British Airways Athletics Club

Minutes of 2023 Annual General Meeting

Bedfont & Feltham Football & Social Club 5th July 2023

Present:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Amanda Coombs | Mike Coombs | Alan Friar |
| Steve Hillier | Roderick Hoffman | Harjit Jhooti |
| Chris Kelly | Melanie Miller | Steve Newell |
| Benita Scaife | John Scaife | Janet Smith |
| Steve Taylor | John Wright |  |

Apologies:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Julie Barclay | Tony Barnwell | Paul Brandon |
| Clara Halket | Paul Knechtl | Laura Stenham |
| Maarten Stenham | Graham Taylor | Simon Turton |
| Barry Walters | Paul Watt | John Williams |

**1.0 Minutes of 2022 Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting were read and agreed.

**2.0 Chairman’s Report: Roderick Hoffman**

I've been involved in a managerial role for about ten years. I joined the committee as Deputy Chairman (replacing Richard Ruffell) to tackle the problem of falling membership - no one was joining, the average age was increasing and numbers were heading down to around 100.  And then we were faced by two major problems - the declining health of the then long-term chairman Brian Forrester and the equally declining health of our parent club BA Clubs. Brian sadly passed away in 2018 but the running club has continued. BA Clubs' health has stabilised and now appears firmly established here at Bedfont. Membership? Well, we've lost members over the ten years but our size of 100 members is about the same as it was before so the situation hasn't got worse. We have had many new members replacing those who have left us.  More recently we also had the challenge of the Covid19 pandemic, but we have survived that, thanks in no small part to ensuring that members stayed active and interested throughout the long lockdown months.

This year I've been the driving force behind the club's two hosted events, the Concorde and the Speedbird races. These have had mixed fortune. The Concorde One-Hour event has proved operationally effective but for the second year in a row only attracted twenty to thirty participants. If the format was right, I'm confident that we would have seen thirty to forty entrants this year. But we didn't. The format of the Speedbird Ladies is right, and after a restrained turnout at the late event last August we had no difficulty attracting fifty entrants this June and if we promoted it, it would probably have got more. But there is another side to those two events. Each event had just three BA club entrants. The Speedbird Ladies had plenty of BA helpers…but that is because we bar half the population from entering it. The Concorde One-Hour event had a catering team provided by Jas, thank you, and the core club members providing the timing and results team, but we had no one offering to marshal, other than the partner of one of the non-BA entrants. Those who say we should host a road race should be aware that with no marshals we can't host anything. Now, I want to make it clear, I am not critical against any club members who had reasons to be elsewhere on the days of these events. But as a club we are too small, and our membership is too scattered, for us to host such events in the future. Speedbird Ladies was successful - but whether we can host another Speedbird Ladies race will be down to the future committee, but I am nervous that we'll fail our diversity claims if the only event we host is barred to half the world's population.

That is part of the reason that I am standing aside now, and although I'll continue (for now) in my Communications role, I will no longer play an active part in the managing of this club. It is time I had a change, and it is time that the club had a change.

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

**Accumulated Fund**

In 2022-2023, our income exceeded our expenditure by £474, resulting in a Bank Balance at year end of £8,969. The main reasons were not needing to purchase kit, unlike 2021, but also resumption of LM events, generating the Marshalling contributions, and less catering, and in spite of more spending on GBR, XC and T&F.

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

**Income**

£806 Subs were received from 92 of our paying members (plus one overpayment) with 32 affiliating to England Athletics at £16 (which has now increased to £17 for 2023 onwards!). The Club Affiliation of £150 accounts for most of the £97 net cost.

As usual, I still encourage Members to setup a yearly payment for 1st April, £9 or £26. It can be cancelled, or corrected (by you!), but ensures prompt, yearly, low-maintenance membership and/or affiliation, and saves us a lot of unrewarding effort, chasing individuals every year…

In 2022 we were again glad to return to the London Marathon, Big Half and the Standard Chartered Great City Race (with John Barnes - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Re4aDJL3heA>), and grateful to the Club Members and friends who support our Marshalling efforts.

**Equipment and Sales**

Once again our trusty clock has earnt its batteries, at the Rugged Radnage, and our Club kit – Vests and T-Shirts continue to sell to new members, or those in need of an upgrade.

For WARR we contributed £100 for club member T-shirts.

