British Airways Athletics Club

2020 Committee Annual Report – Summer 2020

President John Williams

Acting Chair Roderick Hoffman

Deputy Chair Steve Hillier

Honorary Secretary Steve Hillier

Honorary Treasurer Chris Kelly

Ladies Captain Clara Halket

Men’s Captain Gary Rushmer

Membership Secretary Alan Friar

Communications Secretary Roderick Hoffman

Statistics Secretary Paul Brandon

Events Secretary Neil Frediani

Acting Track & Field Captains Steve Hillier & Neil Frediani

Committee Members (without portfolio)

Steve Taylor

Trish McCabe

ex-officio:

Coaching Co-ordinator Joe Nolan

London Marathon Co-ordinator Simon Turton

Club Handicap Co-ordinator Steve Newell

**1.0 Background**

As we are unable to come together to hold an AGM this summer, the committee have decided to issue a club annual report, with the intention of holding an AGM later in the year.

**2.0 President’s Introduction: John Williams**

What an extraordinary past 6 months.   At last year's AGM member's minds were beginning to form plans for their Summer 2020 races and events.  Then in March the world turned upside down and has yet to resettle.  Those dreams of the London Marathon were quickly blown away.  But running has continued and will do so far into the future.  Everyone in the Club has proved remarkably resilient.  All runners have enjoyed the new challenges.  All event organisers deserve our thanks for their creative imaginations, (not that I understand them all).  And all Committee members behind the scenes deserve everyone's gratitude.

Smiling faces in the newsletter at the end of recent events show clearly the desire of members to both compete and to participate socially.   The act of running is an individual accomplishment but a more full enjoyment comes from being part of a running community.  Some traditional events may not reappear and new ones will take their place, but the long established BAAC spirit will surely continue into 2021 and a good few years beyond.

My thanks and encouragement go to one and all.

1. **Chairman’s Report: Roderick Hoffman**

As Acting Chair of the British Airways Athletics Club my focus has been on participation. An athletics club is nothing without runners, jumpers and throwers. But this isn't easy because we are not a big club and our members are scattered over a large area and cover a range of interests including long distance running, short sprinting, throwing, triathlons, orienteering and more. This makes it very difficult for us to get together for club evenings and events - though we usually have a good time when we do.

I have nominal targets for the events that we host and publicise. The target is usually ten, and sometimes a lowly five. The previous year, so back to 2018-19, we probably averaged 80% of my target with particular issues being attendance of our Club-Inhouse Events and the Ladies Cross Country. The high spots were the London Marathon (as ever) and we had 23 attending WARR over in Victoria, the far side of Canada. This year, 2019-20, attendance has been up - most of the time we've been hitting my targets including with the CIEs and the Ladies Cross Country though numbers at the Dream Mile have been disappointing, due perhaps to the decline in the number of members working in Waterside at Heathrow. High Spots were the London Marathon (again) and WARR – 35 of us made it across the North Sea to run in Amsterdam with KLM and the other airlines.

And then things changed. The pandemic struck and everything closed down and we were confined to quarters. The club had to make a quick decision - would we hibernate until the problem was over and then see how many of us had survived? Or would we put up a virtual fight? We decided to put up a fight…and what a result we've had! I launched the "Weekend Achievement" for the weekend of 21st March and we had 29 participants, and the numbers rose to 33 and then 35. There has been some easing since, as lockdown measures have been relaxed, but we still had a 30 in mid-July. We also launched a succession of Midweek Challenges, covering a range of run and fun related activities. The first of these was the April Solo Mile and this had 20 participants - compare that to the March Harmondsworth Mile that attracted only three! The monthly "Track-on-Field" is the most poorly attended of the Midweek Challenges but has not yet attracted under ten participants (the club rarely has more than 5 at a Track & Field match) and I'm keen to continue it as a technical event for the Athletics Club. The other challenges have all attracted between 16 and 27 participants and lots of positive chatter on Facebook and WhatsApp.

The driver for the Weekend Achievements and the Midweek Challenges has mainly been myself through their set-up and communication, and I would have liked more people to have been offering to oversee events. However, I have been thankful for the help that has been provided, and I'll highlight Joe Nolan for his London Marathon challenge which was attended by 35 club colleagues and eight teams of 26 runners in total.

