

Birmingham Swifts Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 27 September 2017, 19:00-21:00, ICC Starbucks

Present

- Chris Pratt – Club Chair (CP)
- Marianne Skelcher – Club Secretary (MS)
- Geoffrey Frost – Club Treasurer (GF)
- Pete “TP” Davis – Race Secretary (PD)
- Connor Kingsley – Promotional Secretary (CK)
- Alan Cordonnier – Social and Welfare Secretary (AC)

Item	Action
<p>1. Minutes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>These were unavailable and so were deferred to the next meeting. MS to chase Christine for them</p>	<p>MS</p>
<p>2. Activity reports</p> <p>a) Chair’s report: received and noted. New Committee members were welcomed.</p>	
<p>b) Treasurer’s report: Received and noted</p> <p>GF meeting with Run Birmingham Re: funding for running tops and run leader training. GF to do ad for new run leaders, with CK. GF to chase David Wall re run leader interest</p> <p>CP to chase Tommy re kit requirements for run leaders and technical Tuesdays.</p>	<p>GF</p> <p>CP</p>
<p>c) Race Secretary Report received and noted. Birmingham Half & marathon post-race social will be at the Fox. Medals for Swiftember will be presented. Alan to create a new event for FB.</p> <p>All agreed Swiftember has been a great success, for which TP was congratulated. Agreed to repeat in January, maybe as ‘Runuary’</p>	<p>AC</p> <p>PD</p>
<p>d) Promotions Secretary Report Social media activity & hits up.</p> <p>Website to be updated with info and pics of MS & AC. Both to write an bit about themselves and provide to CK.</p> <p>CK to organise a repeat promoted post on FB, and add a pinned post letting people know they can apply to join the Group</p> <p>All Committee members to like and share the FB page</p> <p>CK to cost up promotional cards</p>	<p>MS/AC/CK</p> <p>CK</p> <p>All</p> <p>CK</p>

3. Starting Out Sessions Agreed these should start in January to align with 'Runuary'	CP/PD
4. Social event with Coffee and cakes and board games planned for October. Alan will be sending out a members survey to go out late October to get views.	AC
5. Running Tops Agreed PD to check stock and order additional ones to ensure all outstanding orders are filled and there are three of each size in stock. PD to check what discounts may be available for quantity, and if run leaders tops can be produced for same cost. MS to ask Christine for return of running top she borrowed.	PD MS
6. Cross Country Grand Prix Agreed its probably not the right time for us to get involved in this as we don't have the resources to host a race and are already struggling to get six or more for club target races. PD to go back to the member who suggested it to explain our decision.	PD
7. Out of Birmingham race PD to identify a March race out of town, possibly Ironbridge and GF to check out costs of hiring a minibus for transport to and from.	PD/GF
8. Xmas party Agreed to check out Fox availability for 8 th or 15 th December. Alan to come up with ideas for activities, possibly a quiz, plus tombola/raffle again.	AC
9. Members letter the Committee discussed in detail a letter from a member making a range of suggestions, some of which are already in progress. . CP to respond.	CP
10. AOB LGTB Centre Activate meetings. Agreed CK & AC will cover these in future.	CK & AC
11. Date and time of next meeting MS to arrange via Whatsapp for end October.	MS

Activity Reports from Committee

Club Chair:

1. Liaised with prospective new members and answered general email queries.
2. Supported Club Secretary to hold election for Social and Welfare Secretary.
3. Managed outcome of Social and Welfare Secretary election in conjunction with the resignation of the Club Secretary.
4. Planned but then cancelled the Big Bear Hunt social event.

Club Treasurer:

Actions complete:

Agreement document sent to Blueprint.
Meeting arrange with Run Birmingham.
Supported election process for Social and Welfare Secretary

Actions to complete:

News letter article on run leaders.

Financial Position:

		Notes
Cash In Bank	£1,947.50	£1,922.50 Bank Account £25.00 Paypal
Pledged Donations	£280.00	£140.00 1 x LIRF courses to be paid by BLGBT £140.00 1 x LIRF courses to be paid by the Fox
Payments Due:	£271.43	£56.00 Af Nations and Run Leader Training £86.97 Stickers for pride + Facebook Ad £39.57 Web and email hosting £88.89 Shoelaces and Bibs £35.00 Swift-tamber Medals
Earmarked Funds:	£1,021.26	£155.00 Birm ingham pride '15. Course costs £255 per person. £165.00 Birm ingham pride '15. Course costs £140 per person. £280.00 Participant D Wall and I Bush Identified £62.80 Birm ingham pride '15. £23.28 Birm ingham pride '15. £135.51 BLGBT £112.00 BLGBT £4.00 BLGBT £83.66 BLGBT
Uncommitted Cash	£934.81	

