

Pensby Runners Committee Meeting – 20th February 2019 Heswall Squash Club.

Present:

Roy Fisher (Chair), Ralph Pawling, Gordon Schofield, Andy Sumner, Dave Green, Andy Morley, Emily Astley (Minutes), John Keyworth, Nigel Crompton, Dan Bruffell

Apologies: None.

AGENDA:

1. Matters arising from previous meeting – 7th January 2019

- Following proposal at January 2019 AGM, Gordon contacted Andy Waring regarding joint Pensby / Birkenhead Cross Country Team – agreement from Birkenhead to split teams.
- Rob Chalmers now has full access to Pensby website.
- Multi Terrain Series (May and September) – Steve Saunders announced he is no longer going to co-ordinate these, but has reassured that he will hand over organisation role to someone else and we will hear in due course.
- TuffNutz – Nigel to look into suppliers for goodie bags.
- Nigel to speak with Stella Elliot – regarding content of website in relation to Family Sunday Runs, now adopted as an official club event.

2. Rider HQ Update – Dave Green

Dave reported that all numbers are currently up to date. GDPR is also now being updated. Some issues around people duplicating entries – entries adding onto one another until 2021. Concerns about auto renew function on website, Dave to look into this.

3. Seaside Runs – Gordon Schofield

- a. First full year of online entries for this year's races
- b. Gordon proposed changes to water supply at end of race.

Discussion points:

- Need for systems to be as manageable as possible but also desire to explore alternatives to plastic bottles.
- Concerns raised about wastage of plastic / as well as people not necessarily drinking all the water provided in the bottles.
- Whether water needs to be provided at all – positive feedback about water provision, and runners need to return to start point.
- Use of water containers which could be sterilised – Gordon raised concerns about possible contamination to water if not sterilised properly.
- Current costs for water provided is £12.99 for 80 bottles.
- **ACTION:** Alternative idea proposed:
 - Asda 5L bottle of water = £1.09
 - Compostable cups without plastic liners – 1000 for £68.00
 - Cost per race = £38 approx (currently spend around £39)

- c. Seaside Runs Website.

Discussion points:

- Whether Seaside Run Website is identifiable as affiliated to Pensby Runners.
- Issues about restriction / administrative access to website. Chris Nolan has overall administrative access, but no longer part of committee / running club.

- No formal contract in place with website developer – so difficulties perhaps not getting addressed as quickly as if contract were in place.
 - RP raised query of club purchasing another website / or developing another website. Website currently developed by Wordpress. Concern that one person has overall administrative access, less usable to other users.
 - Need to retain accessibility.
 - **ACTION:** to bring to next meeting to think about exploring other website packages.
- d. Merseyside Road Race League request
- Merseyside Road Race League have requested that their Seaside fixture can be changed from May to April date, as the May Seaside Run date coincides with Border League presentation night. No issues foreseen with this.

4. Track Nights – Nigel Crompton

Attendance has fallen dramatically throughout Winter. Pensby continue to have one club night free per month. 8 people attended last free session, coached by Colin.

Wirral AC happy for any Pensby Runners member to use the track Mon / Tues / weds, but we have to have a leader there, who is a qualified coach. Nigel needs to be made aware if anyone attends a Wirral track session. If there is significant motivation for joining Wirral AC session, Weds is a preferable night - Nigel able to coach.

Discussion about Thursday track as a regular fixed calendar item – whilst continuing to offer usual club run from Squash Club on a Thursday 7pm. Agreed need to offer both for different tastes.

- **ACTION:** Formal track sessions to be held from 1st May to end Sept. Plan to promote throughout club.

5. Treasurer's Report – Andy Morley

Bank Balance as of today; 20.02.2019 = £10,376.52

From January 1st – today = Tuffnutz has brought £1131 into the club

Seaside Runs has generated £308 so far from entries opening for first Seaside Run of 2019.

Pensby membership £2924 (last year was £4201) Query as to why a deficit?

6. Membership – Andy Sumner

Discussion points:

- Due to current renewal – no figures presented, as they are changing rapidly.
- 81 members have renewed today / some not renewing.
- 2nd claim memberships – in relation to current member / Coach / Mental Health Ambassador, Rob Beech not renewing, and taking 100 Marathon Club as his first claim club.
- Those with 2nd claim memberships, unable to run in Cross Country League – given increase in number of 2nd claim runners, this needs to be made clear to these members.
- Post on Pensby Runners website by Andy on Tuesday was viewed by 30 non-members, who still have access to website. Need for standard message to be sent to these regarding membership, and access continued / terminated.
- Need to increase membership to 150 to get 2 x London Places. Ideas discussed;
 - Pensby feather flag at Seaside run/ Tuff nutz?
 - Possible club membership for first non-club member in Seaside Race?
 - Banner on fence outside Heswall Squash club to advertise club?
 - Membership feedback – why people don't join / or don't renew
 - Link local charities with local institutions – e.g. NHS
 - Advertising in local papers – e.g. Wirral Globe – events such as Litter Pick

- Couch to 5K – link with Runners Hub – model of West Cheshire
- Encourage members to run in Pensby T-shirts on club nights (Wirral Vikings do this)

7. County Update – Nigel Crompton

Discussion points:

- Merseyside County Athletics Association AGM is to be held on 15th April 2019. Shared that they are currently looking for a new President. Anyone wishing to attend, should let Nigel know by 13th March 2019.
- IAAF want to impose maximum spike height in Cross-country.
- National and Regional EA External bodies remain in turmoil

8. Coach Proposal – Andy Sumner

Andy asked whether the club can pay for his training as a Coach (CIRF) – Fell Running.

ACTION: All agreed for Andy to go through coaching qualification to be funded by Club. Jeff Adams currently doing Fell – CIRF also.

9. AOB

- Dan Bruffell shared that he has been offered Coach availability through Birkenhead Sea Cadets, for club events, such as Cross Country. This is a small, 17-seater coach, which is possibly bookable, for a small donation to Sea Cadets.
- Ralph Pawling reported positive feedback from post about Road Relays at Birkenhead Park on 24th March 2019 – given current expressed interest of around 12 people, with possibly 5 women.
ACTION: Agreed this event to be paid for by club – Ralph to collate list of names to be put forward. Better to have larger number of names, as can't register at last minute.
- TUFFNUTZ
Discussion points:
 - Current priority - difficulty with assuring enough Marshalls for day – mini teams organised.
 - Query around event insurance and whether event needs a licence? If event covered by UKA club – they cover insurance.
 - First Aid all organised – just need to send in risk assessment
 - Someone needed to do timing on day.
 - T-shirts to be printed by Nigel / Runners Hub.
 - Query about advertising – need to adopt caution as limit of around 50 teams.
- 5 Mile Handicap
Next 5 Mile Handicap 5th March.
Plan to train people in system – Ralph / Dave to organise training in computer recording system on night – to advertise to ask people to arrive around 6.15pm.
ACTION: Ralph to pull together a guide for people to follow to download and organise data?
- Date and time of next meeting to be organised via Doodle Poll on Pensby Runners Committee Page.