Minutes

From the mid-year meeting of the West Sussex Fun Run League

Held in the Burgess Hill Community College on 25th June after the Downland Dash

Present: Representatives from 13 member clubs including deputies from Arunners, Henfield Jogger and Saints & Sinners. Apologies from; Arena 80, Goring Road Runners, Southwick Strollers, Worthing Harriers, League Statistician and League Treasurer.

1 Introduction of all reps and welcome to any new rep.

All reps introduced themselves and those deputising for their clubs were welcomed; Nick Hartfield, Arunners; Paul Crowe, Henfield Joggers and Mark Smee, Saints & Sinners.

2 Confirmation of contact details

Clubs were reminded to update their contact list so that they are emailing the current club rep.

3 Confirmation of dates for remaining races

Races were agree as per the calendar with Victoria (Horsham Joggers) giving us news that their event would be an undulating cross country run on Sunday 6th November. The Foxtrot 5 will NOT be held again this year. Car parking will be at the Medical Centre for the Henfiled 7 Stiles race, the junior race at Waterhall (Hove Hornets) will be longer this year and the Worthing Striders will trial a new course for the Highdown Hike of approx. 3.5 miles.

4 Feedback on races so far.

Seven clubs had completed the survey sent out by Victoria. Races had been approved as ‘Good or Very Good’ by those who had completed the surveys. The extra porta-loos at Lewes had been well received.

5 Experimental points so far.

Phil McErlain produced a comprehensive set of tables showing the effect of taking the top 10 scorers from each club. It was shown that the experimental scores are not causing any major change to the rankings. Scores are increasing the gaps between clubs, although not uniformly due to the different make-up of each club’s runners. It was agreed to continue the trial for the remainder of the season and then vote at the AGM as to whether it should be permanently adopted. Many thanks to Phil for his work on this.

6 Discussion about entries timescale.

The deadline for clubs sending in their block entries is 2 days prior to each event. This is useful for club reps to ensure they get the biggest team possible. Although this is short notice for race organisers, the ease of use of Smart Rrs makes inputting entries very rapid. It was also noted that although 2 days is the minimum time many clubs have their entries in well in advance of this time. It was agreed that we stick to the 2 days but clubs are encouraged to send entries earlier if possible.

7 Responsibilities of Club Reps.

There are often changes of club rep who may have little or no idea what is involved in being part of the WSFRL. Jill suggested that perhaps new (and existing) reps might appreciate an ‘idiot’s guide’. This was accepted as a good idea to include aspects such as communication, encouraging new runners and collecting entry fees. It will be available at the AGM in November for all to add to if necessary.

8 Entry Fees for 2017.

As some clubs have already produced their entry forms before the AGM in November we agree the entry fees for the following year at the half yearly meeting. It was agreed that they would remain unchanged for 2017.

9 First Aid research.

Dave Harris (Goring Road Runners) had been asked to do some research as to whether the WSFRL clubs could have an agreement with a local First Aid provider to cover any WSFRL event for a competitive price. Having made enquiries, he felt that there was little appetite from member clubs to commit to any change from their present arrangements. This appeared to be the case so no further action to be taken.

10 AOB

Very slow runners on Wednesday evening races. Chichester Runners propose to implement a time limit at the Trundle Hill run. All runners will be welcome but anyone not making the carpark by 8:07 will be sent back without completing the loop round the top. They will still be given a time and will still be able to score for their club but after having marshals stood out in the rain for almost 2 hours it became unsafe to have them returning to race HQ in the dark.

Another reminder/plea for clubs to use the most up to date contact list when sending out emails.

11 To agree a date and time of the AGM in November at Steyning

Despite a clash of date with a local race it was agreed that the AGM would be held on Sunday 20th November at 10:00am.

Many thanks to Jay for organising a room for us to use at the Community College.