new weekly newsletter that week.
  - Be mindful of some of the more quieter off road routes when planning routes within the initial period.
  - Open conversations with Croydon Harriers/Croydon Arena regarding Risk Assessments for track sessions at the Arena - whether joint with CH or Alan Dolton's proposed sessions. MS to check with CH and update Committee.

- SW requested help for communicating with new members, both generally and for trialling runs with us. Interested parties to let SW know and to ensure the striders gmail inbox is covered at all times.
- Speed sessions.
  - Chris Morton. Chris has decided to step down from managing his Tuesday evening speed sessions.
    - The Committee noted a huge thank you for the years of service. A formal thank you and recognition of his years of service will follow.
  - The Committee agreed to re-start the 6.30pm and 7.30pm sessions from 30th March.
    - Simon Ambrosi happy to continue to manage the 7.30pm session.
    - From re-commencement on 30th March the 6.30pm Tuesday sessions will be managed by LiRF leaders - AW, PJ, Amanda.
    - AW to organise these for an initial 12 week period and then the club to re-evaluate.
    - NJ to look to take up the LiRF course.
    - The club will encourage more runners to take up LiRF training for the off-track sessions.
    - It should be noted that AW and James Burree are earmarked for Coach in Running Fitness courses when schedules allow.
  - PJ raised concern over the current venue for off-road sessions so this will need to be taken into consideration when planning future sessions. PJ to communicate with AW.
  - TF to contact Chris re any kit he has.

## Run&Talk

- This topic was picked up again following a pause after becoming an EA Run&Talk club in late 2019/early 2020. Covid delayed hosting a Run&Talk event.
- NJ & HL to look to organise an event later this year.

## Communications

- Website
  - AW sent a brief and page map around for Committee discussion.
  - Updating/finalising content remains the biggest remaining piece of work
    - MK offered to assist AW on a plan for this.

- MT also offered to help with results/records pages from a club history perspective.
  - AW has spoken to two copywriters to help with the final editing of the content.
- Social communication. A club member asked if we would consider using another platform/email list other than Facebook for social interaction.
  - The Committee agreed it was not possible to manage/moderate another social comms channel.
  - The new email newsletter should help improve the email communication from the Committee.

#### D & I Survey.

- Survey - relatively low uptake of survey. 43% of people saw the conversation was important.
- HL has started conversations with the D&I officer at Croydon Council and a few grassroots organisations. HL will update on conversations in future meetings.
- HL will take things forward with those who raised their hands to help.

#### Socials

- March Re-run challenge for pre-lockdown easing.
  - HL/AW/NJ to organise. HL to communicate. For 13/14th March.
- Small comment for International Women's Day. HL.
- Lunar New Year challenge and social.
  - It was noted that this went down incredibly well so thanks to HL for organising. Engagement in FB group was especially good.

#### AOB

- Club Secretary.
  - MT tendered his resignation effective asap.
  - Committee Members to express interest in role to TF in the first instance.

Date of 26th April 2021 set for next meeting.

Meeting concluded at 9.00pm