Annual General Meeting

Held on Friday 26 April 2024 at 7 pm

Horsham Cricket Club

The meeting commenced at 7:00 pm.

1 Introduction and address from the Acting Chairman

Actions

Sok Wah Lee (SWL) welcomed everyone to the 2024 AGM.

The housekeeping points noted were:

- the room is hired exclusively for HJ for the whole evening.
- there is no need to put the tables and chairs back to their respective positions.
- when leaving the premises, in view of residents in the area, please keep noise to a minimum.
- There were no planned fire drills, so evacuation via the indicated fire doors would be required if the fire alarm were to go off
- There were 2 notepads for attendees to record their names for the minutes

The meeting is expected to last no more than an hour. SWL warned that the deposit of £150 against breakages may be withheld if anything is broken.

In her address, SWL emphasised the ethos and principal of the club, which had remained unchanged over the 40 years:

An inclusive club to provide affordable membership that gives access to running activities and challenges at a wide range of ability levels in a friendly, safe and supportive environment.

The delivery of the aim required the support of the club members, and any form of support was appreciated regardless of its extent, as every member has a role to play.

The introductory address was dedicated to the support received from non-committee members who carried out a number of different roles. In view of the large number of members who had volunteered, it is proposed that roles are mentioned rather than names. No task is too small and we can't put a value to the help that our members provide.

- Tuesday Group Run Leaders plus the network of runners who are prepared to cover for the usual leaders when they are not able to do so. We always need more run leaders.
- All the Sunday Marathon Training Helpers and soon half marathon
- Geoff Parker as the race director for the Horsham 10k for many years and his core team and volunteers on the day
- Race directors (for the various events such as the Gunpowder Trot, Horsham 10k) and their massive team of volunteers
- The audit of the club accounts

- The coaches on the Thursday sessions, both on and off track, and the organisation of Thursday track programme. LIRF (club can sponsor and pay for the course)
- The Sussex Road Relays
- Team leader for the annual South Downs Way Relay event
- Posting the weekly consolidated HJ results on HJ Runs
- Continuing the link with the twinning association and with the TG Lage running club who are visiting Horsham in September, various hosts for our guests offering accommodation to visitors.
- Representing HJ for the Sussex Grand Prix events
- All helpers who helped the committee to organise the Naked Run,
 Summer Handicap, Winter Handicap and Improve your Time Trials
- Helpers who put their hands up when there is a call for assistance and expertise in various areas.
- The club's mental health champions.

SWL gave a special thank you to Mark Aylmore who continued to support the Run & Talk programme in the last year despite having stood down from the committee. The baton will be passed to Julie Gallagher who as the Lead Welfare Officer will take this on.

Notwithstanding such massive support from our members, we always could do with more. We'll looking for someone to take on the organisation of the Half marathon training.

2 Approval of the Minutes of the last AGM

The minutes of the last AGM held on 21 April 2023 were posted and available on HJ website under Club Documents/AGM details.

Those who were at that AGM, were invited to raise their hands to confirm their acceptance of the minutes as a true record. Roger Johnson and Jenny Boyd were among those who raised their hands.

3 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the last AGM held in April 2023.

4 Acting Chairman's and Club Secretary's Report

The very first inaugural Annual General Meeting of Horsham Joggers was held on 3 April 1984 although from the minutes, it was clear that club activities had commenced about 2 years previously. Rightly, the date of that first AGM is taken as the date of the formation and constitution of the club. 2024 is our 40th anniversary.

Ordinarily, the report from the committee or chair at the AGM is backward looking over the last 12 months, and we have much to celebrate and recognise in terms of the achievements of our members and we do most of that in our awards evening in November. To avoid repetition, SWL had one key message.

Recognising that each of us have our own running journeys so our achievements and the trophies/awards to recognise those achievements can mean different

things to each of us. If they are to be treasured by you, then SWL would be delighted but urged that, if they are not treasured beyond the recognition and they don't get displayed or kept, and the winners are happy to return it to be reloved by another deserving member for his or her achievement in the following or future years, then please return the trophies back to the club. It's a good thing for such up-cycling in terms of the environment and it keeps the cost to the club down.