Now that lockdown is being slowly dismantled we have a dilemma.  Should we now return fully to side-by-side events or should we continue to operate virtual solo events?  Our intention is to try a bit of both and we'll see what works.

**4.0 Treasurer’s Report: Chris Kelly**

*Accumulated Fund*

This year, our income exceeded our expenses by £518, resulting in a Bank Balance at year end of £8,575. The main reasons were lack of Accommodation costs (+£876), payment of outstanding charitable donations (-£688), no training costs (+£564), selling rather than buying kit (+£301), no Concorde 5M (+£328), late XC and T&F fees (-£300), and no WARR subsidy (+£91).

We are still trying to obtain refunds for Vitality 10K Coach transports from 2018 and 2019 (-£700), and have outstanding 2019 Awards engravings (£200) to settle.

NB. The summary at the bottom of the table inverts the historical (-=+) representation of ins/outs/accumulated fund to correspond to our Bank Balance representation (+=+).

*Income*

£918 Subs were received from 103 members (5 honourable, and 4 early) with 39 affiliating to England Athletics at £15 (which has stayed the same for 2020 instead of rising to £16 as planned). The Club Affiliation increased to £150 in April 2019, so the (£150-£87) = £63 difference is 3 Members whose Affiliation payments to England Athletics are outstanding, one who paid in advance for 2020, and some Affiliations received that were £1 out.

As usual, I encourage Members to setup a yearly payment for 1st April. It can always be cancelled, or corrected, but otherwise ensures prompt, yearly, low-maintenance affiliation.

This year we received £1,880 for marshalling at the London Marathon (£580), City Race (£400), Vitality 10K (£250), Prudential Ride London (£400), and Big Half (£250), as thanks for our volunteers’ efforts and stewarding expertise. We hired a coach to the Vitality 10K, but are still trying to track down the refunds for 2019 and 2018. In 2020, most of these events will have been cancelled, and there will be a corresponding loss of club income – we expect to survive, but look forward to their swift return.

*Equipment and Sales*

We sold £91 worth of last year’s investment in T-Shirts and Vests and may survive another year before needing to restock. We did not subsidise WARR in AMS, but continue to rent out our race clock, which covers its costs, and transport, and new batteries.

*Events*

We were unable to put on the 2019 Concorde 5M, but did deliver the £89 BHF donation generated by the 2018 event. The 2019 Ladies 5K was sufficiently popular to generate a £93 profit and was going to be continued in 2020 until Covid-19 intervened.

Once again, we supported the annual Green Belt Relay, and having paid our entry for 2020, which did not take place, the fee has been rolled forward to 2021.

We affiliated to the usual Men’s (£75) and Ladies (£50) Cross-Country Leagues, but the Ladies payment for 2018 was late, and came out of the 2019 account.

We affiliated to the Rosenheim (£0) and Southern Counties Veterans AC Leagues (£100), for Track & Field competition, but the SCVAC payment for 2018 also came out of the 2019 account. We did not hold a Track Meeting this year, or a Family Track Day, but we continue to provide the modest partial subsidy for members who attend Uxbridge Track sessions (£28) and we also purchased some new Track Letters (“B”s - £17).

As well as the usual RTB and RTP events, we also had another, very successful, Quiz night (£135). Including some other ad-hoc donations we have raised a total of £171 for our usual charity, White Lodge. Last years’ £682.50 was donated as planned, and the £171 will be sent in due course.

*Spending*

There were no First Aider or Coaching training costs this year. Our Affiliation fees to Middlesex and Surrey Athletic Associations were slightly higher due to our growing Membership.

We celebrated our sporting achievements at a well-attended Annual Awards ceremony, with Catering, but the bill for Trophies (£200) will appear in the 2020 accounts.

Besides some modest, but expected, expenditure on Postage and Printing, we did notice some (totally unexpected!) withdrawals from our account, which we queried, objected to, and were refunded – a reminder of the need to check our statements. We have removed our Bank Details from our website in case its related - but do not hesitate to ask for them if you want to pay your subs!

