

Darwen Dashers Running Club Annual General Meeting
Held Thursday 18th March 2018 at the Old Function Room

Minutes

Chris Cash opened the meeting and introduced the format of the evening.
The minutes of 2017 AGM were approved.

Road Captain's Report.

In Fran's absence, Chris Cash extended congratulations to everyone who had competed in the year's road champs races. Attendance at most events has been high. Fran to stand down at her own request, due to other commitments.

Fell Captain's Report

Claire Hardy extended congratulations to everyone for participating in the past year's fell championship races.

A small series of "bunny run" races have been added to the 2018 fell championships as ideal races to encourage fell running beginners to try the sport. These will run alongside the regular fell championships.

Beginner's Captain's Report

Alison Abbott explains that there have been 4 Beginners Groups since the last AGM with a total of 450 attendances. Beginners (that have graduated) have accounted for approx. 20 of the Club's new members. Alison thanks Brian Morris, Jim Taylor and Rick Marsden for their continued support and thanks the Committee for agreeing to purchase T-Shirts for the beginners that complete the 10week programme.

Changes proposed for the coming year are less frequent beginners' groups – one in January and the other in the summer/autumn, and the introduction of a progression group –will be incorporated into the current Improver Group setup. Graduated beginners move up to the club together and be part of a 5-10K group over a 10 or 12 week period that will end with a 10K race (a championship one if there's one suitable). All current Improver Group leaders are aware of this and are happy with the idea.

Treasurer's Report A summary of the accounts was distributed and Rebecca explained that the balance was £3,086.31, down from £3,712.33 at last year's AGM. Race expenditure was £743.98 on fell and road relays, cross country and champs races and income £1,332.04 from our club races. £1,845.55 has been donated to charities including, Bolton Mountain Rescue, Macmillan, Crohn's & Colitis, East Lancs Hospice, CRY. Membership brought in £2,853.24 and UKA cost £1,185.24. Losses from clothing (though this alters as stock is sold), social events, Dash printing, and other expenditure including training, BG trackers, website and stamps.

Heritage Half Marathon account –

Rebecca explained that the Heritage Half Marathon money is in a separate savings account, to provide contingency in case we don't get a sponsor for future races. After each race the committee will decide how much is to be held in that account to provide that contingency and how much should be donated to charity.

Current balance is £3,086.31, down from £3,712.33 at last year's AGM. Rebecca explained entries are still coming in for this year and expenses are yet to be paid out so this is not a true reflection of the race proceeds.

Secretary's Report Amy explained that current Membership stands at 180 compared with 187 12 months ago. The club has had 24 new members. This is down slightly from 30 the previous year. This

year we are down 31 members of which 3 were resignations; this is an improvement on the previous year when we lost 57. Whilst we are down on membership numbers, the gains/losses are much more balanced than they were in the previous 12 months.

President's Report

Jim Taylor congratulated all members on another brilliant year of Dashing. The club's teamwork, charity donations and races have been frequently reported on in the Lancashire Telegraph, which is great for the club's local reputation. The club continues to be one he is proud to be part of.

Chairman's Report

Chris Cash said he has been focusing on the social aspects of the club, and the past year had been a successful one for club events both sporting and social. Highlights include litter picks, the Hawes End hostel weekend, the trampoline park trip, the Sunday social runs and many more.

Thanks to Debbie Bevitt for editing the Dash, Fliss Watson for clothing and also all who turn up week in week out to take groups out and support the success of the club.

After being both club secretary and then chairman, Chris is standing down at his own request.

Alison Abbott thanks Chris for all his hard work for the club over the years, seconded by committee and room.

Setting of the membership fee for 2017

UKA fees have increased by £1 and the fees for members will rise from £28 to £29.

Election of committee members

President	Jim Taylor confirmed he would continue
Chairman	Simon Fox proposed, Gareth Davies seconded
Secretary	Amy Freeman confirmed she would continue
Treasurer	Rebecca Simms confirmed she would continue
Road captain	Gareth Taylor proposed Simon Fox seconded
Fell Captain	Claire Hardy confirmed she would continue
Beginner's Captain	Alison Abbott confirmed she would continue

Presentations

Road Championships – Ady Humphreys first male, Beccy Jepson first female

Fell Championship – Dave Shorrocks first male, Rebecca Simms first female

Park Run Championship Brian Shaw first male, Cath Fox first female

Maureen Roberts trophy – Mick Taylor

2018 Championships races will run from April to December 2018, to allow the awards to be presented at the Christmas Party along with the other club annual awards. 2019 and onwards will see Championships run from December-December. Motion passed.

Race lists for both road and fell champs are on the Dashers website, in the Dash and reminders will also be posted on Facebook.

Open Forum

Call for suggestions for ways to spend club money that will benefit club. Any ideas to be passed on to committee members for discussion.

Gareth Davies and Amy Freeman extend thanks to the club for it's support on the Bob Graham round attempt.

Andy McAllister suggests getting rid of or making changes to the “family” membership option, as the club makes no money from these members as the full fee goes to UKA. Don Kuczer-Clarkson suggests that in families where money is tight or where one member is a regular runner and one is only a casual runner, we may lose the “family” member entirely if they have to pay full price. A question is asked about how many family members the club has. Rebecca Simms raises that the numbers are looked into, and the issue about how to continue with full/family membership will be debated with the full statistics available at the next AGM. This motion is passed.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.