5 | Election of Officers and Committee Members

Over the last year, SWL has served two roles as the acting chair in addition to her existing role as the Club Secretary. She thanked her committee for their support and the cohesive way in which everyone has pulled together.

The committee is formed by nomination and voting by members at the AGM. Thus, changes are made only at the AGM.

SWL commented that the committee serve as very much like an executive board of a company and decisions are taken by majority. Each of the committee members also have specific roles, which falls neatly based on the willingness, interests and skillsets of the individuals. The club is lucky to have had and continue to have people who are willing to volunteer to support the running of the Club by becoming Committee Members.

Since the last AGM, we have notification from two of the current committee that they would like to stand down due to work pressures.

- Marcus Leach joined the committee as the Social Secretary. ML will be standing down from the committee at the end of the AGM, having given us a few months' notice.
- Ella Agent joined the committee after Iain Campbell stepped down as the club treasurer.

The four members who have expressed their wishes to join the committee are lan Dickinson, Julie Gallagher, Roger Johnson and Helena Jordan.

- Ian will be the Race Director for the Horsham 10k and the Alf Shrubb Memorial Race.
- Julie is the Lead Welfare Officer,
- Roger is the Race Director for Gunpowder Trot and Horsham Round and
- Helena will be the Club Treasurer.

The current committee members who have agreed to continue to serve on the committee, are:

- Diane Berry is the Membership Secretary and the longest serving member of the committee.
- Florian Yeates is our coordinator for news reporting to the West Sussex County Times and is our social secretary.
- Clive Walker, the IT expert on the committee and responsible for our Social Media
- Jane Footer as our Kit Secretary and Coach

- Simon Holmes as one of the 2 Welfare Officers and Newsletter producer
- Julie Jochimsen is the West Sussex Fun Run League Rep under her leadership, HJ won the Norman Crook award last year.
- SWL advised that having been the club secretary since joining the
 committee she has also, over the last 14 months, been the acting
 chairman. This being an important anniversary year, it is important that
 the club has a chair so, having consulted with the committee members,
 and with their support, SWL agreed to stand as the chair, subject to the
 members agreement in the voting. SWL plan to serve both roles for the
 next 12 months and will drop back to just being the club secretary to
 ensure there is continuity.

The attendees were asked vote for the proposed team of committee members to be elected en-masse. Murrae Ross-Eskell raised her hand in support and Mark Aylmore seconded the proposal.

This motion was carried unanimously.

Gift vouchers are normally presented to the committee members, who are standing down with effect from the date of the AGM. A gift voucher was presented to Ella Agent. It was noted that Marcus has declined the gift, requesting instead that the value of it was given to a charity of the club's choosing. The club thanked Marcus.

Paul Morley was unable to attend the meeting. A gift voucher will be presented to Paul Morley who was the chairman for 2 years from February 2021 to March 2023, following which he remained on the committee for a period.

6 Amendment to rule 11.1.4 of the club constitution

Rule 11.1.4 provides that "the Member is in arrears to the Club and his or her subscriptions or any other payments are at least three months overdue". It is proposed that it is changed from 3 months to 2 months, to be consistent with both current and past practice. The change is to correct an error in the drafting of the club constitution.

Matthew Horne raised his hand in support and Rob Jochimsen seconded the proposal.

This motion was carried unanimously. The change will be effective from the end of the AGM.

7 | Treasurer's Report

A soft copy of the 2023 Accounts is available on the HJ website. Ella Agent gave an overview of the financial report for the year ending 31 December 2023.

The 2023 financial statements have been reviewed and signed off by Gary Tomlinson who was thanked for auditing the accounts.

The club was able to raise £3,300 for donations to charities. Charities for the monies raised in the last year was donated in equal thirds to Chestnut Tree House, Olive Tree and Mind.

