

HAYWARDS HEATH HARRIERS 54th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at St Francis Sports & Social Club, Haywards Heath
On Friday 6th March 2020 at 7.00pm

MINUTES

1. **Apologies for absence:** M. Robinson, M Winborn, J Gill, C Bicknell, M Bale, A Carter, J Honey, M Davies, M Scholes

Attendees: M Sykes, C Russell, C Faulknor, J Skinner, C Hind, A Hind, M Essex, J Essex, H Gibson, B Gibson, I Dumbrell, G McMahon, L Tullett, B Tullett, T Hicks, I Tomkins, P Cousins, J Boyer, J Denyer, J Morgan, B Ruff, N Sutherland, J Barnes, S Hamilton, M Parish, P Francis, J. Rix, M. Hemsworth (Chair), K. Buckeridge (Secretary).

2. **The Minutes of the 53rd AGM** were agreed to be a true record and were signed by the Chairperson.
3. **Matters arising:**
 - Ben's idea of a suggestion box tried at training.
 - We have done 2 surveys this year, one about the awards and one on the website.
 - Comments about kit were considered. Having the name of the club on front of vests needs revisiting.
 - We now have fact sheets on all the events we do to help clarify endurance group goals. Thanks were given to Ben Gibson for his work on this.
4. **Officer reports:** Head Coach, Treasurer, Chair, President
These reports had been put on the website for members to look at prior to the meeting, with the exception of the coaches report which was provided subsequent to the meeting.

Treasurer's Report for Financial Year 2019 by John Rix

Introduction

The accounts are presented on a receipts and payments basis; there is no balance sheet, no accruals and no depreciation. The last five years are shown. In addition there is a breakdown of competition costs for Athletics Meetings/Entries and Endurance.

Headlines

Over 2018 and 2019 our cash reserves have increased by £17,000 and now stand at £37,000.

This healthy increase is attributable to two factors:

- The decision to increase subscriptions in April 2018
- The success of the Wakehurst Willow in 2018 and 2019, and of the inaugural Redwood Run in 2019, generating a total contribution of £7,800

The rationale for the increase in subscriptions in April 2018 was to ensure that our regular operating costs were more than covered by subscriptions; the excess income

would then contribute to the development fund, alongside the contribution made from our events.

Development Fund

Simon Aaby was invited to the 2018 AGM to speak about the track project he is working on with other interested parties. He advised on the need to build up a development fund so that the Club would be in a position to put money into the project at a later date. The following table compares cash generated over the last two years with earlier years:

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Events	3123	1583	1866	1634	2215	2704	3381	4590	6868
Operating: Surplus (+) / Loss(-)	-2851	-1560	-2556	-5	-3197	-1273	-4946	3055	2504
Overall: Surplus (+) / Loss (-)	271	23	-690	1629	-983	1432	-1564	7645	9372

Donation

The club received a generous gift of £1,000 from the estate of Mark Armitage, who had been a loyal member for many years. The committee has decided to use the funds to encourage our promising Juniors to travel to events both within and outside the county.

Membership

Paid membership fell slightly during the year, mainly within the U15s.

	Paid Membership 31/12/18			Paid Membership 31/12/19		
	F	M	Tot	F	M	Tot
Junior	58	85	143	45	76	121
Senior	43	70	113	35	70	105
Associate	5	12	17	10	18	28
O60	6	11	17	6	11	17
	112	178	290	96	175	271

Further detailed information on paid membership and its age distribution is given on the following page.

John gave his many thanks to Pete Francis who independently examined the accounts. The increase in fees 2018 was in line with RPI. John gave a financial overview of accounts over the last 9 years and explained these. Until 2018/19 fees were not enough to cover our expenses. The last 5 years shows the benefit of raising fees, resulting in a surplus. Wakehurst Willow and Redwood Run have helped. We have £37,000 in bank account. £30,000 in bonds. EA database contains details of membership. A big thank you to people in the club who have put £12 into bank account for WSFRL and sent an email to John. The email is needed as Julian does not have access to the bank account. Please can all members follow the instructions provided. Marion thanked John for all his hard work. The accounts were proposed by Mark Sykes and seconded by Ben Gibson.

