

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Mid Sussex Triathlon Club

The Bent Arms Lindfield, 2-7-18 at 8pm

1. Committee for Meeting

Morwenna Hook	- Chairman
Jeremy Paine	-Vice chair
David Ricketts	-Club secretary
Rachel Baker	-Treasurer and Juniors' secretary (apologies)
Emma Jaffe	-Membership secretary
Kate Eifler	-Juniors' secretary(apologies)
Stephen Mcmenamin	-Race director
Neil Giles	-Head Coach (apologies)
Roger Smith	-Press officer (apologies)
Mike Hook	-Webmaster(apologies)
Vicky Vonderlinden	- social secretary (apologies)
Jean Fish	- welfare officer (apologies)
Julie Williams	- Open water swimming (apologies)
Rob Hoodless	- Member without portfolio (apologies)

Also

Steve Alden	- Honorary Vice President(apologies)
Mark Jordan	- Honorary President (apologies)
Matt Critchley	-Volunteer co-ordinator (apologies)

2. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting needed amendment.

Regarding the request for funding transport for the Ragnar relay, it was clarified that no agreement was reached at the last meeting regarding funding for this.

Following the last meeting, Club members have made the following points via email about the proposal:

- The consultation on spending club funds did not approve events funding (even though proposals were made for this)
- It only benefits 10 members at £30 each. Similar funding (ie for EA membership for around 20 members) was rejected by the club at the AGM
- Committee members appear to benefit more than others from this arrangement

It was discussed at the July meeting that if a race fund is to be set up, there need to be clear parameters, a set annual figure and a group established to receive and approve applications. This would also need to be agreed at an AGM by the membership. Accordingly, a proposal will be put forward at the AGM for an 'annual event fund'.

Unfortunately, it will not occur in time for the Ragnar Relay in September 2018 and the club will not be able to provide support/transport funding.

3. Club Coaching

No new matters arose

4. Juniors

No new matters arose. The commitment of the coaches was admired.

5. Swimming

Jeremy Paine: Open water swimming is proceeding well.

- Numbers are up this year.
- Taster sessions are working and 18 have been paid for.
- One taster session had prompted the swimmer to join the club
- Dutyman is working well
- Some members have been able to swim but been unable to find the time to fulfil their Dutyman. It was agreed by unanimous vote that we contact these members and make clear that the obligation for Dutyman goes with the right to swim. A statement for use in these matters will be agreed and circulated. Exceptional/personal circumstances may allow some discretion in these matters.
- The safety drill will be tested in July. This will include use of the launch. We want the drill to be as authentic as possible so that we can learn from it. Only the person who is due to be rescued and those organising will be aware of the exact date of the session at which this will occur. An email will be sent to members to put spotters/kayakers on notice that the drill is taking place at a random session in July so that they are aware. Throughout July swimmers will be warned at the briefing that this may happen during their session.
- A wetsuit optional swim may take place on 14 July
- Attempts to agree a meeting with Marlins representatives has not yet succeeded.

6. Mid Sussex tri race

- This years' race was the 18th race
- Race radios hired from Hedgehog tri helped simplify communication
- There were 288 entries and 205 on the day (last year 319 and 286)
- Feedback was good
- Hiring a large part of the racking was a success - good quality, value for money, efficient and saved time for organisers
- The race list GDPR email has gone out and 45 unsubscribed: 1325 are on the list. 67% opened the email on their mobile
- New race director Jo Fleming will take over by Christmas.
- Next year's race is on 9 June 2019.

Race website update:

- Steve and Jo explained that a new club race website is needed that is separate from the club website
- The market for races is competitive and the website as it is, is not promoting our race well
- Tenders for the work will be sought and presented to the committee by email to vote on ASAP to try and get something in place by end of year - if agreed by majority vote.
- The new website needs to incorporate a new payment system (Paypal take a large percentage cut and other companies offer more competitive options), be mobile friendly, and better promote the positive aspects of the race.
- As this race remains the club's key source of income and given the competitive nature of the market, those present at the meeting agreed that it is worth investing in subject to agreement on a reasonable quote for work from the Committee.

7. Club Kit

- The new kit design from Halo Sports was admired
- The committee unanimously agreed to buy £575 worth of tri suits for trying on purposes (3 each male and female standard and one set of elite suits=8 suits)
- These can be sold at the end of the season/next season at a discount to recoup some funds if necessary
- Steve Mac asked if the back of cycle jerseys will contain an image citing safe passing distances for cars. It was noted that not all club members would want this. Steve will follow up with Gunter.

8. Treasurers' report

- New treasurer
- Two members have expressed an interest in taking up the role of treasurer and discussions will be had with them about the role in the coming months
- We are introducing measures requiring a countersignature for future expenditure over a certain value
- Other possible improvements in financial governance will also be considered

Consultation on spending cash reserves:

- Hats for OWS: now provided
- Hoodies or zip top awaited - update needed from Kate E
- Bike maintenance course: 24 members replied. The initial course will be 2/3 basic maintenance and 1/3 advanced. A tutor costs £70 for a 2 hour session. A free venue in Burrel Road motorcycle shop has been found. The course will be in September and 3 sessions will be run.
- Other guest speakers - underway, update needed from Julie and Neil

- Racking - purchasing enough for Club races and hiring the rest for the Sprint public race has been a success and will be continued
- Gazebos: Jo Fleming presented the costs of 3m x 3m size gazebos (good coverage but bigger than this and they become difficult for one person to move). This would be cost approx £180 each for plain black/yellow, with MSTC branding would cost £350. Discussed options of purchasing combinations of three or four gazebos in mixture of plain and branded. Jo would email the committee with proposals and definitive costs for a vote.

9. Chairmans' Report

- Trimark application has been submitted to BTF. We are waiting to hear from the regional rep who will need to review our documentation prior to approving the application.
- Candidates for a new chair are still welcomed.
- GDPR policy has been agreed and is on the website.

10. Social Matters

Bike ride and run Wed 4th July

11. AOB

Aquathon: From Neil Giles: I have been asked about the Aquathlon by a couple of members but I'm struggling to find a date I can do that doesn't clash with club events or other races. If anyone wants to take this on this year, please let me know.

If anyone can assist in running the aquathon this year - picking a date, co-ordinating teams and updating risk assessment templates from last year, please email the committee.

First aid training: At the last meeting it was discussed that BTF had offered a first aid training course aimed at triathlon coaches. Club coaches thought this would be of benefit to them. However, we have not heard further from BTF with any dates/details. We accordingly discussed looking at arranging our own course.

There is no requirement to have coaches formally accredited in first aid - there are qualified first aid staff on site at venues where coaching is run (Dolphin Leisure, Ardingly). This course was aimed to assist in their overall coaching development to the benefit of club members.

A proposal for a course was put forward by Timothy Lord, who runs a company running such courses. He could adapt this to suit our requirements. In the first instance, it was agreed we would chase BTF for an update on their course. If nothing was forthcoming, we would revert to Timothy and obtain some other quotes.

Website events calendar: Adam Bryant asked if there could be a website function of an events diary for members to see who plans to do which race so that we can support each other and particularly new members. The Serpentine running club does this. The committee noted past attempts to introduce this and the frequent discussion of this at past AGM's. Changes in various apps may make this easier and we will look into this again. **If any club member is aware of how we could set up a communal calendar for this purpose, please contact the committee.**

12. Next meeting

Monday 10 September

AGM Thursday 15 Nov