

Darwen Dashers Running Club - Annual General Meeting 24/4/14. The Fernhurst.

Present

Chris Cash Secretary	Barry Clark	Dave Moir
Linda Clarkson President	Russell Corsini	Joanne Nelson
Carly Edwards Ladies' Capt	Susan Corsini	Derek Reilly
Rebecca Simms Treasurer	John Dewhurst	Gareth Taylor
Barry Shackleton Men's Capt	Neil Duerden	Gary Taylor
Jonathan Stubbs - Chairman	Janine Fallon	Jim Taylor
Alison Abbott	Cath Fox	George Thompson
Karen Atherton	Alan Garnett	Brian Tull
Alex Buckland	Nerina Gill	Michael Wilding
Carol Butterworth	James McGarry-Stanley	

Copies of the 2013 AGM minutes were distributed.

JS opened the meeting at 20:30 and thanked all for attending.

Apologies

JS informed the meeting that apologies had been received from Russell Egan, Jamie Dowdall, Simon Fox, Mark Walsh and Paul Livsey.

Approval of 2013 AGM Minutes

JS asked the members for last year's minutes to be taken as read and the motion was passed.

Ladies' Captain's report - Carly Edwards.

- Carly thanked all members for their enthusiasm and participation in club events. In particular, she mentioned Social Sundays, Halloween Run, Timed Runs and various nights out. She also mentioned the growing importance of the Wednesday running group that is generating an increasing number of new members.

Men's Captain's report. Barry Shackleton

- Barry informed the meeting that he had only been Men's Captain for three months, but was enjoying the role and intended to stand for re-election. He went on to mention the resurgence noted in organised training including interval and hill training. The club Facebook page has become an important communication tool for all members. BS requested access to the management of the dashers website, to which JS readily agreed. It was noted that Fell and Road championships have not been as popular this year and asked for ideas to stimulate this. Many ideas from the membership were received which will be taken in to account during this year and when planning future championships.

Secretary's report. Chris Cash

- Chris requested that the sliding scale of subscription fees is altered so that it does not drop below the £10 that needs to be passed on to UKA. This was agreed.
- Members were informed of the ½ price membership deal that Jill Ashcroft, BwD, has funded. To be eligible, members must have attended 6 running group sessions and 4 further Dashers sessions. The funds from BwD have not yet been transferred but it is expected that we will be able to offer this to around 20 new members.
- Chris was pleased to report that although 12 members had resigned in the last year, twenty new members have joined.

- The 'Meet and Greet' rota is running well now. Chris publicises details via Facebook for Tuesday and Thursdays. He asked for members to volunteer to help share the load. It was suggested that the nominated greeter wears a club vest to make them more obvious to new faces.
- Brian Tull asked if subscription renewals could be paid via direct debit. RS replied that this is one option being investigated.
- Alex Buckland offered to investigate the use of PayPal on the dashers site to pay subscriptions.

Treasurer's report – Rebecca Simms

- Rebecca reported that the bank balance is £2096.58, which is a fall of £397.19 over the last twelve months. This is due to the purchase of new equipment and a slight loss due to the Christmas Do.
- It was highlighted that charitable donations from fell race income was £364 plus the David Staff Race contribution. Discussion arose and it was agreed that this was an appropriate level and it was further agreed to not formalise the donation limit from fell race.
- Rebecca informed the members that full details of the club accounts are available on request.

Chairman's report – Jonathan Stubbs

- The club constitution was discussed and it was highlighted that there are several parts that need re-wording or removing. After discussion it was agreed that the committee will publish a draft updated constitution in the Dash for discussion. This will be accompanied by the current constitution for comparison. A date for an EGM to approve the finalised document will be publicised.
- In line with the constitution, a volunteer was requested to audit the club accounts. Many thanks to volunteer George Thompson.
- Jonathan asked for a volunteer to stand as Race Organiser for Darwen Gala Fell Race. There were no volunteers. JS to inform FRA.
- Thanks were given, on behalf of the club to: Alex Buckland and Vikki Livsey for their excellent work with the Wednesday running group; Linda Clarkson, outgoing President for her many years of committee work.
- After last year's rise in membership fees it was agreed to keep it unaltered this year.

Election of committee posts

Post	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder	Outcome
President	Brian Tull	John Dewhurst	Sue Corsini	Appointed
Chairman	Jonathan Stubbs	Karen Atherton	Brian Tull	Appointed
Treasurer	Rebecca Simms	Joanne Nelson	Carol Butterworth	Appointed
Secretary	Chris Cash	Janine Lowe	Carol Butterworth	Appointed
Men's Capt'	Barry Shackleton	John Dewhurst	Nerina Gill	Appointed
Ladies' Capt	Carly Edwards	Joanne Nelson	Janine Lowe	Appointed

Open forum

- Janine Lowe asked for an update regarding the availability of new clothing. Linda replied that she is to find a new supplier. It was suggested that 'Darwen Dashers Running Club' was altered to 'Darwen Dashers' to reduce costs. This was agreed. Mick Wilding agreed to pass on a supplier's contact details to Linda.
- Carol Butterworth and Derek Reilly are to supply a contact for Pete Bland regarding vest supplies.

- James McGarry-Stanley asked if it was possible for the club to organise a road race. This was considered, but not brought to a conclusion.
- Alex Buckland reported that some non-members see the club as 'elitist' and asked how this could be resolved. Discussion arose and it was pointed out that publicising the wide range of parkrun times was helpful, as would be the wearing of club clothing socially.
- Carol Butterworth asked if the large number of small votes in 'Dasher of the year' and 'Most Improved Dasher' could be addressed. After discussion it was agreed that members will be asked to nominate with a short reason. The nominations will then be publicised and votes will then be collected in the same manner as now.
- Chris Cash reminded members that only those with London Marathon rejection slips are eligible for one of the club places. Jonathan reminded the meeting that, in addition, rejectees also need to complete at least four fell or road championship races. It was acknowledged that this rule had not been applied for 2014.

The meeting closed at 21:45