As expected, with the move to the Bedfont Clubhouse, we have been very pleased to be able to meet and socialise after running, and for Committee meetings, without incurring the costs of 2018 - thanks to the subscriptions of our members to BA Clubs. We have also enjoyed more stable options for Team Catering, which has increased costs slightly, but not beyond reasonable levels.

*See attached report for full details.*

1. Membership Secretary’s Report: Alan Friar

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| At the end of March, we had 103 paid up members of which 81 had renewed, 18 had joined this year  and 4 had Life membership. | | | | | |  |  |
| 36 members are affiliated to England Athletics and another 19 have a different first claim club. | | | | | | | |
| Only 27 of the members belong to BA Clubs. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| There are twice as many men as ladies.  We have an ageing membership but we are still attracting young runners. | | | |  |  |  |  |

*See attached report for further details.*

6.0 Ladies Captain’s Report: Clara Halket

The year 2020 got off to a good start and by the end of the first quarter, everything changed with the explosion of COVID-19 and subsequent nationwide lockdown. I suspect everybody at some point had needed to adjust their New Year resolutions, make changes to lifestyle and adapt to the new environment. Personally, I was furloughed at the beginning of April. The down time provided the opportunity to revisit my fitness goals and rejig training plans. I am pleased to say that my running and endurance fitness have improved greatly.

*Surrey League Ladies Cross Country – Division 2*

We have had a good turnout in the 2019-2020 season with at least 4 runners in each match. A full team of 5 runners in Match 2 at Mitcham Common, and 8 runners in Match 3 at Wimbledon Common (Team A & B)!

A big welcome to all our new team runners of this season; Julie Barclay, Vera Simms, Jan Jones, Emma Moreton, Tanya Alonso, Kelly Davis, Amanda Coombs, Tanya Snook.

Also, a big Thank You to Christine Munden who first joined the team in 2018-2019 season, had been a staple this season having attended all the matches and helped look after the team in my absence at some of the matches.

Here are the dates and provisional venues for the coming season, although if and how the matches proceed are yet to be confirmed.

10 Oct Richmond Park - cancelled

7 Nov Wimbledon Common – to be confirmed

16 Jan Mitcham Common – to be confirmed

13 Feb Effingham Common – to be confirmed

*London Vitality 10K*

The pandemic lockdown caused all organised events to be postponed or cancelled up to at least the end of August. The London Vitality 10K is one of the casualties with the event being cancelled. I would still like to thank those of you who had already told me that you were available to marshal. Let’s make a date for next year!

*Other News*

I have indicated for a couple of years that I would like to pass on the Ladies Captaincy baton. We now have a willing candidate in Amanda Coombs, who by the end of this AGM will hopefully take it onward and forward.

I will still be looking after the marshalling of the London Vitality 10K and perhaps little club projects during the year.

**7.0 Men’s Captain’s Report: - Gary Rushmer**

*Cross Country*

Firstly I`d like to thank Neil Frediani for all his help he has giving me over the course of the last few years in building up the number of runners we have now and sending in reports. Enjoy your retirement.

I`d like to thank all that turned out for us this year in what was a good year for us finishing in 8th place of 12. Our highest turn out for the season was 17 runners and once again we manged to get a full team at every race this year. Well done all.

Congratulations to Mike Dennison for winning the Individual 60+ award.

Paul Knechtl was very unlucky this year in just missing out on the Individuals 40+ trophy, coming second on count back.

For the 2020/21 season, as it stands at the moment it doesn't look like we well be racing this year but you never know.

In our own cross country championships we had 4 ladies and 7 men.

First home for the ladies was Julie Barclay in 23.56 (2 laps) and Gary Rushmer first man in 32.37 (3 laps). Although most runners were well spread-out, we had a real sprint finish between Steve Hillier and John Coffey. Many thanks for all the marshals and time keepers on the day.

Our annual invitation to the Royal Military Academy in October saw 10 (5 ladies, 5men) BAAC runners brave a very challenging course. Well done to Mike Dennison for leading the men's team and Maria Jovani the first BA lady home.

Well done also to the ladies for securing 3rd place with the men 7th of 9.

The customary post-race tea and sandwiches and cakes were well received.

I`m afraid that's as far as we went this year before the COVID took over.

