British Airways Athletics Club

Minutes of 2022 Annual General Meeting

Bedfont & Feltham Football & Social Club 6th July 2022

Present:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Alan Anderson | Ann Anderson | Tony Barnwell |
| Amanda Coombs | Mike Coombs | Alan Friar |
| Clara Halket | Steve Hillier | Roderick Hoffman |
| Harjit Jhooti | Chris Kelly | Paul Knechtl |
| Melanie Miller | Steve Newell | Benita Scaife |
| John Scaife | Steve Taylor | John Williams |
| John Wright |  |  |

Apologies:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Julie Barclay | David Barnard | Paul Brandon |
| Andy Rayner | Helen Smith | Janet Smith |
| Graham Taylor | Simon Turton | Barry Walters |
| Paul Watt | Harry Wild |  |

**1.0 Minutes of 2021 Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting were read and agreed.

**2.0 President’s Address: John Williams**

We have had a good year. Other organisations, including BA, are losing customers and business, but the club continues to retain around 100 members through difficult times. Despite this evening’s offering of vegan and gluten-free sandwiches, the club is not aiming to change the world! It is successful in attracting a group of friends to a common activity. There is something about being a member, and our club successfully demonstrates its spirit and camaraderie.

The committee has been doing a good job. It is difficult to find people prepared to put in the effort to consistently organise events. Many clubs find the same problem, but at the moment we are managing well.

Long may the club continue to maintain this team spirit.

1. **Chairman’s Report: Roderick Hoffman**

Shortly after last year's AGM we held the club's fortieth anniversary event and we managed to get 40 of us into this room for a relatively informal celebration of the club's existence. Today it is good to see so many of you in this room for what must perhaps be our 40th AGM.

How is the club looking? Is it healthy? Can we look forward to being here next year?

I made a short list of the things that this club needs to be able to do to, to say that it is in a good state. These are…

* Compete in local Cross Country Leagues
* Compete in local Track & Field Matches
* Compete Internationally in airline events
* Host its own events
* Support London events
* Maintain its membership and keep in touch

So, how are we doing?

* Cross Country Leagues: We had teams competing in last year's Surrey league cross countries - more details later.
* Track & Field Matches: We have teams competing in the Veterans and Rosenheim Track & Field matches.
* International Airline Events: There haven't been many or any international airline events recently so that has damaged the raison d'être of the club. However, we have a team entered for this year's WARR event in Hawaii. A small team, but a team none-the-less.
* Own Events: This year we have hosted the Concorde as a one-hour event. This wasn't well subscribed, 32 entrants, 29 participants, but there are many reasons for that and in their feedback most of the participants said that they really rated the event and would return next year with others. But we didn't have enough volunteers - we had the core regulars but no turn-ups on the day and that meant that we were short when we had to marshal the kids race. There were no problems, and I'm the only person who noticed this, but a concern.
* We now have a date for the Speedbird Ladies event with permission from BA to run on Harmondsworth Moor. Four weeks today, August 3rd, and we will discuss its format in the AOB.
* London Events: We still support London events with 24 of us due to marshal the City Race on the 19th and we hope to provide the usual 120 to 140 for the London Marathon - though the severe drop in the number of places in the marathon we can earn may yet have an impact on that.
* Membership: We keep in touch with members - or rather I keep sending out the weekly digests to about 200 individuals on the distribution list. 80% of recipients never respond and another 10% only occasionally. Perhaps it's time we did something different?

Some of us meet regularly - but most of us are never to be seen. The NOW events have been particularly successful at getting a dozen veterans together for a jog and a chat over a coffee some lunchtimes. Our special events can still attract up to twenty, this year the Bedfont Handicap averaged 7 runners each month but other events struggle to attract more than a handful.

Our membership remains just under 100, the level it has been for the last ten years. But the age profile continues to go up, albeit by less than one year a year.

There is no reason to think that the club won't still be here next year and the year after - but it is difficult to look too far ahead - we are highly dependent on the continuing services of myself, Steve, Chris, Steve and the other members of the committee.

**4.0 Treasurer’s Report: Chris Kelly**

***Accumulated Fund***

In 2021-2022, our expenditure exceeded our income by £1,118, resulting in a Bank Balance at year end of £8,495. The main reasons were resumption of spending on events, training/first aid courses, catering, and our 40th Anniversary.

NB. The summary at the bottom of the table inverts the historical (-=+) representation of ins/outs/accumulated fund to correspond to our Bank Balance representation (+=+).

***Income***

£790 Subs were received from 87 of our 93 paying members (others paid in advance) with 27 of 33 (ditto) affiliating to England Athletics at £15 (which has now increased to £16 for 2021 onwards). The Club Affiliation of £150 accounts for most of the £240 net cost, with the rest made up of the 6 early payments, and some members regular payments being £1 short.

