

From: caroline haywood - Somerset RC Tri Club Mail@loveadmin.com
Subject: SomersetRCTri Committee Meeting Minutes, Thursday 17th Jan 2019
Date: 24 January 2019 at 08:07
To: jo_carritt@me.com



Joanna

Possibly the longest document you'll (not/partly) read today....

Attendees

Anthony Heaton-Jones (AHJ)

Chris Higgins (CH)

Paul Partington (PP)

Chris Perring (CP)

Lee Macklin (LM)

Emma Braithwaite (EB)

Kay Southway (KS)

Mike Southway (MS)

Susanne Crane (SC)

Andy Ellins (AE)

Stephen Wray (SW)

Chris Gunn (CG)

Caroline Haywood (CazH)

Frankie White (FW)

Absentees

The rest of you:)

The first Somerset RC Tri committee meeting of 2019, with an agenda full of items to cause mass rumination and hopefully precipitate some cunning plans with regard to the year ahead. The dwindling number of committee members come April 2019 is a concern and it is hoped that New Year's resolutions from (dis)interested parties will help to alleviate the vacancies.

Development ride (DR).

Frankie W, Liz W and Gill S have been joined by the original development ride leader and inventor MS, to ensure a DR option is provided weekly. Each volunteer has agreed to do 1 in 4 weekends. MS suggested a Whatsapp group for the DR leaders to discuss who could do which date. MS suggested the DR depart from Blackbrook instead of Wellsprings. CazH noted that Blackbrook B has been an intermittent 'pop-up' ride and has been successful in providing a pace twixt DR and BB ride. MS noted that potentially we could have 3 rides from Blackbrook (Blackbrook A, B and Development ride).

AHJ advised we may need to be more aware of cars coming in and out of the BB front entrance and it may be wise to ask club members to meet around the side of BB to avoid frustrating BB staff and users alike.

ACTION: DR sorted! Happy days:)

Junior Aquathlon (JA).

FW suggested moving JA to Taunton School due to a shiny more pleasant 25m, 5 lane pool to swim in complete with viewing for the supporters. FW noted the playing field was smaller than that at Queens but increased loopage would suffice. A smaller field would reduce marshalling requirements too. FW advised Taunton School keen to get involved and host the event. The aquathlon will continue to be in October with a similar array of junior events. No objections were heard from the committee (some awe was audible for FW's continued sterling efforts in driving the club forward).

ACTION: FW to sort arrangements with Taunton School with regard to hosting the junior aquathlon in 2019.

Club accounts (we have some!)

The financial statements up until the end of June 2018 were presented by CG to an intrigued/concerned audience who weren't quite sure if over the financial year the accounts had disintegrated into a state that would require the selling of non-necessary body parts to alleviate the deficit.

As it turned out (and in a nutshell to avoid induction of narcolepsy in the susceptible populus) in the last financial year (up until June 2018):

Total club income: £40,786

Costs: £49,679

Deficit: £9,862.

Losses were due to:

- Increased swimming pool hire costs (both GLL and Taunton pool), poor co-operation of some members with payment of swimming fees (prior to the adoption of the paysubsonline system) and insufficient numbers of swimmers signed up to sessions to cover the costs.

Costs of swimming pool hire: £31,943

Income from swimming fees: £19,325

You do the math....

- The race accounts (costs and income from all three of the Somerset RC Tri races)

Costs of race provision: £14,608

Income: £12,289 (due to dwindling participation numbers)

- Club kit

Stock at beginning of the financial year: £3551

Income for kit sales: £1366. This loss was considered due to bizarre levels of stock that had been ordered (historically) and despite DT's best efforts to shift it at knockdown prices apparently SRCTri umbrellas aren't an item that is in high demand at present - so figure

an item that is in high demand at present....go figure.

CG noted that the HUGE deficit associated with swimming costs had been addressed by increasing fees to £4 session and removing the Wednesday night 8pm session. CG provided a detailed document that showed that the increased fees and paysubsonline system had meant that the swim sessions were all breaking even (all except the Friday night 8pm session which was still creating a small deficit due to lack of attendees) and most were mildly profitable. CG projected that by the end of 2018 the deficit should have been reduced to £1800 (and body part sales wouldn't be necessary). Accounts up to this date are needed to confirm the figure.