I`d like to thank the committee for their support during the past year and to the men's team for their great effort.

1. **Track & Field Report: Steve Hillier / Neil Frediani**

It is over a year since we last competed in a Vets League or Rosenheim League event, but Track & Field has not disappeared in the meantime.

Our in-house Grand Prix competition continued into late summer 2019. In August, Simon Turton swept to victory in the 200m, while after a long debate over throwing grips, Steve Hillier edged Roderick Hoffman in the Javelin competition. A month later, the season’s competition concluded with club records tumbling. Harry Wild claimed age group records in both the 100m and Long Jump, while Tony Barnwell took his age group title in the Long Jump.

Focus then turned to winter training. With some club members continuing their tough winter sessions at Woking, Windsor and Walton, a small group splashed their way around the track at Uxbridge until COVID came along to close the facility in March. However, that didn’t put an end to the short stuff, and isolated sprint training has continued in local parks throughout the summer.

The leagues have been abandoned for 2020, but we may yet be able to run some Grand Prix events in the autumn if the tracks re-open.

1. **Coaching report: Joe Nolan**

Just a little note about why we are all here in the club and what we actually do, and in the majority of cases want to be doing quicker, more efficiently and with less risk of injury ………we are here to help!

The Club has a wealth of experience in distance running, track and field events and in more recent times orienteering seems also to have crept in (!). Members have always ranged from absolute beginners to international level. We have backup in event organisation and officiating and, guess what ……. quite a number of qualified coaches to help everyone with pretty much any guidance or questions so please feel free to ask or say what you want, that’s what we are here for.

1. **Club Handicap Co-ordinator report: Steve Newell**

***2019/20  In House running events***

A promising 5km loop with few inclines or difficult road junctions from near the Bedfont Club was introduced to replace the traditional Watersplash 10km Spring event. This included an agricultural fringe off road section along the Duke of Northumberland river as well as taking in Hatton Road, Bedfont Green and Staines Road.  The Northumberland 10km (two laps) and Longford 5km (1 lap) pursuit events were held on 10th April and followed by a Deliveroo style curry and pizza in the clubhouse afterwards. Chris Kelly (10 km, 44:34) and Steve Hillier (5km, 30:16) were the winners of the inaugural events.

With the Wraysbury Sailing Base no longer being freely available for the AGM, the midsummer event to replace the long-remembered Parkway Mile of the Cranford era moved to the Feltham running track which has been left to nature but is still useful.  To avoid too much "lapping" to make judging and timekeeping unnecessarily difficult the runners were split into two groups.  Eleven runners completed the four (and a bit) laps with Maarten Stenham (6:09) coming in first followed by Chris Kelly (6:14) with Barry Walters (6:47) just keeping ahead of eight-year-old Jakob Stenham (6:60).

The Equinox 5km was again run at Bedfont Lakes based on the Bedfont Road carpark (and bus stop) but with an improved two lap anticlockwise course starting and finishing near The Motte.  Simon Turton (23:08) was the fastest of eleven runners.

In all the above events we were indebted to Harry Wild who was on hand to provide guidance and help with starting and timekeeping.

The five mile winter handicap using the same one lap course based on the Bedfont Club was held over the six winter months with attendances sometimes obviously affected by the weather.  Problems arose with road works connected with the project at Feltham Rail Station and the course was modified in mid-season to avoid the worst of the obstructions.  Covid19 was an awkward hurdle added in March when runners were asked to time themselves in socially distanced isolation over a convenient 5 miles and submit times. Roderick Hoffman, Gary Rushmer and Steve Hillier ran in all six legs and Simon Turton emerged as the winner on points at the end of the series. Gary Rushmer (34:46) and Paul Prescott (34:53) returned the best results over the winter. The club digital clock set up in countdown mode in the football club carpark was a feature of the first five runs.  Harry Wild and others chose to do a fast two and a quarter or two and a half mile walk while others were running.  This provided an alternative for any member wanting a less demanding challenge.

The mile relay before Christmas attracted ten runners who were divided into five teams.  The course was the same rather narrow "L" shaped one used in 2018.  Gary Rushmer was fastest in 6:11.