In spite of that, as usual, I encourage Members to setup a yearly payment for 1st April. It can always be cancelled, or corrected, but otherwise ensures prompt, yearly, low-maintenance affiliation.

In 2021 we were very pleased to return to the Great City Race, the Big Half and the London Marathon, and grateful to the Club Members and friends who support our Marshalling efforts.

***Equipment and Sales***

Once again our trusty clock has earnt its batteries, at Schools, Runs and Golf events, but there was no WARR in 2021.

We invested in some new Club kit – Vests and T-Shirts – which continue to sell – and for our 40th anniversary issued a special design, and trialled a sweatshirt option which have been reasonably successful, though we do still have some stock available.

***Events***

For 2022, we planned a new Concorde One Hour – and some setup costs were incurred ahead of the event. Some money was spent on the ultimately cancelled Speedbirds 5K in 2021, and the receipts were donated to White Lodge.

We received £11 RTP entries, and £29 Quiz entries and a generous £250 donation from one Member, which we put towards our 40th Anniversary Celebrations. We still need to forward the balance to White Lodge as usual.

As mentioned last year, our 2020 entry to the Green Belt Relay, was rolled forward to 2022, when it finally did occur, to much team enjoyment, and individual success - a subsidy to that will appear in next year’s accounts.

We did get to do some Track and Field, entering both the Rosenheim and Southern Counties Veterans AC Track Leagues, but did not subsidise any Track refunds.

And we also enjoyed both Men’s and Women’s Cross-Country Leagues, with varying degrees of tardiness, and mid-table success.

***Spending***

We renewed our two First Aider’s trainings this year, and also had a much-appreciated volunteer to meet our Safeguarding obligations.

Our Affiliation fees to Middlesex and Surrey Athletic Associations were renewed in 2022.

We updated and handed out our Annual Awards and Trophies.

We spent a larger amount (£90) on printing and postage, and were pleased to see no unexpected withdrawals from our account.

Finally, we have been able to meet more frequently at the Bedfont Clubhouse, and have chosen to support more events comestibly. We look forward to continuing to enjoy such sociable events.

*See attached report for full details.*

1. Membership Secretary’s Report: Alan Friar

***Summary of our membership***

* Membership numbers have gone up slightly to 96 paid-up members from 90 last year. We have welcomed five new joiners.
* Notable changes: the number belonging to BA Clubs continues to decrease, now standing at just twenty.
* We have seventeen members who have another club as their first claim club.

*See attached report for further details.*

6.0 Ladies Captain’s Report: Amanda Coombs

Firstly to the ladies’ Surrey Cross-Country League, which resumed in October 2021 after the Covid interruption. Thanks to our runners - myself, Julie Barlcay, Monica Alonso, Jan Jones, Vera Simms, Tanya Snook and Emma Moreton. We managed to field full teams for the first two matches; but unfortunately due to storm cancellations and various other circumstances we were unable to send teams to matches 3 and 4. Our final standing in Division 2 was 35th out of 47 teams. We have some new recruits for next season and hope to improve on this performance.

I am keen to grow the team further, and to increase female participation in the Club in general, so please do get in touch if you know of friends or family who would like to run under the BA banner.

Provisional XC dates for next season have been published, which I have added to the online calendar. The first fixture is on Saturday 15th October in Reigate at 2pm. Other dates are 12th November, 14th January and 11th February. New for this season our men’s team in Division 4 will be running at the same venues.

As Roderick reported, we were unable to run the Ladies’ Speedbird 5K at its usual time of year, but are hopeful that it can take place in August.

Finally, in November of last year I took on the role of Club Welfare Officer, which is a position all England Athletics affiliated clubs now have to fill. I report on any safeguarding concerns to the Club Committee. My qualification lasts for 3 years.

**7.0 Men’s Captain’s Report: - Paul Knechtl**

Paul took over from Gary Rushmer at the start of the last cross-country season. He thanked Gary and the committee for their support, and Chris Kelly for covering him as he succumbed to COVID on the weekend of the first race. Also, thanks to Gary for his contribution of a number of years as captain.

The Surrey League cross country team had a successful season, usually attracting ten or more runners. We finished 10th out of 14 teams, a good result considering the club size. Mark Taylor finished the season third in the MV60 category.

We also hosted the BA Tom Rowley cross-country race in Cranford Park, a celebration of Tom’s support for the club supported by Woking AC and runners from other clubs.

Across the five winter events, 19 men ran in BAAC colours.

We enjoyed a busy Green Belt relay weekend, fielding a full team to once again circumnavigate London over a single weekend.