Race Secretary

Badgers Atherstone 10k

Previous year's attendance was approx. 2 was 5 this year (250% improvement) should have been 7 but 2 swifts cancelled due to unforeseen personal reasons. So consisted of 4 runners and 1 support swift

Run report: - Darren (asked Jay via WhatsApp twice no response) so asked Chris Bainbridge – awaiting report ()

NEW!!!! Spectator report: - Alexander – awaiting report ()

Definitely worth doing as most run groups were there and I was able to connect with a Badger who I did Run Leading with (Appears we have a good relationship with this group) – Great Exposure outside the CC Area

Worth doing as was a challenging 10k – route was hilly and stunning, and humidity was also a factor

Swift-Tember – September Period

New Event that takes place for the whole month over a scheduled race, that allows all members to take part (no barriers as no cost and able to do when/where ever there currently are)

Attendance is 31 swifts spanning challenge distances from 25 to 100 miles

Prizes have been sourced which are: - 20 Fox Dollars, 2 swifts on a sofa with a bottle of wine and a film at Electric Cinema, Mystery Prize which are to be chosen to the best of 3 by myself and then winner to be decided on 15/10/17 social at Fox by group

Certificates are to be printed after event to allow the challenge distance and the actual distance if swifts have gone over into Extra category to be seen

Medals have been purchased at £1 per medal making £35 pound. Any additional expenses for the event has been covered by myself as a token of my gratitude and support to the group which include:- Prizes, Medal Engraving, Medal Ribbon, Certificates

The Run Rosters for all 31 swifts will be collected over the next week after event in any format so that data can be collected and feedback provided on a later date to the group. My hope is this event can be an annual swift event in the future

Leafy 10k 1/10/17

Event created by Chris Pratt currently has: - 22 going, 5 maybe and 186 invited.

Last year I approx. had 8 so approx >200% Attendance based on page.

This run has got many people talking and really wanted to do so great to see this reflected in the numbers.

Big thanks to all swifts who have promoted this official race.

Next Race is:- Half/Full Marathon on 15/10/17 – Event Opened ()

Promotional Secretary

Not received.

Letter from Wai Ming

Group/Committee

- Overall, we need more visibility, openness & communication
- Do we have a direction & strategy?
 - Example: in the AGM last December it was said we wanted to try and get more female members in.
 - What was the result of this?
 - Was this investigated?
 - If so, what was done, how was it done and to date what was the outcome?
 - Are there any learnings from this?
- What avenues have we tried this year to find facilities this year? I know it's not easy but I'd be interested to hear what the findings were
- Where else are we promoting ourselves? I know the regular runs are mentioned on FB every week but that's to an audience who already know about them – it's an echo chamber

Committee Meetings

12. These (I understand) are open for all members to attend, but I think it needs publicising more, give it more awareness.

a. The minutes of previous meetings haven't been posted on the site for several months so it's not clear what's happening in the background

13. What can the group in general do to help?

a. I think it'd be worth including the group more, reaching out more and inviting everyone in to help the committee – it seems like a big ask for 5-6 people to carry the whole group?

Website

1. More could be done with the Swifts website?
2. Promote it more, add more content on there, rely less on the FB page.
3. If anything, use the FB page to highlight to everyone there's new content, and to go there instead.
4. Try and make the main site the main site rather than using the FB page so heavily. Also, we have the 2nd FB Page but I'm confused how that truly differs from the 1st one?

How about **celebrating our achievements more?**

- I think it'd be good to publish our results from all our races, show how much we've achieved.
- They're all on the main race websites, pulling key Metrics into a swifts table for the Swifts website can't be too much effort?
- It'd be good to see how far back we can go, get a history going.
- We must have run a lot over the last year or so – and more?
- How many miles have the Swifts run this year, as a group and on solo runs?
- Celebrate it!

Steal with Pride

- What do other LGBT Groups do/have on their websites that we could emulate/replicate?

Networking

- What are we doing about promoting the group and increasing our visibility?
 - Has anyone from the group attended "Out of Office" held every month, network with local LGBT members, see what links could be made?
 - Maybe someone there could help us find facilities to use every Thursday?
- Are we ready to reach out to other local/national/international LGBT Running groups and get Networking?
- How about Networking with other LGBT Sports groups and arrange a group event?
 - Something to consider for 2018?

Long Term

- What races could the Swifts do in 2018?
 - Sketch out a list of what we've run in 2016-17 and see what the group are interested in doing?
 - Not suggesting we organise and commit to everything now, just doing a bit of forward planning
- Pulling Swifts together in races we've done in the past shouldn't take too much effort.
 - Go back on previous FB postings, copy what was said, save it as a template and reuse for future events. Minimal effort.
 - Could be applied for the Birmingham 10K and Half/Full Marathons.

Christmas Party

- Is there going to be one – if yes, when?
- Although it's only September, people outside of Birmingham might need to arrange a Hotel while the prices are relatively cheap