



**Victoria Park Harriers & Tower Hamlets Athletic Club
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
At Committee Room, St Augustine's Hall, Cadogan Terrace**

17 October 2013, 8.30pm

Members present:

Members present: (this is not yet reviewed)

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. June Barrow-Green | 26. Philippa Cockman |
| 2. Mick Cairns | 27. Gesine Junker |
| 3. Major Carr | 28. Al Myers |
| 4. Martin Evans | 29. Andy Hutson |
| 5. Dave Shortridge | 30. Jakob Villumsen |
| 6. David Wilkey | 31. Alex Lewis |
| 7. Roger Daniels | 32. Will Hall-Smith |
| 8. Tony Lashmar | 33. Charlie Ladyman |
| 9. Rodney Mushanganyisi | 34. Rob Pitkethly |
| 10. Cate Boyle | 35. Jacob Eisler |
| 11. Sue Bint | 36. Wes Clarke |
| 12. Duncan Steen | 37. Jo Singer |
| 13. Kelvin Richards | |
| 14. Alf Vickers | Directors |
| 15. Naomi Bourne | 38. Dave Robinson |
| 16. Marlis Haase | 39. Simeon Bennett |
| 17. Neil Cook | 40. Ian Warren |
| 18. Tori Poole | 41. David Wilkey |
| 19. Laura Morgan | 42. Tony Macdowall |
| 20. Cornelia Abe-Minale | 43. Emily Mosedale |
| 21. Chiona Simonetta Ifeji | |
| 22. Frank Merrigan | |
| 23. Stephen Shanks | |
| 24. Chris Lopez | |
| 25. Julian Hazeldine | |

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Elaine Battson, Richard Newbold, Stanley Greening, Mina Harrison, Connor Johnson.

1.Minutes of the 2012AGM

No matters were raised.

The minutes were approved and adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting held on 25 October 2012

1.Adoption and approval of accounts

The annual accounts and finance report were presented to the membership. Ian Warren stated that the finance directors report (provided in the AGM pack) contained detailed explanations on movements in the year.

He drew attention to the following significant items:

-%LLarge spending on clubhouse, which occurred within the financial year. All costs were capitalised, and will depreciate over 10 years, representing normal wear and tear.

-%Lmember subscription income increased by 35%, due in part to Alf, Simeon and Neil improving the collection process.

-%LGrant income has been received, and is to be spent on school coaching, Alf manages this.

Other costs and income in line with prior year.

All other grants applied for were received.

The accounts were adopted and approved. They will be submitted to Charities Commission and Companies house in due course.

1.Membership Fees

England Athletic costs will be maintained at £10 for the next 12 months (Major)

In response to a question from the floor, it was clarified that the OAP rate applies to those who are over 60.

1.Most improved athletes award

Track and Field, presented by Tony Macdowall.

Senior Male

Jason Richards-Thompson, Triple Jump. Improved from 14.14 to 14.5, beating a club record that had stood for 35 years.

Honourable mentions:

Tom Heslop who achieved his first sub 4 minute 1500m

Paul Martelletti, steeplechase (broke club record, and improved on his PB by 30 secs, 9.24)

Simon Basey, beat 60s in 400m hurdles

Junior Male

Nile Mckenzie, 1500m Improved time from 4.46 to 4.24 in U15 cat

Also Eddi Bowl achieved under 60s in 400m

Senior Female

Emily Mosedale – 800m, Improved PB by from 02:45.9 to 02:36.1, and 1500m by 15seconds

Junior Female

Nnenna Eronini, discus, Improved her PB from 30.62m to 37.18m, U15, currently ranked second in UK – beat a 25 year club record.

Ocean Lewis 13.1 PB, 12.5 this year.

Lee Thompson – 11.6 to 11.3 in English schools

Road and Cross Country, presented by Simeon Bennett

Simeon Bennett noted significant improvements this year, and gave his thanks to those who sent in nominations.

Women

3 nominations

Laura Morgan – for consistently attending club races, and achieving improvements in the order of 5-10% , e.g 9 mins off her 20 mile time. 8.5 mins off her half marathon time.

Honourable mentions:

Rachel Morison – took 7.5mins off a 10k PB

Rachel Thomas – ran the Ealing half-marathon in 1h35, 5 mins improvement from 2012

Men

Enrique Casarrubios – who was also nominated last year, due to his 13 mins improvement on his half marathon; this year taking 3.5minutes off his 5Mile, and 20 mins off his marathon time.

Honourable Mentions:

Daniel Mutlow– more to come from him – 35 mins off his marathon time

Neil Cook – has taken 3 mins off his half-marathon, 4.5 mins off his marathon

Andy Hutson – 7 mins off his 5 mile time, and 9 mins off a half marathon.

1. Director's reports

Dave Robinson presented the directors' reports, which had been circulated earlier.

Noted that this had been another really good year, and that this was in large part due to the efforts of the coaches, officials, Major, and general volunteers. Also noted the improved attendance at events at the clubhouse, for example there are regularly 40+ runners at Mick Cairns's Tuesday sessions, Tony Bunbury's circuits sessions on Mondays are also well attended.

