

OxfordMail Oxfordshire Cross-Country League AGM 8 June 2011-06-11

Present: Luke McNeill (league manager), Marie-Anne Fischer (treasurer), Dene Stringfellow (White Horse H), Mick Hailey (Hook Norton H), Dee Hailey (Hook Norton H), Keith Morgan (Witney RR), Michael Search (KRAC), David Edelsten (Cirencester AC), Hannah Kitchen (Oxford Brookes RAC), Geoff Smith (Banbury H), Julian Moore (Abingdon AAC), Steve Cowls (Headington RR), Gary Richards Abingdon AAC), Colin Price (Team Kennet), Andy Tuttle (Newbury AC), James Bolton (Woodstock H)

1. Apologies: Paul Kelsey (Oxford City), John Sear (Oxon AA)

Voting members: 12

2. Minutes of last AGM: approved unanimously as a correct record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising:

- New VBS system (formerly known as CRB) has been shelved
- Chip time system is on hold due to liaison difficulties, reported by Dene Stringfellow . Pledged £1,000 contribution by league is still available.
- 8. There is no new league referee. John Sear has volunteered to take over the role but cannot commit to all 5 fixtures. Question to the AGM: is a referee necessary to run the league? Reply: No.
- 9. AOB Combining county champs with the league's January fixture was a success, as higher turnout for the county champs than usual.

4. Manager's report:

- The league continues to expand
- Last season saw a mix of the usual organisers and a new venue hosted by Swindon which was very successful
- The biggest turnout for one venue were 750 athletes
- Overall there were 1100 runners involved
- Our main sponsor, Oxford Mail, weren't happy about the out of county choice for the final venue. The sports reporter, Kieran Bushnell, however. came to present prizes and trophies.
- There was confusion over the scoring system which led to a small number of parents complaining about the final standings. It was decided to put a few clarifying sentences on the website for next season.
- There were issues with the eligibility clause: one athlete was declared a second claim runner while the first claim was also taking part in the league. This is against UKA rules and the athlete couldn't score. The deplorable situation lead to suggesting the new rule, to be discussed later.

There were no questions or comments.

5. Treasurer's report

- Less income than last year: fewer clubs taking part and no sponsorship money received. Luke to write to the Oxford Mail.

- Overall expenses were higher due to an increase in costs for trophies/awards
- Financial situation still stable and fees will remain the same for another season.

Discussion: £3 car parking fees seem to enable club to cover their costs. It was deemed to be inappropriate to raise the car parking fees further to cover higher costs next season. The league would pay the difference, if clubs were to make a loss.

Discussion: Is it worth finding a seconds/alternative sponsor, possibly BMW? Luke to approach Paul Kelsey.

No further questions.

6. Dates and Venues for season 2011/12

Nov 6, Dec 4, Jan1/8, Feb 5, March 4 (Intercounties Mar 10th)

It was decided to choose Jan 8 over Jan 1 and combine county champs with the Jan fixture again.

There is a contingency plan in place for Jan 8, as Frank Briscoe cannot make the date.

Confirmed venues:

Cirencester - February

Ascott - November

Banbury will host if there are no further volunteers.

7. Divisions for season 2011/12

Women - promoted to Division 1: Swindon Striders A and Oxford Brookes;
demoted to Division 2: Woodstock A and Swindon Harriers A.

Men - promoted to Division 1: Oxford Brookes and Woodstock A;
demoted to Division 2: Witney A and Team Kennet A;
promoted to Division 2: Swindon Striders A and Newbury B;
demoted to Division 3: Banbury A, Cherwell A and Kidlington A

8. Election of officials:

All current officials prepared to stand again unanimously reelected.

League Manager - Luke McNeil

League Results - Frank Briscoe

League Treasurer - Marie-Anne Fischer

Thanks were expressed by Michael Search.

9. New rules:

It was decided to make the new rules explicit on top of the rules and apologies were expressed by league manager to the affected athlete for the amount of time taken to come to a decision.

- At the top of the rules, to introduce 'run according to current UKA rules for Competition' as a subheading to 'General League Rules' was adopted unanimously

- ii) To introduce as rule 11 'Until UKA give definitive guidance on this issue, runners wearing headphones will be disqualified' was adopted unanimously

10.AOB

1. Trophies and prizes: it was shameful and embarrassing for perpetual shields not to be returned for presentation and for the length of time it took for the men's first division shield to be handed to the new winners. The Colts trophy, awarded to Radley in 2010 has gone missing completely. It was suggested to take names/contact details and signature from receiving person next season.
2. Time of presentation: due to the 20 minutes walking distance between racing venue and headquarters some parents missed the U11's presentation. It was decided to host the last venue where there is no problem with parents getting to the headquarters on time and being able to race. The alternative would be to hold to U11's presentation nearer the race venue, weather permitting.

Meeting closed at 20.11.