

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Mid Sussex Triathlon Club

The Bent Arms Lindfield, 10 Dec 2018 at 8pm

1. Committee for Meeting

Angela Murray	- Chairman
Jeremy Paine	-Vice chair
David Ricketts	-Club secretary
Clair Hunt	-Treasurer (apologies)
Emma Jaffe	-Membership secretary
K Eifler/R baker	-Juniors' secretary(apologies)
Jo Fleming	-Race director
Neil Giles	-Head Coach
Roger Smith	-Press officer (apologies)
Mike Hook	-Webmaster(apologies)
Vicky von der Linden	- Social secretary (apologies)
Jean Fish	- Welfare officer
Julie Williams	- Open water swimming
Steve McMenamin	- Member without portfolio (apologies)

Also

Steve Alden	- Honorary Vice President
Mark Jordan	- Honorary President (apologies)
Matt Critchley	-Volunteer co-ordinator (apologies)

2. Minutes

- The minutes of the previous meeting were approved without change.

3. Club Coaching

- Emma Smith and Vicky von der Linden are due to start coaching courses.
- A spin session may be starting at the Triangle in Burgess Hill. The equipment there is of good quality.

4. Juniors

- There was a suggestion that a separate coaching prize be awarded to the juniors' section as their work isn't often recognised.
- This was discussed at length. The committee concluded that the juniors' section is separate from the rest of the club financially but not for organisation. Increasingly the juniors' section has functioned separately from the rest of the club.
- It was suggested that Jean Fish and Angela meet with Kate to clarify how we want the juniors' section and the club to function together.
- We need clarification of the requirements for a juniors' section as part of the Bronze and silver BTA qualifications
- The resulting written summary needs to be circulated to the committee prior to the next meeting and then discussed with the committee.
- Kate, Rachel and Rob bear the burden of juniors' coaching. It was suggested that if at all possible, parents of participating children should be encouraged to obtain DBS and coaching qualifications.

5. Swimming

- Arrangements will be made for the purchase of one or two open water swims at the end of the season (or from September onwards) without buying a new block of credits, for members who do not want to leave their OWS account in credit over the winter. Mike Hook will need to set this up on the website so we can keep track of payments.

6. Mid Sussex Tri race

- Jo Fleming discussed the 2019 race finances.
- The income is down by £2k-£3k on the peak of a few years ago.
- Better advertising may partially reverse this trend.
- Expenditure needs careful assessment. Most of the expenses are for timing, racking and safety.
- Medals will be purchased 1000 at a time, with the date put only on the ribbon so the medals can all be used over time. Some are used for BAR, juniors and

other races. Two potential new medal options, designed by Jean Fish, were shown and admired. Costings will be sought.

- The entry fee will remain at £37 as agreed at the AGM. This allows £2-3 for each competitor for a giveaway prize. Last years' gift was a beanie: we still have nearly 200 left over. Increasing the entry fee in later years may allow a better single giveaway prize for each competitor (such as a t-shirt).

7. Club Kit

- Kate Eifler sent the following email:

I have eventually managed to get a quote from Sussex Uniforms for the hoodies.

Adult Hoodies: £12.15 + MSTC Embroidery £3.75 + MSTC Vinyl £4.15 = £20.05

Adult Coach Hoodies: £12.15 + MSTC Embroidery £3.75 + Coach Vinyl £12.10 = £28

Adult TriHub Coach Hoodies: £12.15 + TriHub Logo £3.75 + Coach Vinyl £12.10 = £28

Kids Hoodies: £9.95 + TriHub Logo £3.75 + MSTC Vinyl £4.15 = £17.85

These prices are subject to a minimum order quantity of 100 garments.

Breaking this down it would be the following;

130 x adult MSTC hoodies = £2,606.50

10 x adult MSTC coach hoodies = £280

Juniors

50 x Junior TriHub hoodies = £892.50 - £15 per item (parent contribution) = £750 = £142.50

5 x TriHub coaches hoodies = £140

- This was discussed at length. It was proposed that the club offer each member a hoodie (in black and yellow: the only colour scheme available) or a £20 voucher for kit valid for a year. This would equate to a spend of £3000. No coach hoodies would be ordered.

8. Treasurers' report

Clair Hunt had sent the following email report:

In the future Clair will be the only person able to make internet payments from club funds.

Clair will ask for approval on payments over an agreed value with Angela/Jem. I can also

produce a listing for committee meetings of expenses paid out to keep you happy that I'm not doing anything fraudulent.

9. Chairman's' Report

- Spending to subsidise events: After discussion of this issue (which had been raised at the AGM in relation to Ragnar Relay) it was agreed to set up a separate capped fund to subsidise certain events. We will need to decide if entry fees are part of this scheme. This was further discussed under AOB.
- Gazebos: The committee approved the purchase of 3 branded gazebos, branded top and back.
- London Marathon: The club marathon place will be promoted in the club information about the EA membership.
- New members' places for the BH club Tri: If the volunteer slots are all filled this will be encouraged but it was unanimously agreed that the priority is to fully marshal the event first.
- Updating the main club website: This is under way (Mr and Mrs Hook).
- Social rides and events: Adam's recent run was a success despite the weather and members looked forward to more similar events. It was recognised that cycling was more difficult to organise than runs.
- Coaching awards: The separate coaching award will now be included in the member of the year category (and there will be no individual coaching award).