**Events**

For 2022, we put on a new Concorde One Hour event – with some setup costs in FY2021 and a subsequent Charitable Donation. We were also able to bring back the popular Speedbirds 5K, which also generates a donation.

We received £40 in Quiz and RTP entries in 2021 (as well as a £250 donation which went towards Club Catering) which we still need to forward to White Lodge!

Our 2020 entry paid for the Green Belt Relay 2022 event, which took place as expected, and was then settled, including the £200 subsidy for the accommodation. We also paid the increased £286 entry for 2023’s event which will be settled in 2023 (although we expect to re-enter again for 2024…)

We once again returned to Track and Field, entering both the Rosenheim (£160) and Southern Counties Veterans AC (£150) Leagues, and purchasing some Track numbers (£25.08) to run in.

We also enjoyed both Men and Women’s Cross-Country Leagues, with varying team sizes.

**Spending**

We did not need to renew our two First Aiders this year, or other training obligations.

We affiliated to Middlesex and Surrey Athletic Associations, at lower membership levels.

We spent less on our Annual Awards and Trophies.

We also spent less on printing and postage and were pleased to see no Bank Errors.

Finally, we have been able to meet more regularly at Bedfont and been able to continue our support for events with food. We look forward to that continuing.

*See attached report for full details.*

4.0 Membership Secretary’s Report: Alan Friar

***Summary of our membership***

* The number of members is still slightly below 100.
* The proportion of ladies has increased. BA Club members continues to decrease.
* We have 15 members who have another club as their first claim club.

*See attached report for further details.*

**5.0 Ladies Captain’s Report: Amanda Coombs**

In the Surrey Cross-Country League, BAAC ladies had a successful season. We fielded full teams for the second and third matches and were only one short in the first and fourth. The weather was extremely kind to us with the exception of the January match on Chobham Common where we were literally ankle deep in water in places! We finished the season in 28th place out of 53 teams.

November saw the welcome return of the Milocarian XC at Sandhurst Royal Military Academy. Thank you to Paul Knechtl for coordinating the BAAC team. I thoroughly recommend this race - whilst challenging, it is in a fantastic location and there is a scrumptious afternoon tea to enjoy afterwards!

The annual BAAC cross-country championships was held in March, for the first time at Minet Country Park. Congratulations to Julie Barclay for winning the ladies’ trophy.

Finally, the Speedbird Ladies race was held two weeks ago on Harmondsworth Moor. Always a popular event, I have received great feedback from participants. Thank you to Roderick the RD and to all the volunteers for putting on such a great race.

**6.0 Men’s Captain’s Report: - Paul Knechtl / Steve Hillier**

The first cross country league match, in October at Reigate Priory, attracted 9 runners. We finished 7th of the 14 teams. The second match, at Oxshott, only attracted 4 runners, and we finished 13th.

In the New Year we ran at the sandy swamp which is Chobham Common.

The final cross country league match, on February 11th at Morden, attracted 6 runners. We finished 11th of the 14 teams. We didn’t (quite) manage to field a full team, but nevertheless enjoyed a successful season. Adam Moquet usually finished in the top 5 overall, with PK not far behind. PK finished as the leading V50 in the league, and 5th overall. Mark Taylor completed the season as leading MV60.

The men and ladies also entered a successful combined team of eight to the Milocarians XC event at Sandhurst on October.

Last but not least, we held our own in-house cross country at Minet Park, Hayes, in March. Cranford Park was unavailable, so we decided to experiment with a new venue, and accordingly didn’t invite runners from other clubs this time. The course had been swamp-like in January, but had dried to a boggy consistency by March. It proved tough but popular with our runners, and we may use Minet Park again next winter.

**7.0 Track & Field Report: Steve Hillier**

A lot has happened in the world on Track & Field since last year’s AGM. Some very talented athletes have broken British records, and our team reached a Rosenheim Final for the first time in many years.

We closed last summer’s league action with an annoying clash, with Vet’s League and Rosenheim League events unusually scheduled on the same evening, twenty miles apart. Despite the stifling heat, five athletes produced some stellar performances at Perivale, with Janet Smith breaking club records in hammer and javelin. Down south at Walton, Mike Ball and Ian Haylock were flying the flag for our Rosenheim team, and they did enough to win our men a place in the Rosenheim final for the first time in many years.