Please join us for next winter’s cross-country matches, when the men’s and women’s teams will compete at the same venues on the same dates (but not at the same times!)

1. **Track & Field Report: Steve Hillier**

Although COVID is not yet a memory, we have managed to achieve a full year of uninterrupted track and field competition since last year’s AGM.

Last summer’s competition ended with two Rosenheim League matches, at Kingston in August, and at a chilly Walton in September. Across those two evenings we entered 19 events, collecting 13 wins and 6 second places, and in doing so five club records were broken. A great end to the season.

As you know, we award Grand Prix trophies to the male and female athletes producing the best overall performances across the season. Janet Smith regained her trophy with some exceptional throwing. Paul Watt was a new winner of the men’s trophy, following some excellent track running.

We entered the 2022 season still unable to arrange a regular club track & field training night, due to some remaining track restrictions. However, we have made occasional use of the Feltham track, including a competitive “Track on Field” evening in early May.

The league season started at Battersea on May 16th, and the team has continued its record-breaking form of last year. As things stand, we are mid-table in both leagues, despite facing much larger teams.

The Vets’ League has introduced a new V70 category this year, which may yet prove a winner for BA, and some of the older members of our team.

More wins and records have been achieved this year:

* Mike Ball and Ian Haylock have made the shortest and longest track distances their own.
* Adrian Haines has returned to the track with BA, running a blistering 800m.
* Paul Watt has broken records at two middle distances.
* Fiona Bishop has shown how it’s done when walking fast, or when running many laps is required.
* Jacqui Musselwhite continues to be the fastest sprinter in her age group, while of course…
* Janet Smith is peerless in the throwing events.

We can have great confidence going into our final matches next week. If you are free, please come and join us, as we complete this Commonwealth Games season with a bang.

1. **In-house events report: Steve Newell**

Last winter’s five-mile handicap event was spread across six months, and contested by twelve or so competitors. The route has settled on a two-lap course from the Bedfont Club, allowing encouragement from the timekeepers at the half way stage. You don’t have to be fast or slow to take part, but consistency could win you a Fuller’s beer prize. The winners of the 2021/22 pints were:

1st Roderick Hoffman

2nd Benita Scaife

3rd John Scaife

Next winter’s competition will start on October 26th.

This year’s Equinox 5K will take place in September at Bedfont Lakes.

1. **London Marathon report: Steve Hillier**

In Simon’s absence, Steve reviewed the Marathon year.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our marshalling efforts. As Chris Kelly has highlighted, event marshalling contributed over £1,000 to our funds last year.

During 2022, we are involved in five major London Marathon Events:

May 2nd: Clara led our team of 30 + at the Vitality 10K

May 29th: Paul Brandon & Steve Hillier organised 25 volunteers at a new location bedside the Tower of London, for Ride London Essex.

July 19th: Simon Turton has recruited a team of 25 for the Great City Race.

Sept 4th: Steve H is about to start recruiting 20 people for the Big Half in Greenwich.

Oct 2nd: Simon will welcome offers for the London Marathon. Between 120 and 150 helpers are required.

London Marathon guaranteed entries. For many years we have enjoyed receiving and allocating 20+ places, more than most clubs. For at least the last twenty years, we have not refused a place to a BAAC member with a good marshalling record, and we’ve given many places to non-members who have marshalled for us regularly. Fifteen members have received four or more entries.

COVID, and deferred marathons, have brought about a review of allocation of places. This year we have received just two guaranteed places, and from 2023 we are likely to receive four. The committee will consider how to allocate these places fairly.

We value your support. Please get behind us for this year’s Big Half and London Marathon.

1. **Election of new committee**

The following members were elected to the committee unopposed:

Chairman Roderick Hoffman

Deputy Chairman Steve Hillier

Honorary Secretary Steve Hillier

Honorary Treasurer Chris Kelly

Ladies Captain/Welfare Officer Amanda Coombs

Men’s Captain Paul Knechtl

Membership Secretary Alan Friar

Communications & Events Secretary Roderick Hoffman

Track & Field Captain Steve Hillier

Committee Members(without portfolio) Steve Taylor

 Clara Halket

Gary Rushmer has stood down from the committee. He was thanked for his dedicated service to the role of Men’s Captain.

1. **Club subscription fee 2023/24**

The current fee of £9 has been unchanged for many years. The committee felt that it was important to review the amount in good time to change it, if required, for 2023/24.

An open debate amongst members agreed that we are in a strong financial position at the moment, and we are using our bank balance carefully, but to the benefit of members.

Reducing the fee was considered, but deemed unwise: we did not wish for the value of membership to be devalued by making it extremely cheap or free.

