Moray Road Runners

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held via Zoom Webinar (Virtual)

Monday 30th November 2020 at 7:30pm

Members Present: There were 23 members in attendance

1. Apologies: 3 apologies (Jim McWilliam, Barbara Bowie and Simon Dobbs)

2. Minutes of Previous AGM

Previous Minutes were agreed.

Proposed: Michelle Slater Seconded: Sally Bruce

3. Matters Arising:

- Flowers were presented to Mary Bain as an expression of thanks for continuing to audit our books.
- It was confirmed that MRR offer a V60 Prize Category.
- 10 individuals achieved a club standard.

4. Chair's Report

Gareth delivered his report with the main points highlighted below:

- Regardless of the impact that COVID has had the membership numbers are comparable with previous years Membership 101 seniors and 49 juniors.
- The club successfully hosted their annual Half Marathon and Turkey Trot as well as the North District Cross Country Relay Champs. Due to COVID the Miltonduff 10K had to be cancelled.
- There was a successful MRR takeover of the Elgin Parkrun with members either running or volunteering.
- Prior to lockdown there were the usual individual and team success in local and district races most noticeable the senior men winning the North District Cross Country League Title.
- The introduction of virtual races and challenges helped the club to keep motivated whilst ensuring the community spirit continued.
- The anticipated return to training in line with Scottish Athletics guidelines meant the club could reintroduce weekly training sessions.
- Tribute The untimely passing of MRR member Jon Ward a few days before his proposed attempt to complete the 100-mile Moray Way with colleague John Anderson was a massive shock for all club members. Gareth was keen to highlight how popular a member Jon was, evident when most members turned out throughout the Saturday to help John Anderson compete the challenge in aid of the Samaritans. Whilst extremely sad it was also uplifting, and it reaffirmed the strong sense of community within the club. A moment was taken to once more remember Jon.

5. Treasurer's Report

David delivered his report with the 4 main headlines highlighted below:

- A reassurance that the club have the financial resources to cope with future COVID constraints.
- The impact of the pandemic has been minimal however increases to the development fund have had to be paused for a further year.
- A reassurance that the club can afford to maintain the existing membership fees.
- The club once more thanks Mary Bain for her continued support as auditor

The treasurer's report was ratified:

Proposed: Karen Norvell Seconded: Colin Green

6. Election of Office Bearers

• Chair (Gareth Jenkins), Treasurer (David Ingelby), Men's Captain (Colin Green) intimated that they were happy to remain in post.

Proposed: Amanda Strang Seconded: Kenny Wilson

- Bernard Salmon is standing down as Club Secretary. Gareth thanked him for his valued contribution including his efforts providing club reports for the website.
- Michelle Slater is standing down as Ladies Captain. Gareth also thanked Michelle for her efforts throughout the year and noted her ongoing contribution supporting the junior members.
- Ally Campbell has volunteered to take on the role of Club Secretary and Amanda Strang has volunteered to take on the role of Ladies Captain.

Proposed: Robert Bruce Seconded: Bernard Salmon

7. Election of Committee Members

- Due to personal circumstances both Dave Mathers and Justine Blaszk have left the committee. Gareth expressed his gratitude to both for their valued contribution.
- Elspeth Jenkins, Karen Norvell, Sally Bruce, Kenny Wilson and Simon MacDonald are all happy to remain in post.

Proposed: Shirley Feaks Seconded: Robert Bruce

8. Handover to New Committee

9. Subscriptions

• It was agreed to leave subscriptions as they were. Given the current restrictions on races it would be difficult to justify increasing the charges. Equally given the number of training sessions available for both senior and junior members the current charges were deemed appropriate.

Club Fees: Senior £35 Junior £30 Discounted rate £20

Proposed: Elspeth Jenkins Seconded: Euan Cantlie

10. Election of Auditor

• As Mary Bain has not intimated that she will stand down, the club once more wish to express their gratitude for her continued support. As with previous years flowers will be delivered in token of the club's appreciation.

11. Election of Webmaster

• Robert Bruce is happy to remain in post.

12. Honorary Memberships

No new applications

13. Any Other Competent Business

- Karen Norvell wanted to pass on a vote of thanks to Gareth for ensuring the club could return to training safely and as quickly as possible in line with Scottish Athletics guidelines.
 Equally she thanked Kevin Morice and Colin Green for providing virtual challenges and keeping members motivated throughout the pandemic restrictions.
- The date of the next committee meeting is yet to be confirmed.

Ally Campbell Club Secretary

MORAY ROAD RUNNERS CHAIR'S REPORT - 2020

OUR MISSION

Moray Road Runners operates as a non-profit distributing charity whose principal objectives are:

- (a) The advancement of public participation in Athletics as a sport
- (b) To provide recreational facilities and/or organise recreational activities, available to members of the public at large, with the object of improving the conditions of life

WE:

- (a) Provide weekly structured training sessions to senior members throughout the whole year
- (b) Provide weekly supervised training sessions to junior members throughout term-time and occasionally during holiday periods
- (c) Participate in local, regional and national events
- (d) Organise 3 Road Races and 1 Cross-Country fixture annually
- (e) Work in partnership with local, regional and national bodies for the betterment of sport
- (f) Assist other organisations with the sustainability of events

ACTIVITIES THIS YEAR

This has very much been a year of 2 halves with coronavirus disrupting planned activities from March 2020 onwards. In spite of the challenges faced because of the global pandemic, Moray Road Runners retained a healthy membership consisting of 101 senior and 49 junior members. The main activities prior to lockdown restrictions coming into effect in March were twice weekly training sessions for juniors as well as senior sessions 4 times per week. Training was suspended from March – June but returned for seniors in line with guidance from Scottish Athletics, our National Governing Body. Junior training recommenced in August and a third weekly junior session was introduced.

