Lothian Running Club minutes of committee meeting 18th December 2013, Inveralmond High School, 8.15pm.

**Present:-**

Ted Finch, John Barclay, Kenny Mearns, Colin Partridge, Max McNeil, Mike Turnbull, Alan Moffat.

**Apologies:-**

John Malcolm

**Treasurers Report**

Kenny advised that although there was money in the bank, like other organisations expenditure is rising, e.g. track fees have increased and this combined with potentially subsidising JSB ( Plumbing) League this would have to be a year of watching the pennies.

**Coaching Matters**

The issue of designation of coaches and how they are assigned e.g. level one, two etc. was discussed. Licences need to be checked to ensure they are up to date along with disclosure Scotland clearance. It was agreed that the club would support coaches regarding expenses incurred in respect of the above.

Discussion also centred on how to boost numbers at week nights training. One idea floated was to advise, promote, in advance how the sessions can benefit/enhance the endurance runner, the sprinter, or the middle distance runner. This could perhaps be included on the coaching rota.

The idea was mooted that perhaps the Club should consider the payment of training fees by standing order or direct debit. A block fee system. The pros and cons of this were discussed and Colin to obtain the views of the membership to see if this is wanted. To be decided later as to whether this is a viable proposition.

The issue of administrative assistance for coaches on training nights (someone present to collect training fees, read notices etc. to allow coaches to coach) was discussed. Given the numbers attending training at present - this to be left as it is. The situation can be reviewed if numbers increase significantly. On Martin’s night Ted, Colin or Jonathan will try to be present to assist if and when required.

It was acknowledged that the club are very grateful for the help and support the coach’s make to the running club.

**Membership Secretary and managing membership renewals**

Carol Mabon has kindly agreed to take on the role of membership secretary. The club needs to remind members to renew their membership. Membership form on website.

**Website**

Debate on how to update the website – currently what appears on the front page, regardless of importance, is the most recent post. Colin to look into refining the site so there is a category of post and so we can hold the leader item according to how newsworthy it is rather than how recent it is.

**Trail Race**

Ted mooted the idea (which was met with enthusiasm) of adding a short course event to run in tandem alongside the main event to encourage participation for youngsters and adults who found the main event a bit daunting. 3.5K or whatever. Ted advised that the trail race will be advertised in The Trail Running Guide and the SA website.

**Forth Valley Super Team**

It was acknowledged that participation gives a very worthwhile experience for LRC athletes. However at the moment there appears to be a dearth of information regarding cost. Kenny advised that before we enter, we need to know the cost of participation. We need to be careful not to make an open ended commitment. Ted to e mail Brian Roy for further information.

**Forth Valley Athletic League**

Ted went to recent meeting re this league. There will be 3 races 19th April 2014, 17th May 2014 and 28th June 2014. The league is being restructured there will be 3 divisions instead of 2. LRC to be in League Division 3. Invariably there will be an increase in costs due to loss of sponsorship and increased costs. The club content to subside and support the league.

**Fiddlers**

Whilst recognising it was a good event, discussion centred on the practicalities of running the event. For instance, the whereabouts of the clock, the whereabouts of the fluorescent vests, do we need a tail runner more marshals especially for the junior short course (tail runner). In the interim it was agreed that before the event Colin or John to ask for volunteers to marshal. And that it might be an idea to put a master plan on the website with particular regard as to where the box and clock can be located.

**XC Race Co-ordinator**

There was a recent post on the website for XC Team Managers. We are grateful that Martin has agreed to help out at the Broxburn event. It was felt a manager could formalise the organisation of events bringing the tent, arranging a kit box etc**.**

**Subsidised Races.**

Kenny to look at Colin’s proposed list of potential races to be subsidised, work out the costing and publish in due course.

**Date of next meeting**

15th January 2014. Jamie MacDonald from Scottish Athletics will attend the meeting to give the club an appreciation of how SA can help athletic clubs. Possibility of meeting being held at Livingston Inn. Mike to explore this venue and assess suitability to see if Livingston Inn has facilities in case Jamie wishes to do a power point presentation.

J. Barclay

Secretary Lothian Running Club