



Minutes of DTC Annual General Meeting – 12th November 2016

Attendees

Chris Nicoll, Lindsey Appleby, Clive Holland, Michael O’Doherty, Elisa Zamora, Simon Rolfs, Nick Morris, Chris Keegan, Chris Redding, Liz Burgess, Amine Hammami, Ruth Enion, Julie Morris, Doug Belfield, Dana Licakova, Rob Edwards, Rod Zala, Paul Webster and Steve Tatem.

Apologies

Hayden Smedley, Mark Ryder, Kathy Carmichael, Hugh Carmichael, Ashley Turner, Mark Wakelam, Steve Grey and Louise Espley.

Chairman’s Report

Chris started his review of the year talking about the survey of members that was carried out at the beginning of the year. This provided valuable feedback to the committee and even if it does not appear that things have changed much, we did take notice of the feedback and are proceeding with changes. The feedback has helped the committee during the year with some decisions.

Chris expressed his thanks to Liz and Elisa for putting together the questions and to Liz for providing the summary to the committee. It was asked if the summary could be made available to the members; Liz will provide this.

There has been a small increase in members, but a large turnover of members as we have had over 30 new members, but others have left.

We removed the requirement for swim distance to attend sessions and Clive has provided, novice specific swim sessions; these have proved popular, he is on the third set of sessions and nearly 20 new members have taken part in these sessions.

The Summer Series has been a great success with over 70 members taking part in at least one session.

To ‘pay’ for using Barton Marina in the past we have been making a charitable donation to the owners; for various reasons, we have missed some payments, so we proposed buying a defibrillator for installation at the marina. This is in place now (located in the main entrance of The Waterside pub). The defibrillator cost us £1200; but we should have paid £1500 in donations during the last three years.

Unfortunately we had to abandon swimming at Barton, due to the reduction in water level, it still has not recovered fully it may do over the winter, but we have no guarantee for next year that we can use the venue. This meant that we lost considerable income. And had no open water income for 5 weeks. We found a new venue in the canoe club in Darley Abbey and we had several weeks of Saturday swims, although these were not very well attended.



The new venue is great, the river flows gently, there are changing rooms with hot showers and the facilities to make tea and coffee. There is also a bar-b-que area, which we can use for a fee. The committee are looking into organising for two swims a week at this venue.

The committee are working towards a new Tri-suit supplier, more on this later.

As a club we successfully ran the Derby Junior Triathlon and provided marshals for the Derby Triathlon. Thanks go to Ash, Clive and all involved in these two events.

Chris thanked Elisa and Chris Redding for their efforts in providing a very successful summer series.

The club won three medals at the Relay championships and have had 9 members represent GB at world and European championships during the year.

There were difficulties in transferring the accounts from Gavin's control to Mark and it took until April this year before we were fully changed over. The loss of open water revenue seriously affected our mid-year financial position and we needed to make some changes to how we funded various aspects of club activities.

The coaching organisation has changed and there may be other changes in the near future, Chris Keegan is working with the coaches and committee to achieve a smooth transition.

A formal grievance within the club took a lot of time and effort within the committee, this is now resolved and one outcome is that we will be preparing some formal procedures. These will be for all members of the club, officials and coaches to abide by or use as necessary.

It is still the committee's intention to replace the current website with a modern, mobile compatible site. This is progressing and we have one potential supplier who have drafted a website, but this needs some more work to secure a full quote on price and content. At present it does not contain all that we want but enquiries to other local website developers has secured no response so far. We will continue as we are, but the site has issues and the webmaster is in New Zealand.

There is work to do on the development site, we need to provide some data and meet the developers again, we hope to have a viewable development site at some point.

The club won the inter-club Aquathlon, where is the trophy? Darren Robinson borrowed it. Chris Redding will ask for its return and get into the Trophy cabinet at the leisure centre.

Looking forward to 2017 the committee's number 1 priority is the continuity of the Junior section and its sessions. Adequate resource of coaches and helpers is key here.

There have been a number of resignations from the committee.



Treasurer's Report

Mark Ryder has been unable to provide a finance report, he is not as on top of the finances as he would like to be. Our account balances at the beginning of November are £6000 in the current account and £3000 in the savings account. Mark provided the following summary, which was read by Clive -

With the closure of swimming at Barton this year I have estimated we are down approximately £3K from last year. We have had to make a number of savings to offset this amount and to ensure our solvency. As part of this process we;

1. reduced our coaching claims by only agreeing level 2 coaching hourly rate and completely removing travel expenses
2. Increased new membership by £5 this year
3. reduced number of paid marshal's for open water swimming
4. totally stopped all committee meeting expenditure

For next year my suggestions would be;

1. stop Monday swimming at Lonsdale - not enough members go to make this viable
2. Further develop the relationship with Derby Canoe club in order to use their excellent facilities and continue to offer open water swimming at least once a week at this venue
3. If allowed and it is suitable to train to use Barton Marina again for Saturday swims- the location being just off the A38 makes this venue very attractive to both members and non-members who travelled from Staffordshire area.
4. Confirm the increase of all current members by £5 for 2017 (this is already agreed by the committee but I think needs stating at the AGM)

Membership and session fees do not cover the cost of the venues and coaches to provide the sessions. Barton Marina has not yet recovered to a level where we could be confident of being able to hold sessions there and our ability to hold swim sessions there is not guaranteed. We have not had any formal discussion with the owner about swimming in the lake in 2017.