The club had an excess of income over expenditure for the year, in excess £1,880 compared to a loss in the previous year. This has been largely caused by the proceeds received from the 5k to 10k course that took place in the summer of 2023 which raised about £1,045. SWL thanked Simon Perkins for leading the course.

8 | Events and social update

Report from Clive Walker

CW reported on the running events over the last year. Firstly, it's been a great year with lots of participation and some brilliant achievements.

Our regular races like the Horsham 10k, the Gunpowder Trot, the summer and winter handicaps, the Horsham Round, and the club time trial all took place over the last year. And the Naked Run which was also featured in Running World.

In addition to those, we had a fantastic year with the WSFRL - both with participation numbers and winning the trophy.

We have had seven parkrun away days at locations, such as Littlehampton, Hove Prom, Reigate, Lancing, Broadwater, Worthing and Cranleigh.

Horsham Joggers took part in a wide range of events over the last year. CW highlighted the shortest and some of the longest. We entered teams in the Sussex Road Relays of 2 miles each leg. Well done everyone who took part in that! And at the other extreme, marathons and marathon training - over 50 people on Sundays taking part in long runs as training for Spring marathons. There were over 50 runners taking part in London and Brighton marathons recently.

The Run events coming up included Bognor Regis parkrun away day on May 4th, and the first Challenge Trophy race on May 5th, Haywards Heath 10 mile. CW urged members to enter that and the other Challenge Trophy races to have a chance of winning the age category and a trophy at our awards evening.

The club's own Horsham 10k will be held on May 12th. CW thanked the volunteers and urged members to enter if they are not helping or running in the WSFRL race that day.

The first race of the club's "improve your" time trial is on May 14th, to be held once again in St Leonard's Forest. Anyone can win this because it's the runners with the biggest improvement over at least two races who will win.

The Horsham Round will be held on Sunday August 25th and the Gunpowder Trot

on November 3rd, and a new race. Horsham Joggers are helping set-up the race along with Slinfold and Mel Milers and others, the Alf Shrubb Memorial Race on September 15th. This will be a trail race in Slinfold where Alf Shrubb was born. Alf Shrubb was a runner from 1899- 1912 who won over 1,000 races and set 28 world records!

CW thanked everyone for their support for what had been a fantastic year.

Report from Florian Yeates

Past Socials:

Over the past year, we've had numerous events, such as the Disco and Quiz organised by Marcus Leach. They were well attended and much enjoyed by those who attended. From January, FY organised the Roller Disco, Brolly Brewery Social, and most recently, the visit to Knepp castle estate.

SWL has so far organised several talks in the evenings from Tanya Boardman about preparing for a marathon and from Cheryl and Dan from the sports injury clinic giving a very insightful talk about sports injuries and exercises. SWL has planned several other talks which are upcoming, including Mick Duplock's talk called Blind Faith on the 29th May, and a talk about Alf Shrubb Slinfold's world record setting athlete on the 5th June.

As is currently the case, the plan is for social events to take place approximately once a month. In terms of coming socials, we've got a Horsham Joggers Games and Track Session on the 13th June organised by Anna McLauchlan. On 22nd June (tbc) a trip to the Milk Churn & Fire Bird Brewery plus a run is planned. More importantly as part of our HJs 40th Anniversary celebrations on 25th August, there is the Horsham Round and a Celebratory 80's Disco and then some fun and games after camping for the Monday afterwards. We have Rob Jochimsen to thank for helping with the booking of the Rugby club and organising. Also on 8th June, Horsham Joggers are 'saluting Parkrun' so members are encouraged to bring cake for that morning.

Also, HJers have a special Christmas Party Coming up - - thanks to Lilian Tse and SWL for their support in organising - on the 6th December, Horsham Joggers are hosting a fancy evening meal. The venue will be Brookfield Barn in Mannings-Heath, featuring sparkling wine on arrival, 3 course festive meal, wine included, and a DJ until midnight!