The final took place at Kingston as the heat wave was coming to a close, with thunderstorms flooding the throwing circles and drenching the track. We covered almost the entire programme, with highlights including Sean O’Keeffe’s team debut and Steve Taylor’s excellent 3000m.

We started this season with a competitive “Track on Field” event at Feltham, as we worked down a pyramid of track events. The 200m and 100m blanket finishes gave our fellow track users something to cheer.

Sadly, Summer 2023 has been a season of contrast with last year. Injuries and other clashing events mean that we have struggled to attract enough competitors to our league matches. We currently sit at the bottom of both leagues, despite Fiona Bishop’s record-breaking evening at Battersea.

There are two more opportunities to turn this summer around: on July 12th at Perivale, and on July 19th at St Mary’s Twickenham. A larger team would ensure that we would move away from the bottom spot in both leagues.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed during the past year. Let’s hope we can turn around our fortunes in 2024.

1. **In-house events report: Steve Newell**

The five-mile winter handicap event has settled on a two-lap course from the Bedfont Club, allowing encouragement from the timekeepers at the half way stage. Consistent times, or slight improvements, could win you a Fuller’s beer prize. The winner of the 2022/3 event, by a narrow margin, was Paul Watt.

Next winter’s competition will start in October.

This year’s Equinox 5K will take place in September at Bedfont Lakes.

1. **London Marathon report: Simon Turton**

In 2023 BAAC are supporting four London Marathon events:

Apr 23rd: London Marathon: Simon eventually attracted nearly 140 volunteers

May 28th: Ride London: Steve persuaded 18 to attend out of 25 targeted

Jul 18th: Great City Race: Simon has only 15 out of 20+ originally needed, and has reduced the duty accordingly

Sep 3rd: Big Half: Steve has seven so far, another 15 are needed. Volunteers are welcome.

Sep 16th: Serpentine Swim: we don’t normally marshal.

Sep 24th: Vitality 10K: we will have to give this one up this year.

I would be interested in members views on the events we support going forward. Previously the donations from LME events have helped sub. team entries, social food etc. but as we know this has gradually been reducing since we had to vacate the Concorde Centre. I think supporting all five LME events going forward is unsustainable so barring the marathon, which other events do we support? Do SRG want to pick up one or two events to boost their coffers? (although I’m not sure what outgoings they have). Members shouldn’t be too surprised by the discussion because as you know first-hand it’s becoming a struggle to recruit and invariably it’s the same people volunteering each time.

1. **England Athletics Club Standards report: Steve Hillier**

BAAC as a club is affiliated to England Athletics, and in turn to UK Athletics. This provides us with several benefits, for example insurance cover, access to training courses reduced entry to events, and advice regarding relevant legislation.

Over the past two years, EA have been encouraging member clubs to become compliant with a series of Standards, which ensure that best practice and legal guidelines are signed up to by all member clubs. They want to ensure that good governance and duties of care are adhered to.

EA have been relaxed about deadlines, but very keen to see that we have been working towards completing the implementation of these seven standards. Your committee has been on the case, and we are on the way to completing this assignment. You will have seen a number of briefs and opportunities for you to comment in the Digest during the last year.

Here’s an update of where we stand as a club:

* Standards 1, 2 & 3 have been written, signed off by you, the club membership, and are lodged with EA. They are our Constitution, our Committee structure and our Grievance and Disciplinary Policy.
* Standards 4 & 5 have been drafted and were circulated last month via the digest to you, the members. We have assumed that, if there are no further comments, the drafts as written can be submitted to England Athletics as our completed drafts. Standards 4 & 5 cover Privacy and Inclusion.
* Standards 6 & 7 are still to be drafted. These cover Safeguarding Code of Conduct and Health and Safety. Although the words are still to be written, we have made significant strides towards compliance in these fields in the last two years. Amanda has taken on the role of Lead Welfare Officer, and with regard to Health and Safety we have First Aiders in place and a regularly update our Risk assessments for club events.

Once these last two are ready, I will circulate them for approval.

