

Evesham Vale Running Club Committee

A meeting of the Evesham Vale Running Club committee was held at the Trumpet, Evesham on 20th May 2019.

Attendees

Present

David Mitchell, Elaine Clarke, Fliss Read, Jill Moore, Sam Townsend, Shawn Townsend, Tom Doggett

Apologies

Aly Grout, Lynn Frost

Items of discussion

This was an informal first meeting of the new committee. As chairperson, Sam welcomed the new committee.

Efforts

David, Elaine and Marcus (Mumford) are leading Wednesday Efforts sessions; Marcus Ramsey is no longer on the rota. There were discussions around cancelling where there is a clash with events such as Cleeve Cloud Cuckoo (Weds 28th May), which will be handled by the Efforts team, as well as options for 'away day' sessions, e.g. Bredon's Hill, again to be managed by the Efforts team.

Elaine would also like to put on a track session, possibly at Stratford-upon-Avon or Alcester, although we need to be wary about too many 'away day' sessions putting people off who want to stay local.

Events

Kirsty McGaul and Marcus Mumford have kindly offered to put on a run/BBQ evening at their orchard. A post-meeting chat with Marcus suggested Monday 1st July may work. David also mentioned that he and Marcus had been talking about inviting Hash House Harriers to run with us, and perhaps the events could be combined.

ACTION: David to discuss with Marcus & confirm options

The Milton Keynes Festival of Running takes place in March 2020 – should we promote it as a club outing? The discussion suggested a bus wouldn't be popular, but car share might, although there might be better events to attend.

David would like to organise a sports day / It's A Knockout style event, possibly at the rugby club.

There was also a discussion around other smaller events, evenings out / afternoon tea, how to organise small runs, involve everyone & encourage interest. It's difficult to organise small, informal runs if people expect specific speeds / distances. School holidays can make things tricky.

Shawn mentioned a time trial / handicap race around town, providing issues with traffic etc. could be managed safely.

ICE / Safety

Shawn has looked into a club-provided 'ICE' wristband with emergency contact details, but the demand is not really there and people probably wouldn't wear them. The club could provide a 'DIY' option – printed & laminated cards, but again it's unlikely people will carry them.

The run leader on club nights should carry a phone, or at least make sure someone has one available. Runners should be gently encouraged to privately share any potential medical issues with the run leader if possible, e.g. asthma, or wear a bracelet to alert medical teams. Run leaders will not be required to carry first aid kits.

Facebook & Member Communication

Not everyone is aware that the Facebook group is accessible to non-members (with admin approval), and expressed concern about advertising the locations future runs, especially in remote/rural areas. Some clubs have a public group and a private, strictly members-only group, but it tends to kill-off the public group which can be useful to attract new members.

We need to review the current admins of the page.

ACTION: Shawn to delete any unnecessary admins

Tom raised the issue of people not on Facebook being left out. Emails do get sent out via UK Athletics, but Shawn thinks a lot of people just ignore them. David suggested we could ask people if they specifically want to receive updates by email, but it needs to be kept as simple as possible from an administrative point of view.

ACTION: Tom to investigate an EVRC email option, e.g. Mailchimp

Clive Stewart still has control of a lot of the Google Accounts, website etc.

ACTION: Tom to meet with Clive to take control of all accounts

Club Clothing

Elaine suggested asking members if anyone would like a new club t-shirt, and Shawn suggested that perhaps once or twice a year we could do a bulk club order to get preferential rates. The recent hoodies order was popular and we could repeat with other items.

Membership

David suggested committee members should receive a year's free membership for the year after their role, assuming they have attended a minimum number of meetings – e.g. ten – as a way of encouraging more people to get involved in the future. All agreed, add to next month's agenda to confirm.

125 members have paid; 177 are registered and yet to pay. Shawn said that the London Marathon threshold will increase to two entries if we can get over 150 by November.

A previous member has asked if they can occasionally run on club nights / efforts without paying to be a member. Unanimous 'No': anyone who runs with us must be a member, with the exception of potential members who want to try-out for a session or two.

The existence / details of a constitution was discussed.

ACTION: Tom to confirm current constitution.

Am confirmed the 'Committee Meal' to thank last year's members and welcome this year's will be at Saffron Lounge on Friday 24th May at 7pm.

Next meeting 17th June 2019; Elaine apologised in advance for absence.