We did attempt to get permission to swim at Branston Water park, but this was vetoed by the anglers that use the lake. Elisa said that Severn Trent may be changing their stance on allowing open water swimming in their lakes, she will pass a contact name to the committee.

We would welcome any suggestions for open water venues, Chris Nicoll has approached Hanson's & Tarmac, but both organisation said no.

The Midland Canoe Club venue is excellent, we pay them £1 per swimmer and increased the charge by £1 to cover this, we may be able to negotiate using the venue for an evening swim, but Wednesdays would not be available, as this is their set night for activities. We used to use the venue 10 years ago, the facilities are much improved since then.



Mark Ryder is stepping down from the committee. The committee will need to look at our costs and set a budget, before any decision is made about raising fees to club members.

We have several coaches, but the current committee feel there is a need for some more level 1 coaches to help cover the sessions that we put on.

Other discussions

The committee is in the process of procuring a new supplier for our Tri-suits, this is Raceskins, it has a better cut than the Huub tri-suit and is much preferred by those that have seen it and tried it on. There are more options two levels Team and Elite, with sub options of sleeveless, short or long sleeves, with or without Teflon coating.

The team kit is £71 and the elite is from £100, depending on options taken. We need an initial order of 10 per gender of the team kit and 5 for the elite kit.

We need to establish whether we will continue to have Huub as a sponsor on our kit as they are sponsoring a new club – “Huub Sports Academy”. This club has also tried to poach our coaches.

OTE are once again willing to give us a talk on nutrition and are discussing sponsoring our kit by providing a £20 voucher towards their products with every tri-suit purchased, in return for us putting their logo on the new kit. Discussions on the sponsorship have delayed the release of the kit to members, a picture of what the kit may look like (with the Huub logo, was shown to the members.

The great advantage of the new supplier is that once we have achieved the minimum initial order there will be no stock for the club to carry, kit will be ordered direct from Raceskins by members and supplied directly to the members.

As is usual we have lost and gained members during the year, we have had at least 30 people join the club during the year and total numbers remain above 200.

Mark Bullock was on the committee for the past year, but has been unwell for much of it. Members of the committee have been in contact with him and his family and have also been to visit him. A cake and card was taken to him for his birthday. We understand that he is now well enough for a return to the Rehab unit to be considered. Our best wishes are with him, for his recovery.

In Mark's absence Mark Ryder, Clive Holland and Paul Bratby managed the open water swimming sessions.

There was a coaches meeting last week, we are considering changes to the sessions. These include cancelling the Monday night swim for adults or changing this to be Novices and improvers session.

Any member is welcome to attend committee meetings, these tend to be on the first Monday of the month, although this changes when this is a Bank Holiday (every May and sometimes for Easter and New Year.)

There have been no welfare issues for the welfare officer, Paul Webster, to deal with.



We will re-visit the accounts and may increase the membership fee for Juniors, we are also looking at introducing a Family Membership rate, but need to discuss what this will actually mean. We don't want it to be too beneficial, but don't want to penalise families either.

It was asked if we could lower the age required for Joining the club. The present committee believe that this is set by the BTF and abides by the ruling that children can't race until they the year in which they turn 8 and this is how our membership should be working. This needs to be checked.

Our major expenses are session venues, coaches and race subsidies (e.g. National relays) our income is from Memberships, open water and coached sessions. It was suggested that we may be able to gain some funding if we were to provide activities for all (including Para-Tri & disadvantaged people). Without income for Open water we need to make the other activities as well attended as possible.

Non-members boosted the money taken at Barton as they paid more and were the majority of attendees. We only had a few people swim at MCC, and most were members.

It was stated from the floor that we shouldn't worry too much about having a lot of money, we are supposed to be non-profitmaking. That said it was agreed that we need to keep some sort of balance (~£5k? for back up and equipment renewal etc.). The finances did drop to an unhealthy position in the summer, brought back to where we are today through savings increased attendance and the weeks of open water at MCC.

It was suggested that we don't pay coaches, other clubs don't. it was felt that as we had started to pay them, we should continue to do so.

Major expenses during the year are buying the bike racking, used at Junior training and summer series. The location of the racking was questioned, we believe Hilary has it; Chris Redding will ask for it to be returned. After the Club relay's the small gazebo got broken, replacement parts for both gazebos and a repair kit for the canopies has been bought. Clive has carried out the repairs on the gazebo frames and the small canopy, the larger canopy is part way through being repaired.

It has been suggested that we hold a new event in the spring; probably an Aquathlon, at Etwall leisure centre, using the derby Triathlon run route for adults and the school playing fields for the juniors. The 'Go-Tri' initiative was mentioned, but this is supposed to be a way of getting new members and there would be no entry fee, as such we are not in a position to host one of these events.

