

## Minutes of the A.G.M. of Bracknell Forest Runners 20/04/16, Hilton Hotel, Bracknell 7.30pm

There were 107 members present.

1. Apologies received from Ken Comper, Malcolm Fellows-Freeman, David de Jong, Jo Hart, George Macdonald, Becky Newnham, John Roberts, Derek Smith, Brian Whelan and Sarah Whelan.
2. There were no comments on the minutes of last year's AGM & therefore the minutes were adopted by everyone present.
3. Matters Arising from those minutes eluded to point 9 on this Agenda. Mike Pleasant's proposal that membership of the Committee should be a maximum of 3 years. Points put forward in the discussion that followed were: -
  - Change is good and allows more people to be involved.
  - Could we not have more Committee members.
  - 10 is a good number of Committee members, otherwise meetings could go on all night!
  - To force people to step down is not a good idea.
  - To have a new set of people in one go is not a good idea.
  - In the past people have not like to put themselves forward for the Committee.
  - Why force people to step down if they don't want to and are doing a good job.
  - It takes more than a year for someone to learn a role and then by 3 years they are just used to it so it seems not a good thing to make them step down.
  - Alan asked for a show of hands to the question, 'Who thinks there is grounds for change to the current system'. There was a majority decision of 'No', so this proposal was not accepted.
4. Alan Street gave his Chairman's report to the meeting. The main points of the report were: -
  - 4.1 Alan reminded all those present what is said in the constitution & that we are affiliated to England Athletics & have to abide by their rules and regulations. The passing on of running numbers is strictly prohibited by EA and therefore also by this club.
  - 4.2 We still promote the club's ethos of 'Running for fun', do not train excessively, you will get injured.
  - 4.3 The club promises that all members receive equal treatment, which means every track session & road run are open to everyone remembering that training sessions should be arranged at an appropriate time to suit all members and also sessions should be kept within the borough.
  - 4.4 The Committee is tasked with managing the club & therefore if you have a point to make about how the club operates then it should be directed to the Club Secretary who then will make sure it is addressed at the next Committee meeting. Remember if you are not happy with the way the committee is leading the club you can vote them out at the AGM.
  - 4.6 We finished the year with around 300 members, 55% men & 45% ladies. We have not had yet our 1<sup>st</sup> member born in the 21<sup>st</sup> century!
  - 4.7 There were many personal goals achieved. The club's reputation continues to grow for organising great events and for being involved in the London Marathon, Bracknell Half Marathon, Ride London & the Sam Run. A big thank you to you all.
  - 4.8 The Friday training session has fallen off over the past months, as to have the Sunday session a little, we think partly because people are choosing to take part in local park runs, although the numbers at the track session is still good. It was disappointing to have complaints about the Winter Distance training schedules not being posted early enough. Most were up before Christmas and despite this, attendance at those sessions were poor. Also we cannot guarantee that there will be a committee member or run leader at all sessions advertised but we do strive to do so.

4.9 We had good feedback from the Forest 5. Although we need to get our forms out there for this year's race we must be aware of where we are putting them. If forms are put on cars in the Bracknell & Marlow boroughs it is seen by the council as litter so, please be aware!

4.10 The 2016 Wokingham & Reading Half marathons were both hugely successful first events of the year.

4.11 The 2015/16 season of TVXC saw excellent numbers turn out for all of the 7 events, with 120 members of the club taking part, 14 did all 7 and we were 4<sup>th</sup> out of the 15 teams taking part.

4.12 Attendance at social events has been good throughout the year, if you have ideas for more then let us know. Remember that Pub of the Month is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of every month & it is good way to get to know other members of the club. The next one is on 13/5/16 at the Victoria Arms, Binfield.

4.11 We currently have a number of coaches, run leaders & First Aiders but we can always do with more so if you are interested let the club secretary know, but just to note on occasions there may be a waiting list.

4.12. Alan mentioned the outcome of the recent survey. A weekly newsletter is sent to members and special mention is made of any PB's. In general communication within the club was thought to be good. E-mails from the Club Chair and other members are the main form of communication, leaving Facebook for social discussion.

It should be noted that only training runs detailed on the BFR website are 'club' runs, runs organised on Facebook are social runs amongst friends.