1. **Election of new committee**

The following members were elected to the committee unopposed:

Chairman *Becomes vacant*

Honorary Secretary Steve Hillier

Honorary Treasurer Chris Kelly

Ladies Captain/Welfare Officer Amanda Coombs

Men’s Captain Paul Knechtl

Membership Secretary Alan Friar

Communications & Events Secretary Roderick Hoffman

Track & Field Captain *Remains vacant*

Committee Members(without portfolio) Steve Taylor

 Clara Halket

Roderick was thanked by all for his huge contribution to the club, fulfilling the role as Chairman during the past ten years with dedication.

1. **Open Forum**

Members considered Simon’s concerns regarding the difficulty we have experienced in attracting sufficient marshals for our London Marathon Events duties. It was agreed that we should consider dropping an event if the problem persists.

BAAC AGM2023 minutes.doc Steve Hillier

**Athletics - Annual General Meeting - Treasurer’s Report for 2022/2023**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|   | Year to 31 March 2023 | Year to 31 March 2022 |
|   | Income | Spending | Total | Income | Spending | Total |
| **Income** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Subscriptions (92 Paying Members) | -£806 |  | -£806 | -£790 |  | -£790 |
| England Athletics Affiliation (32) | -£453 | £534 | £81 | -£405 | £645 | £240 |
| Event Marshalling & Coach Hires | -£1,718 |  | -£1,718 | -£1,585 | £465 | -£1,120 |
| **Equipment & Sales** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Sale of Kit | -£65 |  | -£65 | -£566 | £1,247 | £681 |
| WARR T-Shirts / Tax |   | £100 | £100 |   |  |   |
| Equipment / Clock Rentals | -£25 |  | -£25 | -£175 | £14 | -£161 |
| **Events** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Concorde One Hour | -£410 | £701 | £292 | -£108 | £300 | £192 |
| Speedbirds 5K | -£184 | £213 | £29 |   | £55 | £55 |
| GBR | -£448 | £660 | £212 |   |  |   |
| XC |   | £300 | £300 |   | £125 | £125 |
| Track & Field |   | £335 | £335 |   | £172 | £172 |
| RTP, Watersplash, RTB, Quiz |   |  |   | -£290 |  | -£290 |
| **Spending** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Training Courses |   |  |   |   | £690 | £690 |
| County Affiliation Fees |   | £45 | £45 |   | £55 | £55 |
| Trophies & Prizes |   | £30 | £30 |   | £142 | £142 |
| Cards, Flowers & Stationery |   | £13 | £13 |   | £90 | £90 |
| Bank Errors |   |  |   |   |  |   |
| Catering |   | £702 | £702 |   | £1,036 | £1,036 |
| Grand Total | -£4,108 | £3,634 | -£474 | -£3,919 | £5,037 | £1,118 |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Float | £50 |  |  | £50 |  |  |
| Stock Balance (at 12-Jul-23) | £734 |  |  | £1,110 |  |  |
| **Bank Balance 31-Mar-22** | **£8,495** |  |   | **£9,613** |  |   |
| Profit/Loss during the year | £474 |  |  | -£1,118 |  |  |
| Outstanding Accommodation costs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balance | £8,969 |  |  | £8,495 |  |  |
| **Bank Balance 31-Mar-23** | **£8,969** |  |  | **£8,495** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Contribution from BA Clubs | £0 |  |  | £0 |  |  |

Chris Kelly Athletics Club Treasurer 12th July 2023

BAAC AGM Membership Report 2022/23

(Last year’s figures shown in parentheses)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Members** | Life |  | New | Renewed |   | Total |  |
|  | 4 (4) |  |  5 (5) | 88 (87) |  | 97(96) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **England Athletics** | Affiliated | Unaffiliated |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 32 (37) | 65 (59) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |
| **Gender Mix** | Ladies | Men |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 36 (33) | 61 (63) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **BA Clubs Members** | Current |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 17(17) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Age Range** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19-29 | 5 (3) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 30-39 | 2 (4) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 40-49 | 10 (10) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |
| 50-59 | 26 (30) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-69 | 34 (35) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 70-79 | 12 (9) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 80-90 | 8 (6) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 97 (96) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **First Claim Club** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| BA | 82 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ealing Eagles | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hillingdon | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Horsham Joggers | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Maidenhead AC | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Runnymede Runners | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stroud District Athletic Club | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Thames Valley | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Windsor,Slough,Eton & Hounslow | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Woking AC | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 97 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

***Alan Friar Membership Secretary July 2023***