



**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**4<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2023, 7.30. George Hotel**

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS – James Waldie**

**2. APOLOGIES – Fiona Manson**

Barry Campbell  
Neil Muir  
Veronica Muir  
Sonjia Crow  
Gillian McGuire  
Sally Newton

Cath Livingstone  
Robin Livingstone  
Adam Wooler  
Jenny Shilton  
Andy Miller  
Tessa Ward

Diane White  
Emily Falconer  
Zoe Ward  
Rose Ryan  
Stephane Reid  
Sue Bothwell

**3. ADOPTION OF AGM MINUTES 2022 – James Waldie**

Proposed: Fabienne Thompson

Seconded: Claire Douglas

**4. ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23 – James Waldie**

- Brig Bash (BB) & Tay Ten (TT) – have both been big successes this year with a positive, exciting atmosphere at both.
- Our own races have gone well – Pitmedden, Mob Match (95 runners), and Winter parkrun Challenge was popular.
- We had 10 trained race officials (SA), and first aid training next weekend.
- Membership – peaked at 192 this year.
- Champs, SS, HAA were completed and we would encourage all to take part.
- HAA format change was implemented, to include more trail races – this proved popular, and we saw increased participation.
- Thanks to all volunteers, coaches, XC organisers, food bank organiser, Kevin Rodgers (coach, Duathlon), and all committee members.
- Due to flooding at Bells, we have water-damaged vests and T-shirts which are for sale tonight at a reduce price.

## **5. TREASURER'S REPORT – David Innes**

We ended the year with a cash deficit of £2,500.

Hartley's hosting was a considerable part of this loss (£1,700), but this only take place once in 10 years.

We still have 2 years of gift aid to claim (about £600) to come in next couple of months.

Water-damage to club kit has resulted in about £500 loss.

Income from membership fees is up. TT made about £1,400.

Balance of funds is about £7,500.

## **6. CHAMPIONSHIP ORGANISER'S REPORT – Mark Crawford**

The three club series concluded successfully, but with low participation rates compared to previous years.

Winners:

Champs: Elliot Collins, Rhiannon Laing

SS: Elliot, Lou Ella Cole

HAA: Elliot, Paige Brown

Club hill race (Kinnoull Hill Race) winners: Mike McConnell, Paige Brown

Several internal events were held:

- Club Duathlon – winners: Harvey & Rhiannon. New organiser(s) is needed for next year.
- Target Zero – winner: Neil Muir
- Yahoo – to be held next Tuesday, 40 runners are signed up.
- Bertha Relays – organised by Kris Bain.
- Mob Match – this was held at Crook of Devon, hosted by KRR. It was very successful, although we lost both matches. In 2024, PRR will be hosting the Mob Match, which will be held on 20 August 2024 at Murthly.
- Presentation evening will be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024.
- WpC 2022/23 was won by Jimmy Fotheringham. 2023/24 WpC is underway.

Volunteers have been key to all our events and we are very grateful for their help.

## **7. RACE COMMITTEE REPORT – Mark Crawford**

TT had 228 runners, BB had 235.

In 2024, TT will again be held in late April. The course will have to change as the roads at Ruthvenfield have become too busy and dangerous. A new section of route avoiding this area has been selected. We will be dropping chip timing and using a timing app instead. This has been successfully tested at BB and Mob Match. This change will save £900 per race.

The race committee would like to increase prize money for 2024 onwards.

The aim for 2024 is to have 350 places for TT (with a new 17-19 age category) and 325 for BB (with a 16-18 age category). We are in discussions about contributing towards new toilets at the Bridge of Earn Institute, which would save us money on hiring Portaloos.

Thanks were extended to the race committee and to volunteers.

From 2024, the Mob Match will also be organised by the Race Committee.

#### **8. CROSS COUNTRY REPORT– Kevin Riddell**

2022/2023 season – 11 people received the XC participation medal, for completion of 4 out of 8 races.

PRR Masters women finished 4th in the East District League.

2023/2024 season is well underway – 27 runners so far this year.

SA has a new XC divisions format, based on numbers participating. We are currently close to the relegation zone in League 2.

There are three events left this season. Bathgate, Forres (Masters), and Nationals.

#### **9. JEAN WAINWRIGHT SALVER**

Honourable mentions:

Mike Dales & Fiona Manson – Jungfrau Marathon and Santana Vertical Kilometre in Madeira.

Paige, Agniewska and Fabienne – completion of Ring of Steall.

Dean Abberley & Elliot Collins – Swiss Alps 100k

Winners: Lou Ella Cole (Comrades, Kenyan Rangers Run) and Kenneth Stewart (30 years of Loch Ness Marathon).

#### **10. MOST IMPROVED RUNNERS**

Highly Commended: James Waldie, Alan Rigby, Maria Dale, Caroline Hogarth, Ann Reid, Rhiannon Laing, Sue Bothwell.

Winners:

Male: Dean Abberley

Female: Paige Brown

#### **11. CLUB PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR**

Members voted on the night.

Runner up: Roy Mitchell

Winner: Fabienne Thompson

## **12. LONDON MARATHON BALLOT**

Winner: Bryan Jenkins

## **13. PROPOSALS**

### **1. Ten Tay entry fee – submitted by Kenneth Stewart**

Proposal to reduce TT entry fee to £10.

The proposal was withdrawn by Kenneth Stewart.