Coaching was mentioned and we have taken steps to increase our qualified coaches. *Linda Rayman mentioned here that it is not easy getting on a course as they take place over 4 days and with a busy racing calendar it can be difficult to fit in with members lives.*

We try to catch new members at one of their first sessions so we can welcome them and establish how we can help them.

The club championship has been updated, with a marathon championship being added this year, see the website for details.

4.13 Some admin issues to make the life of your Committee easier,

Make sure your e-mail address is up to date, please send any requests for hotel and coach bookings, offers of help or inclusion in a social event, by e-mail, so that we don't miss you.

4.14 Send any of your race results to the email on the website.

4.15 Never lose sight that we are all volunteers and can't always respond to you immediately. Please do not make any requests by Facebook, please use e-mail so that there is a record.

4.16 Mike Sankey continues to order our hoodies etc. so he is the person to see about any clothing.

4.17 Lastly Alan asked us not to forget that this a sports club and as such should not fall into the trap of politicising things.

Alan apologised if he had missed anything & commented that the Committee appreciate everything that the members do to make BFR the club that it is today.

Finally, Alan thanked the other members of the Committee for their tireless efforts in making the club what it is. It was a great pleasure for him to be chair again this year and he gave special thanks to Aaron Chappell and Mike Pleasants who are stepping down from the committee.

5. Summary of the Treasurer's report for the last year – We have broken even this year. We did make a bit less on the Forest 5 & the Bounders Relay did not go ahead. The entry fee for the Forest 5 will be slightly higher for 2016. Although one of the cross country events was cancelled this season we paid out more because we had more runners take part. Again we had donations from Virgin Money London Marathon, Bracknell Half Marathon, & Ride London, thanks very much to them! Becca asked for an auditor for the Accounts for the coming year. Angela Thorpe volunteered and was accepted.
6. Membership subscriptions – Becca proposed that we put up the fees by £1 to £20 this is in line with the England Athletics increase with their Affiliation fees. There were no objections.

## 7. Presentation of Awards for the 2015 year.

We had members compete in over 100 road race events around the UK and abroad. Members continued to support local park runs and have been further afield 'on tour'.

There have been a number of P.B.'s this year by all members, which proves we are for all abilities no matter what age or gender.

Virgin Money London Marathon we had 26 members complete the course.

64 members complete the Bracknell Half Marathon, can we make it the biggest event of this year! Let's make the race a sea of white and green, not forgetting the 20 or so marshals supporting the race as well.

In May we had 36 members take part in the Shinfield 10K, in June 31 members took part in the 1<sup>st</sup> Yateley 10K & 24 members took part in the New Forest 10. In October 31 members completed the Beachy Head Marathon and a further 25 did the 10K.

Our Forest 5 race was a great success with 277 people completing it. As ever the event went off without a hitch and this was due to the teamwork of our members in the myriad of tasks we have to undertake to put on an event such as this.

Finally, we had a group of members take part in Endure 24, there was a great deal of team spirit and fun.

Now to the Awards: -

Firstly, the Radgwick Shield for ultra-distance running was awarded to Charles Walker for amongst other things, the Marathon de Sable.

Ever Present awards to those members who completed all 7 of the X/C races, and this year they went to, Gilly Bharath, Robin Briscoe, Kelly Faulkner, Niki Felton (2<sup>nd</sup> year running), Mike Hayward, Emma Inman, Nigel Jackson, James Marshall, Steve Mills, Laura Readings, Chris Vaal (2<sup>nd</sup> year running). Special mention goes to Paul Herbert who completed every race but was a points scorer in every one as well. Also to Linda Rayman – without Linda's dedication we would never be able to get our results in and verified, even with her arm in plaster! Lastly Alan mentioned the fact that this was his 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of being an Ever Present. It is not difficult to turn out and be a member of a great team of people. It was noted that Cindy Holland was missed off the ever present list

In the Club Championship the winner of the Rayman Shield is Natasha Mansell and the winner of the Bent Shield is David de Jong.

The Whyman trophy uses WICAT results to work out who would have won the championship using age and sex handicapping. Once again the winner is Chau See.

In the star ratings the highest ranking was Ben Martin-Dye winning the WICAT award & 2<sup>nd</sup> place was Helen Johnson winning the Goddard shield.