Paid Membership at 31/12/2019

Invoice Description	Female	Male	Total
Associate (no EA fee)	4	12	16
Coach		1	1
Coach (including EA fee)	6	5	11
Junior/Student - half rate (including club vest and EA fee)	1	5	6
Junior/Student - half rate (including club vest but no EA fee)	2	5	7
Junior/Student (including club vest but no EA fee)	1	3	4
Junior/Student (including club vest and EA fee)	3	7	10
Junior/Student (including EA fee)	35	54	89
Junior/Student (no EA fee)	3	2	5
Over 60 (including EA fee)	4	11	15
Over 60 (no EA fee)	2		2
Senior - half rate (including club vest and EA fee)	4	9	13
Senior - half rate (including EA fee)	1		1
Senior (including club vest and EA fee)	2	8	10
Senior (including EA fee)	28	53	81
Total	96	175	271

Age Distribution of Paid Membership at 01/01/2020

Women	Count	Men	Count	Total	%
JW9-15	40	JM9-15	68	108	39.9
SW16-34	13	SM16-34	24	37	13.7
VW35-39	6	SM35-39	16	22	8.1
VW40-44	9	VM40-44	14	23	8.5
VW45-49	6	VM45-49	13	19	7.0
VW50-54	11	VM50-54	12	23	8.5
VW55-59	2	VM55-59	7	9	3.3
VW60-64	1	VM60-64	6	7	2.6
VW65-69	2	VM65-69	5	7	2.6
VW70-74	4	VM70-74	4	8	3.0
VW75-79	1	VM75-79	4	5	1.8
VW80-84	1	VM80-84	1	2	0.7
VW85-89	0	VM85-89	1	1	0.4
VW90-94	0	VM90-94	0	0	0.0
	96		175	271	100

Coaches Report 2019/2020 by Mike Essex

This is the time of year when I would like to thank all the coaches, run leaders and parent helpers that have been generous in giving up their time, energy and enthusiasm, in any conditions that the British Climate throws at them, to support the athletes who train with Haywards Heath Harriers.

Linda continues to support and guide the young/intermediate athletes which she coaches on a Tuesday night from 5 until 8.30pm, also giving up her weekends for cross country and sports hall league in the winter and track meetings in the summer. This support has meant the under 13 boys achieving the silver medal in the cross country and 4 young athletes in the Sussex Indoor Championships.

With both Mike Bale and Bob Ruff providing specialist coaching in throws and sprinting, the club can provide the training and expertise required for track and field events. These skills will help the club in its progress of the new track being developed in Burgess Hill and the summer track season.

The endurance training has evolved over the last 6 months with the run leaders taking on more responsibility and leading more of the Tuesday night runs. This has been led by Martin who generously gives his time and experience to the benefit of anyone who undertakes his training.

I hope the coaches have been able to provide a training environment which is safe, challenging and enjoyable while allowing the athletes to improve over the last year.

If you would like to help or take the first steps to coach this year the club would be happy to help with your development.

Chair's Report by Marion Hemsworth

Thank you, Harriers for all you have done for the club this year, from coaching to competing, training to taking part, supporting to socialising. It all counts. I am grateful and proud to be chair of our great club. I would like to mention all the committee members and thank them for their work. Many others also work quietly behind the scenes making things happen smoothly. Our coaches give their time willingly for free, supporting their athletes in all sorts of weather. Thanks also to our team managers for their continued commitment during the past year. We could not manage without you all. If you see a job that could be done to improve things, don't hesitate to come forward. Every little counts. Challenges in the future for the club include finding more help with the junior section in particular, plus our lack of a permanent 'home'. See our Development Plan for more information.

Looking ahead to our own events this year:

1. T and F Open Event at K2, Crawley, on Thursday evening, 30th April
2. Wakehurst Willow 8k on Wednesday evening 8th July
3. Great Walstead 5 on Sunday morning 11th October.

Please put at least one of these events in your diary and book your volunteer slot. Ideally each club member should volunteer for at least one of these

It has been another sparkling year for the club.