CG advised that in 2019 GLL are looking to increase fees by 3% (not so with Taunton pool). FW observed that GLL's contract will finish in 3 months and they will have to barter to provide continuing leisure services at these sites. FW advised to wait and see who takes over and what the costs for pool hire will be. CG advised a budget could be produced at that point (definition of budget.....'organising where the money will go rather than wondering where it went'. We definitely need one of these!).

CG estimated that membership fees should bring in an estimate of £3,460 in March. Projection from CG is £3,618.35 IN CREDIT by the end of June 2019 (financial year). Whoop whoop! Perhaps even enough to buy some non essential body parts (if we wanted to...)

AHJ asked about the number of signatories we have for the club bank accounts. Frankie White will be added to the list of signatories. CG stated the use of Hammett Associates for unaudited accounts costs £600, he suggested that we could save money by not using them. CazH suggested that it may be sensible to have the accounts checked by an external body like Hammett Associates rather than 'in house' to aid transparency and clarity in case of any further awkward situations with the accounts.

CG apologised for the delay in account provision and offered to step down from his position of accountant if the club wished it. AHJ asked whether this was what CG wanted and if not perhaps Rebecca Oatley could assist with the club accounts going forwards.

ACTION: Quarterly reports should be provided for the club to prevent such a near disaster in future. CG has offered to do a yearly budget for the club. Rebecca Oatley to be approached and cajoled into co-Treasurer. Subject to the CM, AHJ requested that CG and RO make contact asap and discuss division of the role of Treasurer.

Open Water swimming (OW).

Method of payment is a continued discussion point as this session is losing a marginal amount of money and collection of cash on the night is considered suboptimal. AHJ and the committee members present at the meeting are in favour of a paysubsonline system for OW swimming, to increase the transparency of payment and eliminate the hassle of collecting cash. AHJ asked how PS pays for the venue and kayakers. CG advised PS pays via the cash funds collected on the night. FW advised that if we move to a paysubsonline system then PS will be provided with the cash required to pay the kayakers. CG advised that white boards and four 'tempo trainer' gadgets had been bought from the funds of OW swimming after approval from the coaching committee.

MS (who is known to do some kayaking with Mrs S) advised that there was little need for a kayaker as rescuing someone from a kayak is pretty much impossible. JC advised that kayakers are reassuring for nervous swimmers and should be maintained.

ACTION: Decision to move to paysubsonline payment for OW swimming. CG will speak to PS and approach the OW venue to invoice the club for its fee.

Website updates.

DT was unavailable due to prior skiing commitments but requested that changes be made to the website

with regard to the stock lists (to include what items we have for sale). LM advised that he can make changes to the website as DT requires.

LM advised that he had a discussion with regard to updating the website with Rob Swan (RS) from 'Open Door Internet' company. RS could re-jig the website and update the content, including acquisition of a SSL certificate (apparently it's a good thing to have and when interested parties click on the website the SSL certificate ensures it is safe to use and private data is protected, for example, usernames, passwords and credit card details etc). This bundle would cost £350 + VAT. CG advised the club could afford it. It was generally agreed the website is currently dire and not attractive to new members. LM keen to see RS and discuss website changes and this maybe a good way of boosting membership going forward

ACTION: LM to speak to RS and improve website. LM to liase with DT regarding the stock list DT would like on the website page. DT to have another push on facebook to sell surplus stock.

Gazette feature.

LM has been in touch with the local gazette and they are keen to do a feature on Somerset RCTri club. SC advised that our members that have qualified for GB places next year could be showcased. The committee was in favour of LM organising this endeavour.

ACTION: LM to liase with local rag and arrange some favourable publicity for the speedy ones.

Club races.

Aquathlon Feb 17th. 74 entrants to date. SC suggested that perhaps posters secreted in various locations would help advertise the event. AE agreed posters would be beneficial. LM asked AE to send him the logo for Bridgwater College (our new sponsor) and he will explore his artistic side and produce a poster for the events.