Dave particularly noted that Alf and Cornelia have driven huge improvements in the junior leagues, and also noted the improved turnout at Cross Country.

He stated that improvements continue to take place at both the clubhouse gym and Grant assistance is being sought for the gym at Mile End with help from club member and EA club and coach support officer Tim Howells. There is to be a focus on making the clubhouse gym suitable for athlete 'strength and conditioning', with inductions to be provided for gym users.

Simeon Bennett – noted we had a good year, that we took a lot of trophies at Chingford league earlier in the year. Mentioned the success of the Club Championships, thanks in particular due to the volunteers, and Major Carr. A special recognition for Neil Cook, for organising another successful fell-running weekend in the Isle of Wight, Also noted successes at the Westminster relays.

Emily Mosedale – Advised that the Southern Womens league will now go ahead.

Cornelia Abe-Minale – reported that there had been some good results, along with some challenges in particular age groups, and a few injuries.

Tony Macdowall– offered thanks to Alf for help with organising matches, particularly the chip timing, but reported challenges particularly with getting sufficient numbers of competitors to compete. A core group of distance runners will be needed to improve results. There will be a home match this year, but also competitions at the relatively distant Yeovil and Newquay. Both British League and Southern League matches start in May. Will consider having a club open race at one of these competitions, to give novices an opportunity to take part.

There was a short discussion on the challenges faced with collection of fees, and noted that Alf spends a significant amount of time and energy chasing Senior T&F members for fees.

1.Retirement and election of trustees

Dave Robinson explained that one third of the trustees have to retire every year, but may stand for re-election. Emily Mosedale (standing down as Director of Women's Track and Field) was thanked for all her work.

Director of Womens Track and Field:

Alf Vickers nominated Charlotte Nicholls. Charlotte is a coach at the track, specialising in throwing. There were no other nominations and Charlotte was voted in by a show of hands.

Simeon Benett and Ian Warren are both standing for re-election.
Simeon was nominated by Alf Vickers, and Seconded by June Barrow-Green
Ian was nominated by Alf Vickers, and Seconded by Cornelia Abe-Minale.

Joe Feltham pointed out that the 90th anniversary of Victoria Park Harriers, and the 40th anniversary of Tower Hamlets Athletic Club, fall in 2016, and that work on this might usefully be undertaken by the currently unfilled position of 'Director with Special Responsibility'

Special Nominations

Major nominated Alf Vickers as a Life Vice President – for devoting in excess of 30 years of his life to supporting the Club. Major noted that Alf effectively runs the track, possibly despite what GLL may think, and that Alf has kept the side going for many years.

It was noted that there are only four holders of this post currently, Major, Terry Adams, Ted Flowers (who is 90+), and Wayne Dubose. It is the highest honour that can be bestowed upon a club member and Alf is congratulated for this achievement.

The nomination was carried by majority vote.

Major nominated Perri Shakes-Drayton for Life Membership. Although only 23 years old, Perri meets the requirement not quite through 21 years of service, but through outstanding service. Perri always wears her club colours when possible, and has been a great ambassador for the club. The nomination was approved by the Board, and was carried by majority vote.

9 Any other business

The Roles of President and Vice-President

Alf Vickers – made the observation that vice president elections every year were of limited value.

Major – noted that the presidents should have a ceremonial and figurehead role

It was noted that Brenda Puech was President last year.

June Barrow-Green– suggested that the position should last for longer than one year, to allow greater delivery.

Cate Boyle– suggested that the President should be looking for publicity opportunities for the Club, and take a proactive role, with a remit to bring in funds and recognition.

It was noted that the club has over 400 members, and should be in a position to make its voice heard within the Athletics community and England Athletics? Might this be a suitable role for the club president?

There was general debate as to whether the role should be one of ‘honour’, in recognition of efforts made, or, a ‘practical’ role.

Susan Leese suggested a vote on changing the constitution to remove vice president role, and that the President’s role, should be an active one, e.g. presenting medals etc.

Mick Cairns reminded all that memberships and position durations are defined in the club memorandum.

In conclusion, Dave Robinson stated that the board would consult the membership further and consider the options in time for next years AGM.

Simeon Bennett noted that if required we could set up an EGM to conclude earlier.

Housekeeping Matters

Roger Daniels – noted that the lights are not working on the path outside the Clubhouse. Dave Robinson will follow up with builders.

Susan Leese – would like us all to recognise the efforts of Rob Pitkethly for running the weekly bar, catering for home club, league and open race events and organising both the summer BBQ and Christmas Party. Also to thank Joe Feltham for his work in keeping the website updated.

Brenda Puech – recognised the effort of the board, and the donation in kind for architectural services from Dave Robinson.

Cate Boyle – asked all to show thanks to Mick for continuing to coach the very popular and successful Tuesday’s sessions, particularly given the large numbers.

Rob Pitkethly – Christmas Party provisional date of 21 December, after Alexander Palace race.

There being no further items, the Meeting closed at 21.52.