BAAC 2020 committee annual report.doc Steve Hillier

**Athletics - Annual General Meeting - Treasurer’s Report for 2019/20**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Year to 31 March 2020 | | | Year to 31 March 2019 | | |
|  | Income | Spending | Total | Income | Spending | Total |
| **Income** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Subscriptions (103 Members) | -£918 |  | -£918 | -£875 |  | -£875 |
| England Athletics Affiliation (36) | -£603 | £690 | £87 | -£595 | £610 | £15 |
| Event Marshalling & Coach Hires | -£1,880 | £350 | -£1,530 | -£1,705 | £650 | -£1,055 |
| **Equipment & Sales** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sale of Kit | -£91 |  | -£91 | -£113 | £323 | £210 |
| WARR T-Shirts / Tax |  |  |  |  | £91 | £91 |
| Equipment / Clock Rentals | -£200 | £62 | -£138 | -£281 | £104 | -£177 |
| **Events** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Concorde 5M (2019) |  | £89 | £89 | -£669 | £1,087 | £417 |
| Ladies 5K (2019) | -£454 | £360 | -£93 | -£196 | £124 | -£72 |
| GBR (2018/19) | -£222 | £401 | £180 | -£387 | £622 | £235 |
| XC |  | £175 | £175 |  | £75 | £75 |
| Track & Field |  | £245 | £245 |  | £51 | £51 |
| Quiz, RTP & RTB, Charity Donations | -£171 | £683 | £512 | -£176 |  | -£176 |
| **Spending** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Training Courses |  |  |  |  | £564 | £564 |
| County Affiliation Fees |  | £65 | £65 |  | £45 | £45 |
| Trophies & Prizes |  |  |  |  | £246 | £246 |
| Cards, Flowers & Stationery |  | £36 | £36 |  | £104 | £104 |
| Accommodation (Meeting Rooms) |  |  |  |  | £876 | £876 |
| Catering |  | £864 | £864 |  | £689 | £689 |
| Grand Total | -£4,538 | £4,020 | -£518 | -£4,997 | £6,260 | £1,263 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Float | £50 |  |  | £50 |  |  |
| **Bank Balance 31-Mar-19** | **£8,057** |  |  | **£9,363** |  |  |
| Gain/Loss during the year | £518 |  |  | -£1,263 |  |  |
| **Bank Balance 31-Mar-20** | **£8,575** |  |  | **£8,057** |  |  |
| Stock Balance at year-end | £613 |  |  | £704 |  |  |
| Balance | £8,575 |  |  | £8,100 |  |  |
| Late banked 2017 items |  |  |  | £24 |  |  |
| Early banked 2018 items |  |  |  | £67 |  |  |
| Balance+Late-Early | £8,575 |  |  | £8,057 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic Facilities from BA Clubs | £0 |  |  | £0 |  |  |

**Chris Kelly Athletics Club Treasurer 22nd July 2020**

BAAC AGM Membership Report 2019/20

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Members** | Founder | Life | New | Renewed | | Total Paid-up | Left |  |
|  | 1 | 3 | 18 | 81 | | 103 | 17 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| **England Athletics** | Affiliated | Unaffiliated |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  | 36 | 67 |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| **Gender Mix** | Ladies | Men |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  | 37 | 66 |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| **BA Clubs Members** | Life | Current | Non BA Clubs | |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 | 24 | 76 |  | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| **Age Range** | **Members** | |  |  | |  |  |  |
| 19-29 | 3 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| 30-39 | 5 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| 40-49 | 16 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| 50-59 | 36 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| 60-69 | 27 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| 70-79 | 10 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| 80-90 | 5 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| 91-100 | 1 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  | 103 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| **First Claim Club** | **Members** | |  |  | |  |  |  |
| BA | 84 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Ealing Eagles | 1 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Hillingdon | 1 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Horsham Joggers | 1 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Maidenhead AC | 2 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Runnymede Runners | 5 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Stockport Harriers | 1 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Stroud District Athletic Club | 1 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Thames Valley | 1 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Windsor,Slough,Eton & Hounslow | 1 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Woking AC | 4 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| Air Product Flyers | 1 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  | 103 |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |

***Alan Friar Membership Secretary July 2020***