Triathlon. AE advised that he would like to include a junior race (Tristars triathlon or aquathlon) as we have access to the rugby club field opposite the sports centre. AE mentioned the possibility of an Olympic distance triathlon however it was generally considered that this might be a bit arduous for both marshals and competitors doing a double lap of the course. EB suggested adding an aqua bike event to the mix.

AE discussed changing the triathlon finish location to the rugby club but that main issue was the run finish would have to cross the road and runners (probably oxygen deficient at this point) may get mowed down by an over eager competitor on the bike leg. AE advised changes to the current format are time consuming and he would need some assistance with organisation if diversification of the event was to be considered. EB suggested a race committee.

AE suggested that Bridgwater College may be able to provide students to assist marshalling on the day, especially if a junior race was organised. CP mentioned he has contacts in the scouts and they maybe able to assist with marshalling duties. It was suggested the scouts may want to raise money via selling edible goods (cake mostly).

ACTION: Volunteer(s) (willing or otherwise) required to assist AE with triathlon organisation. Such a person would need to step up in the next few weeks as organisation is imminent!

Coach refunds

AE suggested a process is required for the payment of club subscription fees and BTF. KS advised coaches should just email request to CG. Richard Brown and Chris Perring have payments outstanding. CazH asked for payment to be paid within 1 month to relevant parties. ER suggested the possibility of an online claim

for payment to be paid within 1 month to relevant parties. EB suggested the possibility of an online claim form, which is open and accessible to coaches. CG to look at online process.

ACTION: Coaches to claim directly to CG. CG to research an online claim process if viable.

Grant Butler (GB) memorial ride

AHJ noted that the GB ride was later than planned compared to last year. FW is the latest recipient of the GB award and perhaps could decide on a date that suited her for the upcoming year. AHJ advised that the old 'SCAT' route to Willand should be used to avoid route dilemmas as this was the route that Grant did most weekends.

ACTION: FW to confirm date for GB ride if possible for 2019. ?September

England Athletics Association affiliation

SC has looked into the prospect of EAA affiliation and found it to be a bit of a faff. The EAA require hoop jumping of profound proportions to become affiliated (including £100 club fee, individual fee payment, our club constitution needs to be verified by the EAA and then club members must wear a skimpy stripey running vest at any EAA event). It was decided hoop jumping was too onerous and we were best off unaffiliated.

INACTION required

Renewal of club subs

FW had to depart before this item but it was considered that the paysubsonline would process the renewal fees around February (to be confirmed by FW). Potentially if members have not renewed within one month then they could be taken off the swim lists. EB advised that the facebook page cull had reduced numbers by 35 (EB had dispatched previous members that had not renewed from the facebook site).

ACTION: FW to confirm subscription renewal date. CG suggested RO could potentially be in charge of the club membership (if she wanted to be.....:)

Committee positions to be filled

Chris Perring offered to step up to Race Captain and trophy distribution.

Club Secretary: No volunteer stepped forward. Mirella Fox (with legendary touch typing skills) has offered to step in if no one else was interested in undertaking the role. Thanks Mirella! You're a speedy typing star x

Club Chairman: Role still unfilled 😞

Social Organiser: Role still unfilled 😞

Paul Shergold will be stepping down from Monday night swim coaching at the end of this week (21st Jan) and a replacement coach will be required for his very popular session.

ACTION: Anyone??

AOB

Dates for your diary

AGM: Thursday 11th, 7pm

CM: Thursday July 18th, 7pm

CM: Thursday October 10th, 7pm. All dates to be confirmed by GLL.

Spinning: GLL has a lack of functioning bikes but 2 people from the present spinning group have rescinded their place and will be reimbursed by the club.

ACTION: Time to go home!

Thanks as always to those that attended, we didn't even get asked to leave Wellsprings this time:)

PS If you find any spelling mistakes or grammatical error's please be advised that it was my New Year's resolution to stop anoying pedant's....but what can I say;)

