

Minutes of Wessex Wizards Committee Meeting Thursday 2nd November 2023

6.30pm at Oxley Leisure Centre

1. **Attending:** Steve Kitto, Geoff Close, Andy Potts, and remotely - Anne Voysey, Nick Routh, Mike Griffiths and Lynn Hutton

Apologies: None

2. **Minutes of the Meeting 09 2023:** Minutes of Wessex Wizards Committee Meeting, Thursday 5th October 2023 were agreed and signed.

3. **Matters Arising:**

- **Invoice submitted to IM Weymouth:** NR reported that £500 had been received. **Matter closed**
- **Revised Membership list and up to date contact list:** SK reported that this had been received, membership stood at 41. **Matter Closed**
- **Storage of Club kit:** SK had not made contact with Richard Brett re storage of club kit and finding the 400 towels. **SK to take up matter after AGM. Matter Ongoing**
- SK had looked at swim video, consent had been given by those participating. **Matter Closed**
- **SK attended BT SW AGM**, some attended in person and 7 via zoom. Jane Wild, Chair, led the meeting. Debbie Hill's successor, as BTF South West co-ordinator, attended but was not introduced which was noted to be disappointing. A Race Series officer has been appointed. Tewkesbury had successfully applied for funding to be a role model club for advancing equality, inclusion and diversion. Area South West has 64 clubs and 17 of these have a junior section. SK found that there were 86 SW events in 2022 compared with 96 in 1996. The given statistics for tri event cancellations was 10%, but the number of entries per race was down by a third which reflected a national trend and was found to be concerning. 61, the number of technical officials, were not operating fully. With regards to the forthcoming coach foundation training opportunities at midfield only 13 of 18 places had been filled. BTF's previous GO Tri initiative has been rebranded as 'Swim, Bike, Run'. No date was set for the next South West AGM, to be set in the next 6th months.
- **BT affiliation:** SK now had the required information to complete the process in conjunction with NR for payment of the fee. **Matter Ongoing**
- **Publicising Committee Minutes:** to be discussed after the AGM, **Matter Ongoing**

4. **Treasurers report:** The balance at the bank is £7811.39, the balance includes the IM Weymouth payment. NR is preparing his report for the AGM which present figures for comparison over the past 3 years which he will circulate before the meeting. If it were to be the case that the club closes NR would earmark money for Hadyn's foundation course, subject to completion, return of membership fees, covering the safeguarding course. By his calculations WW club has four years before funds run out based on current trends. Annual club losses this year amount to £1,833. It was suggested that the Club really needs a rich benefactor.

5. Coaches Report:

AP advised that recently average attendance is 10 per session. Swim Sessions at Oxley will depend on the Festive break and when Oxley closes, usually one or two days. AP reported that it is not easy to reconcile the purchase of session cards with attendance, the discrepancy could be as much as 20 – 40 sessions, especially when the card may cover the end of one financial year and start of the next.

6. Preparation for AGM:

Quorum for the AGM would be 10.5/11 members. At the time of the meeting just 5 member responses had been received. As of 4th November a further 2 had been received (this includes proxy vote forms) – SK added apologies from Greg Drew, Martin Bolton and Jon Harrod, and Lynn H is yet to respond (POST MEETING NOTE - Lynn and Nigel to attend AGM). SK concluded that if there was no sudden influx of replies he would cancel the meal at The Quicksilver Mail and would seek to hold the AGM at Oxley Leisure centre.

There was much discussion about the dwindling numbers attending the club, the sadness of seeing past members moving on to other clubs and/or trainers. Consideration was given to the closure of the club and how this would happen, committee members needing to decide what to do with remaining funds. AP/SK/LH all identified that a few were working hard to keep the club going but with little positive outcome in terms of new members. Too many members left during the time of covid and lock downs, since then members had not returned. Economic times have changed, other sports are also struggling. It was acknowledged that the club is not sustainable in its present situation.

GC observed that the membership s spread out geographically but that the strava group has the potential to bring members together/challenging one another via technology if not meeting /competing face to face. He also introduced the concept of 'My Way Triathlon' to potentially have a virtual race at Christmas, to use the web site to attract participants and thus promoting the club and attracting past or new members. It was acknowledged that would be some extra work involved.

It was mentioned that Francois had expressed an interest in being responsible for Club Kit

7. AOB: There was none.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.42pm

Date of the next meeting: AGM (and then post AGM note next committee meeting 30th November 2023, 6.30pm at Oxley Leisure Centre)