More than 100 members recorded WICAT ratings this year & of those 46 are due to receive WICAT badges. The winners are: -

One star – Paul Blackwell, Adrian Luscombe, Laura Rosewell, Johnny Sefton

Two stars – Naomi Davidson, Gary Farrell, Gary Gibbons, Kendra Hall, Daniel Hindley, Keith Johnson, Joe Keefe, Gary Sheehan, Sonya Tait, Chris Vaal, Joanna Wakeling and Brian Whelan.

Three stars – Simon Brown, Sam Cooper, Dave Eggleton, Nigel Jackson, James Marshal, Mike Pleasants, Karen Seaby, Jim Skelt & Nicky Weeks.

Four stars – Tania Foad, Linda Rayman, Harvinder Soor

Five stars – Mark George, Cindy Holland, Simon Lowe, George Macdonald, Emma Papps, Shane Venn

Six stars – Simon Bennison, Mike Brock, Jakob Faglio, Kevin Fowles, Scott Marlin, Olivia Sageot, Patrick Slaughter, Alex Webb, Brian Young.

Seven stars – Julie Atkin, Terry Dowling, Steve Faulkner, Dave Perrett, Chau See, Alan Street, Robert Walker

Eight stars – David Bayle, Natasha Mansell

Nine stars – Ben Martin-Dye, Helen Johnson Maureen Dowling.

In 2015 we saw 12 **new club age-related records** established, and in fact there have already been several more in 2016. No cups or shields for this.

For the ladies

In the 50-54 category Helen Johnson marathon 3:37:22, 800 metres 2:49 and Maureen Dowling 5miles 36:54, 5k 21:02

In the 65-69 vet category Linda Rayman 3k 18:00

For the men

In the 40-44 vet category Brian Young 800metres 2:12

In the 45-49 vet category Ben Martin Dye Marathon 2:42:21, 20miles 2:04:40, Half Marathon 1:14:55, 10 miles 58:12, 10k 34:29

In the 50-54 category Steve Faulkner 800 metres 2:27

There were three ladies and three men nominated for **most improved runner** this year.

The winner of the ladies' award is Niki Felton

With the men this year's winner is Johnny Sefton

Finally, the Mackenzie award for the person who has been of great help to the committee. This year the award is tinged with sadness. The winner is moving abroad, well Scotland is a foreign country now!! This man has spent many hours quietly helping the committee in many ways. The winner is Jim Skelt.

We look forward to the rest of 2016 and hope to see as many of you at our training sessions and at races displaying our recognisable club colours.

8. A proposal from Adrian Tansley that we include a Club road run on a Wednesday evening as well as the Track session. The points raised in discussion were: -
- It is our main club night
  - But it gives another option for those who do not want to do the track on that night.
  - Why can't they run on another night?
  - Wednesday evening is a time when we can all get together.
  - If you are new to running the track can be a bit daunting.
  - Some people came to track and felt left out because they were slower runners.
  - Others came to track and felt really welcome.
  - If we included a road run, then those people should come to the track first & then go out once the notices are given.
  - If you came to the track and had a bad experience, then we need to know.
  - We used to have only 1 group go out on a Monday evening and we made the decision to have 3 groups and it really works well.

A vote was taken and the proposal was carried that we should have a road run on Wednesday evening as well as the track session.

9. This point was mentioned previously in Matters Arising.

10. Election of the Committee for the coming year.

Chair – Mike Sankey put himself forward for this position and as no-one else came forward

Vice-Chair – Adrian Tansley put himself forward for this position and no-one else came forward

Secretary - Deena Robinson put herself forward for this position. Then there was a proposal from the floor that Niki Felton should do the role. Deena said that she would step aside for Niki if she was agreeable. Niki agreed and was elected as Secretary.

Membership Secretary – Jon Errington was willing to re-stand in this role and no one else came forward

Treasurer – Rebecca Duffett was willing to re-stand for this role and no one else came forward

Ex-Officio Members – there were 3 club members, Alex Tabb, Helen Johnson, Nigel Jackson that were willing to re-stand on the Committee. Deena Robinson & Naomi Aitken put themselves forward for the role and were all elected unopposed as ex-officio committee members.

Ula expressed an interest in being the Press Officer for the club, she would do this and link into the Committee.

The meeting finished at approx. 9.30pm.