- We have many enthusiastic new members who have added their own flavour to the beetroot mix and helped us to develop a great team spirit
- Membership has remained steady at just under 300
- Andy Hind and others have worked hard at improving our communication and social media presence. Thank you to them.
- Plans for a training track in Burgess Hill are moving forward slowly but steadily
- James Skinner and Emma Navesey have continued to break club records and to establish themselves as competitive athletes both inside and outside the county
- James, Samantha Ridley, Paul Cousins and Tim Hicks all qualified to compete in England Masters road races
- James and Sam both won the club road racing open and age-related championships. A double each!
- Among her many achievements, Darja Knotkova-Hanley was awarded a gold medal in the U20 Women category in Sussex XC league, alongside another high achiever, Arun Khursheed – Silver in the U13 Boys; with Jenny Denyer – Silver in the O65 Women; Tim Hicks – Bronze in the O60 Men, and Karen Thompson – ties with Bronze in the O55 Women
- In the Sussex Masters XC, Tim Hicks, Chris Russell and Mark Sykes gained silver medals in the O60 event
- Oscar Dalglish was our first ever club winner of the QuadKids for U11s at the Sussex Champs (75m, 600m, Standing Long Jump & Howler). He won 3 out of the 4 events and was 2nd in the 4th event!
- The U13s won the Plate trophy at the U13 League Final in September. There have been some outstanding results for the boys in this age group and we cannot wait to see what happens in the future.
- Mike Bale was awarded the South East counties Throws Association cup for hammer/heavy hammer which was presented in December.
- Marion also welcomed all new members to the club. She announced that Emma Navesey has now decided to move to Lewes.

Please read Paul Cousin's excellent Middy reports on our website for more information on club achievements. Too many to list here. We are all looking forward to more success and team building in 2020, after all it's an Olympic year! Happy running, jumping and throwing to all.

Mark Sykes asked if there was due to be a Redwood Run. Ian Dumbrell and Marion have discussed this and felt it was not as viable as Wakehurst. It was not as straight forward to work with Sheffield Park.

Marion then gave her thanks to Mike Essex who has done a great job as head coach, Jasmine Mamony who has served on the committee and Naomi who has also resigned from the committee but has continued to organise the awards/AGM night.

President Mark Sykes

This year there was no report from the President.

5. To elect Honorary Officers:

President – Mark Sykes took the chair

- a) Chair – Marion Hemsworth
- b) Treasurer – John Rix
- c) Secretary – Katherine Buckeridge
- d) Fixture Secretary- Carl Bicknell
- e) Membership Secretary- Tim Hicks
- f) Head Coach – Mike Bale
- g) General Committee Members – Ben Gibson, Andy Hind, Linda Tullett and Rob Watts

Mark Sykes read out nominations for the above positions. There were no objections and so all were duly elected.

6. Development plan

This is available on the website as follows:

https://sites.create-cdn.net/sitefiles/20/8/1/208163/PDDDevelopment_PlanHHH_Jan_2020.pdf

It has been formalised by the committee. The development plan will be organic. There are particular goals for each section but more generic ones also. The track project is also in the plan. A steering group project took place on 05.03.20 which moved things on considerably and was very positive. The best site deemed to be available is land at Burgess Hill Academy. Burgess Hill school for girls have a desire for more local hockey pitches. There is a plan to create a track with a hockey pitch in the middle. The steering group has councillors on it (district and town), representatives from hockey clubs and HHH and Burgess Hill Runners. To date, architects' drawings have been funded. Marion advised that a Community Interest Company will be formed to be responsible for the project. The next stage is feasibility surveys then planning application. We have not yet been asked to put any money forward but may be asked for £2000 for the surveys. Once planning has been approved will need to look at funding streams. Sarah Hamilton asked about the cost of the track and contribution. The hockey pitch and track will cost approximately £1m, the second phase is to build a sports centre/club house etc. Various sources of money could come through the community link. We may need £50K from each club and there are ways in which we could raise this as a club. John Morgan asked what a 'training track' is and Marion explained this was a 6 lane minimum track. No track meetings could be held at the facility as there will be no infrastructure for this. Marion recommended people look online at the Paddington plan which provides an outline for the local one being planned. Marion will keep the club informed and asked members to look at the development plan on website for further details.

7. Any Other Business

Siobhan McMahan asked if, for preparation for the indoor athletics season, whether the juniors have some turning boards to train on. This was agreed in principle.

8. **Awards** – followed the AGM meeting.