9 Kit update and report

Jane Footer reported on this item of the agenda and showed the latest training wear available to be purchased. These were dry-robe, compression arm sleeves and compression calf sleeves.

JF advised that 46 40th anniversary T shirts have been sold to date.

10 | Honorary members

The names of the 4 honorary members were announced. They were Chris Wigby, Edna Clark, Crispin Scott and Diane Berry.

Chris Wigby and Edna Clark were unable to attend.

The certificate of honorary membership was presented by Diane Berry to Crispin Scott and, to Diane Berry by SWL.

11 Awards

West Sussex Fun Run League

Julie Jochimsen presented the club awards members for completing 10 or more races. In 2023, 21 members achieved this. The awardees were

Melissa Galea

Luke Minogue

Penny Barron

Ian Dickinson

Michael Daly

Dave Dawson

Florian Yeates

Sue Newman

Yuko Casey

Matthew Horne

Robert Swan

James Klanczkowski

Julie Jochimsen

Mary Klanczkowski

Richard Barron

Clive Walker

Stephanie Charman

Joanne Bull

Geoff Fisher

Gill Lunn

Fiona Lear

Eight members completed all the 10 races and they were due to be presented with completer T-shirts but these were not yet ready.

The second Eileen Quinton award was presented to Melissa Galea Holmes by Julie Jochimsen as Luke Minogue, who was the previous year's winner, was unable to attend.

Horsham Jogger of the Year

Simon Holmes announced the nominees and the reasons they were nominated.

The nominees were all invited to attend the AGM, and they were.

Matt Whyman

Phil Liberman

Simon Holmes

Lou Johnson

Linzi Williams

Alan Pettitt

Brian Frost

Steve Hook

Elizabeth Scott

Gary Tomlinson

Michael Drague

Lorraine Hunter

Melissa Galea Holmes

Andy Michelson

The winner was Gary Tomlinson. As Gary was unable to attend, Simon Holmes will present the trophy to him separately on another occasion.

Volunteer of the Year

Simon Holmes announced the nominees and the reasons they were nominated.

The nominees were all invited to attend the AGM and they were

Emma Walters

John Willcox

Roger Johnson

Ian Hines

Simon Perkins

Sue Hensman

Claire Butler

Karen England

Paul Aylett

Warren Marks

Rob Jochimsen

Luke Minogue

The winner was Roger Johnson and Simon Holmes presented the trophy to him.

Awards for coaches

The awards for Kristian Bowbrick, Karen England and Claire Butler as coaches in 2023 were presented by Simon Holmes.

The award for Lawrence Roy will be presented to him separately as he is not able to attend.

It was noted that Jane Footer has declined her award to which the club is grateful.

12 | Any Other Business

David Maurice remarked that when the club has grown enormously from the days when David Bridges were worried about its 100+ members.

13	Close of meeting	
	The meeting was declared closed at 7:57 pm.	

Attendees:

Sok Wah Lee Julie Jochimsen Diane Berry Clive Walker Jane Footer Simon Holmes Florian Yeates Helena Jordan Ella Agent Ian Dickinson Roger Johnson David Maurice Malcolm Footer Jenny Boyd Fiona Lear **Brian Frost** Mick Duplock **Barnaby Smith** Olive Hobbs Phil Liberman Mark Aylmore Penny Barron Rob Jochimsen **Crispin Scott** Ian Hines Gill Lunn Graham Lunn Jo Bull Warren Marks Karen England Steve Wilson Tony Hogben John Berry **David Lawton** John Willcox Julia Johnson Victoria Saunders Mike Saunders **Lorraine Hunter** Sandrine Yeates Claire Butler **Robert Swan** Alison Dawson **Dave Dawson** Chris Moore Matthew Horne Simon Perkins Murrae Ross-Eskell Anna McLauchlan Vicky Dargue Michael Dargue Yuko Casey Mary Klanczkowski Jon Klanczkowski Caroline Bransden Mike Bransden Mark Alger Alan Pettitt Melissa Galea Sue Newman