It was suggested that we use an open water venue, rather than a pool as this would reduce the costs of putting the race on; suggested venues are MCC and Albert Village. The former has great facilities, but may be congested; the latter has no facilities, but loads of parking and would be easy to set up a run route around the lake. We would, of course need marshals and helpers to be able to put on a good race.



Junior Report

The Junior triathlon made £650 this year, the venue is booked for 2017, 9th July at Woodlands School.

Resignations of the current Committee members

The current committee resigned their positions, those not able to stand again are as follows :-

- Treasurer – Mark Ryder
- Member – Mark Bullock
- Member – Hayden Smedley

A vote of thanks was proposed to the outgoing committee, this was met with applause from the floor.



Appointment of the New Committee members and allocation of club roles

The table below shows name of who has taken up the role of the new committee and other club roles.

Role	2016	Nominated	Seconded
Chairman	Chris Nicoll	Simon Rolfs	Chris Redding
Vice-Chair	Liz Burgess	Lindsey Appleby	Michael O'Doherty
Secretary	Ruth Enion	Lindsey Appleby	Liz Burgess
Treasurer	Nick Morris	Nick Morris	Michael O'Doherty
Membership Secretary	Lindsey Appleby	Liz Burgess	Elisa Zamora
Junior Point of Contact	Clive Holland	Chris Nicoll	Liz Burgess
Welfare Officer	Paul Webster	Chris Redding	Liz Burgess
Committee Member	Mike O'Doherty	Clive Holland	Lindsey Appleby
Committee Member	Chris Redding	Liz Burgess	Lindsey Appleby
Coaching Coordinator	Chris Keegan	Chris Keegan	Chris Nicoll
Kit Officer	Chris Nicoll	<p>These roles were allocated as required to people who wished to take them on.</p> <p>There being no other nominations there was no requirement for Seconders or a vote.</p> <p>See also post meeting apology below.</p>	
Time Trial Coordinator	Hayden Smedley Chris Keegan		
Open Water Coordinator	Steve Tatem		
Equipment Coordinator	Clive Holland		
Leisurewear Coordinator	Not required		
Summer Series Coordinator	Elisa Zamora Chris Redding		
PMA marshalling Coordinator	Ash Turner		
Webmaster	Andy Thornton		
Social Secretary	Lindsey Appleby, Kathy Carmichael, Julie Morris, Rosie O'Doherty		
Swim money attendance checkers	Kathy & Hugh Carmichael, Lindsey Appleby, Julie & Nick Morris, Clive Holland Elisa Zamora plus others.		
Press/PR/Sponsorship	Not Filled		
Web Replacement Manager	Chris Nicoll Clive Holland		
Cross-country manager	Paul Bratby		
Junior Triathlon Director	Clive Holland		
Club Relays Manager	Liz Burgess, Mary Winter		
New member liaison	Nick & Julie Morris		

Roles and names in **Bold** are committee members, only the committee role is highlighted if the person on the committee has more than one role.



Any Other Business

Simon Rolfs proposed that he would act as leader for one of the target races and suggested that others be asked to do a similar role for the other target races. Simon will lead Windermere. It was suggested that Bosworth be removed from the list as this clashes with Windermere.

It was also noted that IM Staffs and Luxembourg also clash.

Rod Zala and Steve Tatem will organise a 'Mince Pie Orienteering' evening at Darley Park on 12 December this year.

Amine asked about the survey results and whether these could be circulated to club members. He also said that he was more positive having joined last year, he said that summer series was good. He would like to see more help for first timers at target races and in general, a triathlon is more than a swim, a bike ride and a run. He suggested targeted sessions. The coaches discussed this very thing the previous week and it is something that the club will try and do.

Liz apologised for not giving feedback to the members and will endeavour to rectify this before the end of the year. That said, the committee and coaches have tried to act on the feedback received.

Simon Rolfs will give a presentation about? (HELP PLEASE)

It was mentioned that to avert any safety or safeguarding issues parents should stay at the venue where their children are being coached. This is especially true for Monday swim sessions.

A new role is proposed – New member liaison, Nick ^ & Julie Morris agreed to take on this role (see above) they are to be added to the contacts page on the website and a new members page is to be written for the website. We do see lots of e-mails for prospective members and a standard template for the responses it to be drafted. It would be good if we can offer a personal approach to new members, especially at their first session.

More social events was proposed, this to include social runs, rides etc. not just meals etc.

We should encourage use of the Facebook group for sharing activities and the target races are to be published here as well as the website.

Doug stated he would help organise an aquathlon.

We tried this year to hold a race against another club (MVH) but didn't get a positive response from them. A regional league has been proposed, covering east & west Midlands. Details of this will be circulated when there are sent to club officers.

It was suggested that we could take on the Ashbourne Duathlon, but the logistics of marshals and distance from Derby means that this will not be taken up by the new committee.



An aquathlon series was proposed, it has been thought about, we may do this as a 'spring series' or as part of the summer series. It would be best to have these on Saturdays, venues include Etwall, Willington and MCC. These may bring in new members and make up for our losses on open water in 2016.

The meeting ended at 22:11