Duncan Ryan clarified that this proposal had been considered by the race committee. Price levels were reviewed and deemed appropriate, so it recommends keeping as is (£15). Other options are being considered, such as having a discount for no medal/goody bag. Race currently costs about £9.50 per head, if race fills.

### **2. Inclusion of 16-17 year olds in PRR – submitted by the Committee**

Proposal is to lower the PRR entry age from 18 to 16. This is a change to the club constitution and therefore needs two-thirds majority.

Mark Crawford explained the drivers behind the proposal – as a club, we are getting older, with the average age now about 50. We need to attract younger runners to the club. Our aims as a SCIO are to increase inclusion, and to advance public participation. Young people currently have a 'gap' in training opportunities once they finish with the Perth Strathtay Harriers.

The committee has met with Lyndsay McMahon (SA) to discuss what it means for us as a club, and how it would operate.

Richard Ward presented three key areas for consideration:

- Governance – requires changes to constitution and adoption of SA policies.
- Safeguarding – no change to liability, Tues night runs – no coaches/PVG required. Need to have a trained welfare officer, and PVGs for WO and coaching team.
- Coaching – needs a common sense approach, including adapting each session to participants. The coaching team need full PVGs, as well as taking a coaching route through the SA training programme.

It was noted that 70% of running clubs in Scotland have a junior section.

16 year olds can race up to 15 km, 17 yo up to 25 km.

We would need to adapt the Championship to allow 16-17 yo to run.

We could offer 16-17 yo reduced entry fee. Some may want PRR as a second claim club.

In Scotland, 16 yo can be a charity trustee.

Clause 12 in the constitution would need a change in wording from “18” to “16”.

It might take us about 4 months to set this up, including training. The cost to the club is about £150 (mainly training).

Discussion points raised by members:

- doesn't change structure in training sessions, would have positive outcomes for club.
- could start with a junior champs, then progress to main champs.
- membership fee – keep low to encourage participation.
- what numbers are expected? Will it compete with Harriers? Response from Duncan – PSH are great, but at 16+, competition becomes very serious and most kids drop out. There's nowhere else for them to go for running. It's a critical age for teenagers to keep exercising.
- Do we intend to include XC for 16-17 yo? Response from Mark – runners can choose. Point was made by Grant W that U18s can only run XC for their first-claim club. *This latter point subsequently checked with SA: for some SA National races (principally the National XC, National Relays, National Short Course), all runners (regardless of age) can only run for their first-claim club. At other XC races, they may run for their 2<sup>nd</sup>-claim club. These same restrictions also apply to U18 runners. Also worth noting that there are U17 (at all races) and U20 categories run separately (at some races), so U18s may, in some cases, not run in the same race as PRR adults.*
- youngsters would feel part of a crowd at e.g. XC and parkrun.

Voting in room

For:49

Against: 0

Abstain:0

Voting by proxy

For:13

Against: 1

Abstain: 1

The proposal was carried.

#### **14. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Chair:** Mark Crawford (James Waldie proposer, Fabienne Thompson seconder)

**Vice Chair:** Jimmy Fotheringham (Mark Crawford proposer, Douglas Robertson seconder)

**Secretary:** Paige Brown (Stuart Robertson proposer, Kev Riddell seconder)

**Treasurer: Dean Abberley** (SR proposer, Claire Douglas seconder)

**Membership Sec: Clive Bowman** (JW proposer, DR seconder)

**Champs Org: Alan Rigby** (Dean Abberley proposer, Caroline Hogarth seconder)

**Race Org: Mark Crawford and Duncan Ryan** (KR proposer, JW seconder)

**Press: Ronnie Glen/Kenny Cairns** (JW/Lynn Gatherer proposer, Fiona Manson/CD seconder)

**Welfare: Elliott Collins** (JW proposer, MC seconder)

**Club clothing: Stewart Reid** (KR proposer, Mike Dales seconder)

**Web: Richard Ward** (MC proposer, JW seconder)

## **15. AOB**

Finlay Dale requested that the trophy cabinet in Bells be cleared up. The committee agreed this was necessary and would be done as soon as possible.

Grant Wooler intimated that he already has all the tickets for welfare officer, and offered to help Elliot to fast-track the process for 16-17 yo, if needed.

Karen Walters stated that she has accumulated a lot of club paperwork and photos over the years, and offered these to the club. The committee would like to keep these, and Karen is happy to keep them until needed.

Douglas Robertson announced the intention to hold a Perth parkrun takeover on the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Mike Dales (on behalf of Robin Wombill) – the Wee Winter Run will be back in February or March 2024. Look out for an announcement of date.

## **16. PARTICIPATION DISCUSSION – led by Mark Crawford**

Numbers participating in all series are much reduced since Covid. To help us understand why, we will be sending out a survey soon after AGM to gather member's thoughts.

Points raised in discussion:

- need to consider cost element
- we need to fix Tues nights, need to recapture social element.
- need to keep social side of races, car sharing
- XC has that friendly feel
- car sharing is important
- can be arranged through spond
- there used to be more social events. Tough to get people to come to these.
- was easier when you could turn up on the day of the race. Much harder with early sign-up requirements. There's an appetite for low-key, local events. And there are far more events in general now.

James Waldie thanked everyone for attending the AGM.

AGM ended 21:50

Minutes taken by Fiona Manson