

Minutes of the Standing Committee of Airedale Athletics at Idle Cricket Club, on Monday 2 June 2008

Present: Dave Armstrong, Diane Craven, Simon Forde, Chris Hainsworth, Barney Lerner, Hazel Maddocks, Terry Maddocks, Paul Watts.

In attendance: Graham Eastell.

Apologies for absence: Rory Cunliffe, Brian Elsey, Mike Moss, Tony Myers, Jack Verity, Jen Willingham, Gareth Wood.

The meeting started at 8.15pm.

1. The previously circulated **minutes of the meeting** on 7 April 2008 were approved.
2. **Matters arising**, not covered elsewhere in the agenda:
 - a. SF reported on a meeting with Bingley Harriers, immediately prior to this meeting, with Bob Dover, Alan Oates and John Waterhouse. SF and Mike Moss had presented the theory and practice of the Partnership and sketched how it was likely to progress. Bingley Harriers were keen to reflect on what they had heard, and wished to continue the discussions in the autumn, with a view to finding ways of working with Airedale Athletics.
 - b. SF reported on discussions with Peter Rawnsley from Skyrac. He was enthusiastic about the partnership concept and had presented a paper to England Athletics-Yorkshire & Humberside to urge similar pilot projects to be implemented. He intended to approach (with AA) a dozen clubs in the vicinity – bounded by Baildon, Otley, Valley Striders and Pudsey Pacers.
 - c. It was agreed that potential new partners might be offered “Associate Partner” status (allowing them to participate in Partnership events, but with restrictions on other rights and responsibilities), on a two-year trial basis, before their status could be reviewed. This had the benefit of the Partnership not being swamped by a sudden influx of clubs, and the opportunity to see how the collaboration functioned in practice with individual clubs.
 - d. The meeting identified three criteria that should be considered when agreeing to new clubs joining the Partnership: (i) that they would bring something complimentary to the current offerings; (ii) that they should provide additional volunteers as well as competition or training benefits; (iii) that the expansion should deliver clear benefits to existing club members, and the strategy in introducing new partners was made clear to members.
3. **Matter deferred from previous meeting:**

A dozen or more alternative logos or crests had been designed by Dave Ellis, a graphic designer at Bradford Design Exchange. The meeting quickly came to a unanimous preference for one of the designs. A few minor alterations were made. The meeting agreed that SF should get a definitive version produced (for use on websites, correspondence, and conceivably on vests). The meeting

agreed to pay the proposed £150 (plus VAT) charge for this design. The revised and definitive design is as follows:



4. **Brief reports from the constituent clubs:**

- a. **Bradford-Airedale:** CH reported that they had organised a training session for about 14 cub scouts in the Horsfall locality. The Bradford Youth Olympics had taken place at Horsfall during the recent half-term; this might generate new members, particularly two outstanding Polish girls.
- b. **Eccleshill:** TeM reported that the Junior Section contained five youngsters and this number was likely to increase.
- c. **St Bede's:** GE reported that the John Carr series had been successful and the forthcoming Bradford Millennium Way Relay had a record entry of 41 teams. There were a number of new members, and new kit had just been purchased.

5. **Brief reports from the Joint Committees:**

- a. **Social & Membership:** There had been no meetings of the Committee. However, GE reported on two events open to members from other clubs within the partnership:
 - i. on Friday, 4 July there is a coach trip, run and meal to the Dales – there were likely to be a dozen places available to members from other clubs;
 - ii. on Tuesday, 8 July there is a social 4-leg relay in Spring Wood, Esholt. BAAC and ERR members were welcome to attend both events, but should contact GE in advance.
- b. **Training & Performance (TAPCOM):** DC summarised a meeting held on 19 May:
 - i. Coaching development: DC was trying to identify suitable courses for coaches wanting to undertake training.
 - ii. Collective teams: Jack Verity had put together for the BMW Relay two full teams under the AA banner and almost a full team to supplement two overseas teams. He would subsequently bill clubs (or individual semi-attached runners) @ £7 per runner.
 - iii. Championships and internal series:
 1. DA was forming a fells squad, participating in a series organised by Skyrac.

2. The first-Tuesday of the month handicap series at Esholt was drawing the "82ers" squad.
 3. From September JV and TM would work together at a series of target races that ERR and St Bede's would both attend. In particular, the two clubs would hope to attend the Bridlington Festival together in October.
 - iv. Squad development: the "82ers" had drawn four high-quality runners from the Bradford 10k. TM had formed another group to try out track-work at Horsfall on Tuesdays.
 - c. **Hosted Races**: TeM reported that the Thorpe Edge 10k was to be held on a date separate from the festival and he was considering a new name, date and format for the event for 2009.
 - d. **Development & Recruitment (DARCOM)**: DA reported on the DARCOM meeting that had taken place immediately prior to this meeting:
 - i. Questionnaires/census: Helen Freeman had produced a detailed report of her questionnaire, which had been completed by 63 respondents (of about 200 unattached runners). Two-thirds of these welcomed further information from partner clubs, and HF and DA were phoning these individuals. The report included responses which could be addressed in the forthcoming two-monthly AA Newsletter.
 - ii. Corporate challenge: The committee would consult Epilepsy Action about plans for the 2009 running of the Bradford 10k.
 - iii. NHS referrals: Discussions by Gareth Wood and Jen Willingham with the Leeds and Bradford Primary Care Trusts were advanced and the NHS seemed willing to undertake a pilot project involving the referral to us of cardiac patients.
6. **Brief reports from the Officers:**
- a. **Budget and finance**: PW reported that he had received £100 from St Bede's and had similar cheques promised by BAAC and ERR. DA agreed to accompany PW to co-sign the paperwork for opening a bank account for AA.
 - b. **Membership**: BL had received no response from England Athletics about AA's application for association status. He was still waiting for detailed spreadsheets on members from St Bede's and Bradford-Airedale.
 - c. **Teams**: no report; but see above concerning the BMW Relay teams.
7. **Any other business:**
- a. CH encouraged members to encourage athletes to take part in the track-and-field league meeting on Saturday, 7 June at Hyndburn.
8. **Next meetings:**
- Standing Committee**: Mondays, 6 October and 1 December - Idle CC at 8pm
- Board of Oversight**: Monday, 1 December - Idle CC at 7.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.45pm.

Simon Forde, 6 June 2008.