Fees at other clubs were considered: they tend to be much higher, but are used to support infrastructure and youth training facilities, which we cannot currently offer.

It was agreed to maintain the fee of £9 p.a. in 2023/24.

1. **Open Forum**

Coaching: We hope to return to coaching events at Bedfont later in the summer. A Couch to 5K event was previously attempted at Waterside, which gained initial interest with BA staff. Sadly, enthusiasm tailed off.

Membership: A general frustration was expressed in that it is difficult to attract interest/membership from BA employees, despite a range of avenues attempted in recent years.

Speedbird Ladies event 2022: We now appear to have BA clearance to hold the event on Aug 3rd at Harmondsworth Moor, subject to their being no BA staff strikes. A low key, easily set up event is envisaged, with members encouraged to help communicating the event to local runners and clubs, and BA staff including cabin crew.

The Heathrow runway midnight marathon relay will take place on October 1st. Clara will enter a cabin crew team. Entry fee is £30per person.

BAAC AGM2022 minutes.doc Steve Hillier

**Athletics - Annual General Meeting - Treasurer’s Report for 2021/22**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|   | Year to 31 March 2022 | Year to 31 March 2021 |
|   | Income | Spending | Total | Income | Spending | Total |
| **Income** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Subscriptions (87 of 93 Members) | -£790 |  | -£790 | -£804 |  | -£804 |
| England Athletics Affiliation (28 of 33) | -£405 | £645 | £240 | -£618 | £765 | £147 |
| Event Marshalling & Coach Hires | -£1,585 | £465 | -£1,120 | -£990 |  | -£990 |
| **Equipment & Sales** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Sale of Kit | -£566 | £1,247 | £681 |   |  |   |
| WARR T-Shirts / Tax |   |  |   |   |  |   |
| Equipment / Clock Rentals | -£175 | £14 | -£161 |   | £90 | £90 |
| **Events** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Concorde 1Hour (2022 event) | -£108 | £300 | £192 |   |  |   |
| Speedbirds 5K  |   | £55 | £55 | -£28 | £25 | -£3 |
| GBR (no event 2021) |   |  |   |   |  |   |
| XC |   | £125 | £125 |   |  |   |
| Track & Field |   | £172 | £172 |   | £20 | £20 |
| RTP, Watersplash, RTB, Quiz | -£290 |  | -£290 |   | £297 | £297 |
| **Spending** |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Training Courses |   | £690 | £690 |   |  |   |
| County Affiliation Fees |   | £55 | £55 |   |  |   |
| Trophies & Prizes |   | £142 | £142 |   | £200 | £200 |
| Cards, Flowers & Stationery |   | £90 | £90 |   | £4 | £4 |
| Bank Errors |   |  |   |   |  |   |
| Catering |   | £1,036 | £1,036 |   |  |   |
| Grand Total | -£3,919 | £5,037 | £1,118 | -£2,440 | £1,402 | -£1,038 |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Float | £50 |  |  | £50 |  |  |
| Stock Balance at year-end | £1,110 |  |  | £704 |  |  |
| **Bank Balance 31-Mar-21** | **£9,613** |  |   | **£8,575** |  |   |
| Loss during the year | -£1,118 |  |  | £1,038 |  |  |
| Outstanding Accommodation costs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balance | £8,495 |  |  | £9,613 |  |  |
| **Bank Balance 31-Mar-22** | **£8,495** |  |  | **£9,613** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic Facilities from BA Clubs | £0 |  |  | £0 |  |  |

Chris Kelly Athletics Club Treasurer 6th July 2022

BAAC AGM Membership Report 2021/22

(Last year’s figures shown in parentheses)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Members** | Life |  | New | Renewed |   |  |  |
|  | 4 (3) |  |  5 (3) | 87 (84) |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **England Athletics** | Affiliated | Unaffiliated |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 37 (39) | 59 (51) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |
| **Gender Mix** | Ladies | Men |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 33 (31) | 63 (59) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **BA Clubs Members** | Life | Current |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2 (2) | 18 (30) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Age Range** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19-29 | 3 (2) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 30-39 | 4 (1) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 40-49 | 10 (9) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |
| 50-59 | 30 (34) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60-69 | 35 (31) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 70-79 | 9 (10) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 80-90 | 6 (2) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 96 (90) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **First Claim Club** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| BA | 79  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ealing Eagles | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hillingdon | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Horsham Joggers | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Maidenhead AC | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Runnymede Runners | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stockport Harriers | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stroud District Athletic Club | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Thames Valley | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Windsor,Slough,Eton & Hounslow | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Woking AC | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 96 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

***Alan Friar Membership Secretary July 2022***