

Oxford Mail Cross Country League AGM

7.30pm June 5th 2009, OXRAD, Oxford

Present: Luke McNeill (League Manager), Cassa Messervy (Deputy League Manager), Marie-Anne Fisher (Treasurer), Fraser Howard (Results), Dene Stringfellow (WHH), Frank Briscoe (WHH), John McCormac (WRR), Wiz Bunce (Kidlington), Gary Richards (Abingdon), James Bolton (Woodstock), Robert Ferris (Cirecester), Paul Kelsey (OCAC), Geoff Smith (Banbury), Sarah Matthews (Abingdon), Jon Burgess (Alchester), Dave Ferrier (Eynsham), Sarah Fowler (Newbury), Andy Tuttle (Newbury).

1. Apologies: Laurie Hurman (HRR), Laurence Parkes (Cherwell), Colin Price (Team Kennet), Michael Search (Kidlington), Jason Daniels (Swindon Striders).

Voting Members: 11

2. Minutes of last meeting - approved as a correct record of the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

- 5) Look at new venues - Radley is thinking about it but otherwise there are no new venues.
- 7) Fraser's replacement – addressed later
- 8) Timetable seems to be working
- 8) LM altered constitution.
- 8) Dates did not clash.
- 9) AOB - clubs informed of the rule.
- 9) Culham - tape used to make route by the river safer.
- 9) Job description for results coordinator completed and advertised.
- 9) Change of proposal.

4. Managers Report

The manager thanked everyone in the league for another successful season, particularly the clubs that hosted. There were higher numbers of competitors than last season which is a good sign. Woodstock has a new race, with a bus for results, although the car park could be a problem in the middle of winter. Thanks were expressed for the offer of a new venue. The manager discussed one of the few complaints about the lack of toilet facilities at Witney which will be discussed in AOB.

5. Treasurers Report

Accounts for the season were presented. There was an overall loss of £124.63. This can be accounted for by the main sponsor not paying. The League Manager reported he had chased the Oxford Mail several times without success - he will pursue other sponsorship - suggestions are welcome. Entry fees need not change and should be maintained at their present level

6. Dates for next season :- Nov 1st/ Dec 6th/ Jan 3rd/ Feb 7th/ March 7th. Dates need to be confirmed for no clashes.

Venues volunteered - Witney - Nov, Banbury - Dec/Jan provisional, Cirencester- Feb and Oxford City - March. The League Manager replied to a question about new venues that we try to get other clubs involved because it is nice to have a change and he is trying to get all clubs to contribute.

7. Divisions for next season

As per results - please see website.

8. Election of Officials

Committee members prepared to stand again: Luke -League Manager, Marie-Anne – Treasurer. Vote for these two, 11 for, 0 against.

Cassa (Deputy League Manager) and Fraser (Results) are stepping down. Frank Briscoe of White Horse Harriers was shadowing Fraser at the last event of the season, and has stood for results coordinator. Elected 11 for, 0 against.

A vote of thanks was expressed by the meeting to the committee.

8ii) Robert has stood down as deputy race referee - thanks were expressed to him.

The League Manager is a Level 2 official and can therefore step in as a race referee, although because of his role as League Manager, this disbars him from making decisions in the event of a complaint. The proposal that Luke should step in as race referee if none other was available was passed with 11 for and 0 against.

A question was asked about the new Vetting and Barring system - will this cause problems? Does anyone need to go through the scheme? Discussed

Action: League Manager to asses impact of new system and contact child welfare officers.

9. New Clubs to League

Two new clubs had expressed interest in joining the league, Oxford Brookes and Marlborough Juniors. Neither were present at the meeting so it was proposed that they should be allowed to enter if they asked. Proposal was passed with 11 for and 0 against.

10. Proposal - Increase in senior womens distance 6000-6500m.

Abingdon explained their reasoning. Essentially, the majority of women who run the race are of the opinion it is too short. The proposal was discussed. In order to accommodate cross-country terrain, the proposal was changed to 'Aim to increase the senior women's distance (race 6) to 6000-6500m'. Vote 10 for, 0 against, 1 abstention.

11i. Cirencester Parking

Bob still in talks with owners but if rental increases they will be well out of pocket and car parking would need to increase to £3. Car sharing needs to be emphasized as usual and make everyone aware of higher car parking charges if necessary. Meeting agreed that £3 could be charged if necessary, as long as notice was given.

11ii. LM allowed an U17 athlete to score all through the season, and asked the meeting for guidance on whether this was correct. Discussion followed.

Proposal – At the discretion of the competing club, U17 athletes may run in the senior race. They will not score for the individual prize. Only one athlete may score for the team and will only score for that team in that season. Vote 10 for, 0 against, 1 abstention.

11iii. Proposal of senior men to change from 7 to 6 in a team as smaller clubs may find it hard to get enough athletes to make a team. Discussed. Rule to stay.

11iv. Prize giving this year was short on trophies - apologies given by clubs accepted.

11v. The issue of toilet provision was discussed. It costs £200 for four toilets, so car parking charges will have to increase. Toilets are required for children as there is a duty of care. Meeting agreed that toilets should be provided at all events.

11vi. Chip timing was discussed. The County is investigating because of the pressure on the small amount of time keepers. OMXL is asked for a view. Proposal - OMXL supports the buying of this system but acknowledges that there will be things to hammer out for Cross-country racing. Vote 10 for, 1 against.

11vii. Banbury apologised for the difficulties due to building works last year and warned there may be issues again this year.

11viii. Marie-Anne proposed a vote of thanks to Fraser.

Meeting closed 8.45pm.