Some of our members were still able to participate in local, district and national events, mainly in Road and Cross-Country races. A move to 'virtual' races from April onwards allowed many members to continue racing throughout the period.

Prior to lockdown, Moray Road Runners organized 2 races, creating opportunities for the public at large to participate as well as generating income for the Charity:

Lossiemouth 10 Mile Turkey Trot – 264 participants Kinloss-Lossiemouth Half Marathon – 274 participants

Unfortunately, the Miltonduff 10K had to be cancelled due to Covid-19.

Finally, Moray Road Runners organized the North District Cross Country Relay Championships at Gordonstoun School with many athletes (U13s to Masters) from across the Highlands and Islands, Moray and Aberdeenshire competing for their respective clubs.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

Moray Road Runners affiliates annually to Scottish Athletics who provide insurance, advice and guidance relating to our activities. Through affiliation to the North District Cross-Country League our members have opportunities to compete in Cross Country. The Charity is also a member of local forums such as Sport Moray, Cooper Park Community Sports Hub and the Walk Jog Run Moray partnership ensuring that Moray Road Runners remains an active contributor to sporting developments across the region. The Charity retains a healthy relationship with media publications - Northern Scot and Press and Journal - with members regularly featured thus keeping the profile of Moray Road Runners high throughout the year. Our members also work closely with Grampian Police, Moray Council, Gordonstoun School, Elgin Air Training Corps and Inverness Radio Volunteers to ensure the successful staging of our events. Elgin parkrun provides running and volunteering opportunities every week and our members continue to play a significant part in the success and sustainability of this community event. Indeed, the Club took over the local Parkrun one Saturday, providing all the volunteers for the event. A record number of 262 participants took part that day. Finally, relationships continue to strengthen with the new Moray Sports Centre - a £12M purposebuilt facility in Elgin. The Charity is looking forward to operating from the Centre to support its ongoing sustainability and future phased developments.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

- Individual and Team Success at District Championships
- Individual and Team Success at local races
- Recognition at the annual Sport Moray awards
- Increased training opportunities for junior members
- Virtual Challenges for Members
- Successfully navigating our way through restrictions with a phased return to training sessions

IN MEMORIAM

Moray Road Runners was deeply shocked and saddened to hear of the passing of one of its members, Jon Ward, just days before a 100-mile charity run in June. An extremely talented runner and popular member of the Club, his death resonated throughout the whole Club and beyond, particularly within the local parkrun community and GB Ultra Running scene. It was a fitting tribute to Jon that the Club's members (past and present) as well as friends and colleagues gathered to ensure that a fellow Moray Road Runner was fully supported throughout the 100-mile Challenge, completing the full distance and raising thousands of pounds for the Samaritans.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Moray Road Runners continues to be governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by Members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Other Committee Members are appointed by Members at the AGM and are invited to Board Meetings to ensure that the views of Members are widely represented.

The Treasurer keeps a close eye on cash flow and projected budgets. Accounts are reviewed quarterly at Board Meetings.

The Board met 9 times this year (4 virtual meetings) and a virtual AGM was planned for 30th November.

At the heart of the Charity are its Members. All are volunteers with many sacrificing their time to deliver regular coaching sessions to our junior members as well as others who willingly assist with the organization of races throughout the year for the benefit of runners of all abilities. It is their commitment to the values of the Charity that contribute greatly to the achievements and the stability of Moray Road Runners.

FUNDING

Moray Road Runners is funded through membership subscriptions agreed annually at the AGM and, also, income generated through the organization of 3 road races annually. The monies raised are spread across the following 3 accounts:

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT

The Charity ensures it meets all regular expenditure demands through a treasurer's account. At the year end, the balance of the treasurer's account was £8912.06.

RESILIENCE FUND

In line with advice from our Sport's Governing Body – Scottish Athletics - it is the Board's policy to hold 6 months turnover to allow Moray Road Runners to continue with activities in the event of any unforeseen circumstances that would adversely affect the Charity's income such as race cancellations. At the year end, the resilience fund held £10035.52.

DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Charity fully supports the promotion and development of improved sports facilities in Moray, particularly those relating to Athletics. Moray Road Runners has a separate account to financially assist the purchase and ongoing sustainability of future facilities. At the year end, the Charity held development funds of £4006.

GARETH JENKINS CHAIR MORAY ROAD RUNNERS

TREASURER'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2020

MORAY ROADRUNNERS CLUB

THIS REPORT has the narrow focus of the financial impact of the current pandemic on the Club. Not lost, however, is the personal cost to individuals as well the impact upon our sport.

A YEAR OF TWO HALVES. Before the pandemic struck in March the Club was in receipt of strong income flows from both membership dues and from surpluses from our two flagship events – the Turkey Trot and Half Marathon. Spring and Summer normally would have seen this income being used to support a range of activities. These activities were however cancelled and costs avoided. This has resulted in the overall surplus being broadly in line with that budgeted for. The timing of the lockdown thus could have been worse in financial terms.

NAVIGATING THE YEAR AHEAD. The surplus accrued last year had been originally ear marked for the Club Development Fund. However given the uncertainty surrounding the next 12 months these funds instead are being kept ready for use to support activities as and when they become possible. And behind these funds the Club Resilience Fund remains in place so that members should feel reassured that the Club is well prepared to meet the challenges ahead.

SUBSCRIPTIONS. With the strong balance sheet alluded to above the Club Committee is recommending that current subscription rates continue for the year 2020 – 21.

THANKS. These are due to Mary Bain who has once again acted as the auditor for these accounts.

DAVID INGLEBY

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