

Runfurther 2018 AGM

The White Hall Centre, Buxton, 04.11.2018 at 2.00 pm

Present: Dick Scroop, Nick Ham, Karen Nash, Bob Nash, Martin Terry, Si Berry, Janet Hill, Debbie Cooper, Ken Sutor, Rory Harris, Sarah Challans, Ian Challans, Stephen Hall, David Chetta, Suzie Chetta, John Williams, Chris Davies, Tim Brockington (18 in total).

Apologies: Daryl Bentley, Linda Murgatroyd, Simon Roberts, Jenny Wyles, Ken Wyles, John Bottomley, Kaz McDonald, Matt Hutchinson, Josie Greenhalgh, Adam Worrallo, Charlotte Smith, Jon Wright, Mick Cottam, Justin Bramall, Kevin Hoult, Ian France, Mike Sellors, Andy Ford, Steven Jones.

1. Minutes of the 2017 AGM.

Accepted as a true record. Proposed KH, seconded NH and **agreed** unanimously. There were no Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

2. Chair's Report:

A written report was presented as follows:

I hope that you feel 2018 has provided another successful set of races. It is always tricky getting a balance of distances, locations, terrain etc. Then we have to try to keep old favourites but also include some new races that people want to try out and also to prevent the series from becoming stale. Inevitably that means giving some races a miss for a year.

We still try to include those who need us rather than races that fill up ridiculously fast and we do consider the £/mile (if not for every race then over the series as a whole).

Few people seem prepared to travel far so races in Scotland, borders, far SW and far SE are now being avoided.

Sponsorship continues to be tough with many companies claiming funds are tight and so we are especially grateful for the continued and generous sponsorship that we do have from Si Berry at Beta with Ultimate Direction and Injinji products. Also, Rupert at Mountain Fuel, Jessica at Tent Meals who were both new for this year and Romneys mint cake who continue to provide mini samples for each race. These companies gain publicity from our website and facebook pages, plus flags and banners at events. You can do your bit by mentioning them on social media when you win a spot prize, commenting on their facebook pages and writing reviews on their websites.

Further publicity for Runfurther and for those companies is gained by our articles in magazines. We now have a regular slot in the FRA Fellrunner mag and the new editor has promised this can continue. We have a large number of fell runners who do 2 or 3 races in our series but not 4. We need your help in persuading them to do more. This is

especially true for women where the series is not as competitive as it is for the men. There are about 20 runners at the foot of the leaderboard who have almost 1000 points from one race. These guys are good and we want them in the series. If they are in your club or local to you, please chat to them.

We had no Grand Slam runners this year for a variety of reasons like injury, illness and just other commitments on our time. I do though already know of one runner planning a Grand Slam next year.

Numbers completing 4 races and gaining a reward were down very slightly at 26 but a further 14 did 3 races and 80 did 2 or 3 races. I think this is partly just a reflection of how many ultra races there are now and so on any weekend people have so much choice. Also, some ROs have grown their own mini series and some runners prefer to stay local and compete in these.

Andy Robinson is still busy with his long distance walking guide books but makes time to keep the website up to date and interesting. He is always very prompt with updates after each race and also on completing the leaderboards for individuals and teams. Thanks Andy.

Dick, Nick, Kevin, Chris and I are always very grateful for offers of help at races so thanks to all those who have stepped forward to ask what they can do both before and after races. Taking flags and banners down in the rain after a race when you are tired is so much easier if the load is shared so please don't be shy.

As always any feedback on races, the series, sponsors etc. are welcomed. We can't fit in every favourite race but we will listen and do what we can. KN

KN spoke to the report outlining key issues and responding to questions particularly in relation to improve the quality of the field which had been affected by the increasing numbers of races which made more competition. The high number of people who had completed three races and others with 1000 points or close to it with just one race was noted. These were areas where targeted effort could lead to improvement.

She thanked all those who had helped out at events in getting flags up etc and everyone for running in the series.

The Report was **accepted**.

3. Treasurer's Report.

Kevin Hault had audited the accounts as in previous years though there is no legal requirement for this. The Treasurer, and the meeting, thanked Kevin for continuing to do this for us. There was a £261 surplus on the year (£396 in 2017) and a balance of £2031 in the bank. Our running costs are low and in view of the healthy bank balance and low rate of spending it was **agreed** to suspend the cash requirement from sponsors initially for 2019.

The Report was **accepted**.

4. Election of Officers: The Chair invited expressions of interest from any there who wanted to get involved in the Committee. In the absence of volunteer Bob Nash proposed and Mike Terry seconded a proposal that the existing officers be re-elected. This was **agreed** unanimously as follows:

Chair - Karen Nash

Treasurer - Nick Ham

Secretary – Richard (Dick) Scroop

Assistant Secretary - Kevin Smith

Committee member - Chris Davies

RS suggested that he was not sure how many years running he had left in him so others should start to think about getting involved in the Committee as it was a requirement of membership that you complete at least two races a year.

5. A.O.B:

2019 races: KN distributed the cards listing the 2019 race programme. It had not been a straightforward task, with race dates being rearranged quite late on, one race changing ownership and one with a clash of sponsors all giving rise to uncertainty right up to the last minute. Even now the Round Rotherham date has not been finalised but the two most likely dates would fit in with our programme. We now had a programme that the Committee were happy with. We had a number of new races: The Spire Ultra, Brecon 50/100m, Peaks Trail 30, the Three Towers Ultra and another - The Bullock Smithy Hike - back after a long absence.

It was noted that two old favourites were not available - the HP40 was not running again due to a prolonged footpath closure and organisational difficulties at the Long Tour of Bradwell meant that it would not be taking place next year. The Committee looked forward to them becoming available for consideration from 2020 onwards.

R. Scroop, Secretary

07.11.2018