10. Social Matters

- Santa Run 14-12-18

11. AOB

1. From Martin Shoemith:

1.

Concession membership. I raised the point of concession membership. At the moment the concessions granted to student members is unfair. The costs of concession membership are (I think) £30 compared to £40, a 25% discount, £30 for swim fees, a nil discount and £4 for OWS a nil discount. In comparison Dolphin leisure offer a swim fee of £4.50 for non concession swimmers and £2.75 for full time students, a 39% discount. Applying the same discount, membership would be £24, swim fees £18 and OWS £2.4. May I remind the committee that students spend 9 out of 12 months at Uni, and there is strong argument in favour of offering a 75% discount on membership and swim fees, and a 40% discount on OWS (OWS is paid on a "pay as you go" basis). The club has 5 concession members, all students. The total cost to the club iro membership at £24 would be £80 pa. As far as I am aware, no student members pay swim fees. If all 5 members did, the total cost to the club would be £120. I do not know the number of OWS used by concession members. Assuming say 50 swimmers the cost would be £80. The club can afford to support its student members. May I remind the committee that the average student debt for a 3 year degree is now £50,800 (Inst. Fiscal Studies 2017). My point is that the club needs to update its concession membership so that it is fit for modern living.

2. During the club year 2017/2018 the club subsidised swimming by £2,850 (R.Baker 2018 AGM Report). In comparison I think the club subsidized running events by £0. Neil Giles was disappointed that the club did not support our runners at the Ragnar Relay. So was I. May I suggest to the committee that the club pay for the hire of a van for transport in 2019 should we enter a team(s) and

pay 50% of the entrant fee iro a team(s). May I ask committee members to refer to the facebook posts by the team. For some club members it was the highlight of their year.

3. On 18th November I cycled to the Brighton Brooks 10km event to support the club members participating in the event, a BAR sanctioned event. I could not spot any members. Non were wearing club kit. I did see Brad, Ricci, Phil Couch and Julie Williams because they called out to me (I was wearing club kit!). If the committee refer to the members photo of the event, non were wearing club kit. This is because there is no club running kit. In the year ending 2018 the members spent £245 on club kit. In the year ending 2017, the membership spent £2,026 (R.Baker 2018 AGM Report). Why? Following the club kit rebranding members are not buying kit. The club is in danger of losing its identity at events. It is losing its brand identity. To help solve the problem the committee should buy all current members one item of club kit. As the club kit is highly visibility it will help with member safety. As it is branded, it will help our branding.
4. The committee should subsidise club kit by 50% between now and the end of the year, on the basis of one item per member. May I refer the committee to the above comments as the to the reasons why this is a good idea.

The committee considered these points and replied as follows:

- **Point one: There are 5 concession members (unemployed, university and college students: All are university students) and 4 youth members. Currently the full fee is charged for the pool swimming. Only one concession member pays for the pool swimming at the moment. The following two options were considered: One= no change, two= 50% off pool swims with no limit to the number of swims. The membership fees and the OWS fees stay the same as they are. (There is already a concession membership fee and OWS fees are already subsidised and paid on a per swim basis.) This to be started as a pilot starting in March 2019. A unanimous vote supported option two.**
 - **Point two: The figure of £2850 is an overestimate of the swimming subsidy due to the accounting methods used. The yearly cost of swimming is slightly over £6k.**
 - **Point two: It was agreed to set up a yearly fund of £2k open to applications from all members. This would be to support age groupers who are entering their first event (already having qualified) (£100) or for big group events (5 or more members) such as Ragnar or other swim/cycle /tri/run events (£250 maximum for the event). Other criteria may be developed as applications are received. The money can be spent as the applicant or team captain chooses.**
 - **Point three: the committee decided to give club t shirts to new members. Club kit is becoming easier to order with the new system.**
 - **Point four: See kit and hoodie allocation above.**
2. Paul Hedger: I would like to propose something to the committee for a future discussion. I am not staging the Kidstri East Grinstead event in 2019 and am looking to see if any local triathlon club might be interested in taking it over.

The event has consistently been over-subscribed, it has always made a profit, a popular race in the junior calendar and would help a local club in having a doorway for future young people to join the club.

As the club has a junior section, I thought the committee might be interested especially as the income from adult events has been falling and possibly due to continue to fall.

One of my past events is already run by Brighton TC at Steyning and it would be good to see the East Grinstead event continue in the same way. I would be able to supply all the equipment needed, the timing as well, for a negotiated fee.

Please can I ask this is discussed at a future time and let me know if you would like me to attend a meeting to answer questions.

- Angela will ask the juniors section if they are interested in taking this on.
3. Charity funds: We have raised £1410.96 for the Kangaroos charity. Angela was encouraged to hand this over with a photograph and a smile for the Middy.
 4. Haywards Heath Harriers: Angela had met Marion Hemsworth (Chair) and Mark Sykes (President) of Haywards Heath Harriers. Our support has been sounded out for a running track in Haywards Heath or Cuckfield. We await developments.

12. Next meeting

4-3-19 8pm Bent Arms