



Garden City Runners Main Committee Meeting

**Thursday 18th October 2018, from 8.30pm
held at The Attimore, Ridgeway, WGC, AL7 2AD**

MINUTES

Members: Brad Smith (Chair), Louise Smith (Vice Chair), Helen Paine (Secretary), Andy Newbury (Treasurer), Sean Bowen, Richard Somerset, Tony Harden, Jane Molloy, Nigel Cavill, Karen Atkinson, Sue Fletcher

1	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Apologies from Brad, Sue & Nigel</p>	
2	<p>Minutes and Matters Arising</p> <p>Minutes agreed as correct</p>	
3	<p>Races</p> <p>Festive 5 prep For info: Craig RDing, Brad prepared to support. Brad will make contact with Megan from IH before December</p> <p>5k series report</p> <p>£900 for Kit Aid £3790 net profit Full compliment of volunteers not achieved for the series. Would reviving the free entry for one race for those who volunteer help? Event already confirmed for next year</p>	<p>Action: Andy to contact Racesonline to ask whether they should now be contributing a percentage, not just GCR, towards the Kit Aid donation as they are receiving payment for the series.</p> <p>Andy to also ask Racesonline about the 'volunteer and get a race free' offer.</p>

4.	<p>Club kit</p> <p>New Scimitar vests are too long as are the short sleeved t-shirts. The long sleeved tops are too baggy.</p> <p>Suppliers admit their mistake with the short sleeved t-shirts as they do not match the sample received (much longer than the prototype).</p> <p>Andy waiting to receive sizing for long sleeved tops to compare them against our stock.</p> <p>Definitely need to get back all t-shirts sold in order to return this stock. T-shirts will then be re-made.</p> <p>Whilst we await resolution, where possible, club members without a vest should borrow vests to compete in the forthcoming cross country races. Some ladies' stock of old vests remains, plus 2 men's vests.</p> <p>Going forward, any new kit samples should be received in both men's and ladies' sizes, even if not branded, so we are confident that the clothing will meet the requirements of most club members.</p>	<p>Action: Andy to ask Scimitar to take back vests too and potentially the long sleeved tops depending on the outcome of the sizing information received.</p> <p>Andy to request that a ladies' t-shirt sample (non branded) is sent before new t-shirt order is processed so we know what sizing to expect.</p> <p>Jane to request, via the newsletter and FB, that any t-shirts purchased are returned to Richard to return to the supplier.</p>
5	<p>Event shelter</p> <p>Committee in favour of £400 option, although definitely feel that extra side panels are required to make this a better shelter. A decision needs to be made soon in order to give benefit to runners taking part in the cross country series.</p> <p>Questions for Nigel before we can make a final decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How easy is it to erect? - What is the weight of the shelter? - How many people are needed to put it up? - What type of vehicle will be needed to transport it to races? - How much will extra side panels cost? 	<p>Action: Nigel to respond to questions.</p>
6	<p>University of Herts Freshers Fayre Update</p> <p>GCR presence well received. Overriding issue is students' lack of transport. If we had run leaders from the uni, would we be spreading ourselves too thinly?</p> <p>Worth trying to liaise with a student Athletics Union president (if they have one), to really find out how to meet student needs, promote parkrun etc.</p>	<p>Action: Karen/Lou to find out if UH has an Athletics Union president.</p>

7	<p>Herts Sports partnership awards</p> <p>Nominated for: Community club of the year - Coach of the year (male) - Dave E - Coach of the year (female) - Martha -</p> <p>Thank you to those who wrote the submissions. These should also be circulated to the membership so are aware of how great our club and coaches are!</p> <p>Richard and Helen to join Brad for the awards on 27th November.</p>	<p>Action: Brad to send out the submissions to the membership a week before the awards.</p>
8	<p>Marathon club place</p> <p>Confirmed by Helen that we will still fall into the bracket of 1 x EA place for VLM based on EA affiliations of our 10-150 members. EA affiliated club members with a VLM rejection will be eligible for this place.</p> <p>Additional place from VLM volunteering will be open to those who volunteered at this event only (a rejection and/or EA membership is not required). Ride London has its own place and The Big Half does not have the same ballot entry process (a place can easily be secured if you buy online).</p> <p>Jenny Mac's name will be included for the VLM volunteer place, but she is able to give the place to Fraser as she is not old enough to take part.</p> <p>A member can be included in both draws, if they meet the eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Draw to take place at The Attimore Pub on Wed 5 Dec, 8pm. Club to provide one free drink to all members who attend. To increase the appeal of the draw night, we will approach the Isabel Hospice to piggyback the event as it is only days before the Festive 5. It will also be an opportunity to celebrate Eleanor and Denis' involvement with fundraising for IH. A raffle can be held, with proceeds going towards the IH.</p>	<p>Action: Helen to send out details of how members can enter the two VLM ballots.</p> <p>Helen and Jane to organise the draw evening. HP to contact IH & JM to focus on Eleanor and Denis aspect.</p> <p>Raffle prizes needed - can anyone help?</p>
9	<p>Race Directors</p> <p>Discussion as to what should be said to members - an opportunity for those who have never acted as RD before to find out what the role entails whilst shadowing an existing RD.</p>	<p>Action: Sean to draft an appeal which he will send to the committee for approval.</p>

10	<p>Reports</p> <p>Finance - As of today, £29,173 in the bank compared to £28,095 at same time last year.</p> <p>Membership - still 100 members who have not renewed. Issues with people not referencing their payments or saying they have paid when they actually haven't.</p> <p>Race Committee - Communication regarding 2019 Avery is imminent. Changes have been made in response to member feedback.</p> <p>Committee agreed increase to £1500 for race subsidy budget.</p> <p>Concern that Endure 24, which is subsidised by the race subsidy budget, is not an open event for all club members (primarily same people who are filling the team places immediately after the event finishes). For the 2020 event, it must be openly promoted.</p> <p>Committee suggested that Race Committee make be interested in including St Albans Stampede in the race subsidy and promote this as another GCR team event.</p>	<p>Action: Karen to organise date for next Membermojo meeting in November.</p>
11	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Tony asked about how run leaders could receive feedback from runners. Discussed how feedback could be beneficial as well as run leaders meeting to share knowledge and experiences.</p> <p>Karen expressed a concern that we were not meeting the needs of all our runners, especially those who are graduating from beginners and finding beginners plus too quick or the distance too far. Helen supported this view by explaining that quite a few email enquiries from potential new members suggest that they are not at a level of running which allows them to join with beginners plus, however they are too experienced for a beginners course. A group is needed to meet the needs of those who are not focussed on progressing distance after completing a beginners course or whose current level of running is only 5k (perhaps as they have got into running by attending parkrun).</p>	<p>Action: Jane to ask members to provide feedback on their run leaders and Tues/Thurs running experiences.</p> <p>Once feedback is received, Jane to co-ordinate date for an informal run leaders get together/training.</p> <p>Jane and Karen to discuss the possibility of offering a 5k group for Tuesday evening. Some excellent and experienced potential run leaders for such a group have already been identified and will need to be approached.</p>
	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Christmas meal - do not organise on a Thursday as this is the pub's quiz night!</p>	<p>Action: Brad to create a Doodle to determine the date</p>

	<p>Items not covered - leadership - can we share captaincy roles around team?</p> <p>Items parked:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online discussions, i.e. public-facing Facebook group• Club constitution	
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