

Sandhurst Joggers – 36th Annual General Meeting

Held Tuesday, 19th March 2024 at 7:30pm
Sandhurst Sports Club & Bar

Agenda

Welcome by Chair

1. Approval of the 2023 Minutes and Matters Arising
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Reports from Committee
 - Events: Summer/Relays
 - Events: Winter/Cross Country
 - Membership
 - Social
 - Secretary
 - Publicity
 - Treasurer – Annual Statement of Accounts
 - General Members
 - Vice Chair
 - Chair
4. Yateley Road Races Report and Accounts
5. Coaches Report
6. Club Subscription
7. Election of Committee for 2024/25
 - Chair
 - Vice-Chair
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary
 - Membership Secretary
 - Social Secretary
 - Events Secretary – Winter /XC
 - Events Secretary – Summer/Relays
 - Publicity Secretary
 - Welfare Officer
 - General Members
8. Non-elected Posts for 2024/25
 - Yateley Road Race Director
 - Handicap Run Organiser
 - Webmaster
 - Track Coaches
 - Kit Manager
 - Pure Beginners
9. Any Other Business
10. Closing remarks by Chair

Present

Committee - Dave Bartlett, Andrew Provost, Mo Willcox, Andy Hazell, Alison Jones, Andrea Hadfield, Erol Ali, Lisa Harrold, Gabbi Bassett, Nigel Bassett, Julian Rawcliffe, Cat Wickham

Other members – Sarah Jones, Janet Venables, Susan Plumb, Monica Burbidge, Gerry Mepham, Richard Boese, Jackie Kent, Simon Whillis, , Emy Circuit, Philip Turner, , Andrew Hibbitt, V Taylor, Helen Davey, Sarah Hyatt, Sarah Gray, Paul Biggs, Gary Dowling, Jeremy Furbear, Jon Green, Dom Allen, Claire Southerton

Proceedings

1. Approval of the 2023 Minutes and Matters Arising

Approved

2. Apologies for Absence

Janice Alves de Sousa, Scarlett Palmer, Claire Rowse, Patrick Wadsworth, Sally Kent, Anne Whillis, Carl Bradshaw, Alurie Dutton

Reports from Committee

a. Events: Summer/Relays

Dave talked through Julian's slides and outlined all the events. All were deemed successful but greater participation would be welcomed. He stressed that events are an invite to ALL club members and suitable for all levels. The return of Hart 4 to the event calendar is greatly anticipated. The club is also hoping to enter a team(s) into Endure this year too, with a £30 contribution per runner from the club. Julian thanked those who had participated and stressed that if representing the Club in a team relay event, the club pays the entry fee.

Events: Winter/Cross Country

Nigel went through the Cross Country slides, and once again the XC season was a great success. Over the 8 races, competing against 15 clubs, Sandhurst Joggers had 47 runners compete (up from 40 last year) and came 9th, but just 1 point off 7th.

b. Membership

In Janice's absence, Dave talked us through the membership slide, membership is down this year at 289 members. Membership payment continues to be paid through MemberMojo. EA have once again increased the affiliation fee by £2, to £19. Club affiliation remains under 150, meaning that we are eligible for 1 Marathon place. Affiliation runs from 1st April to 31 March. EA affiliation details are digital and it is the individual member's responsibility to keep that up to date. There are additional slides with further analysis of the membership.

c. Kit Manager

Cat explained that Kit levels are in the process of being topped up. Orders should be completed through membermojo club store and Cat will arrange delivery to your local run. New items to be added this year include Bobble hats, caps, buffs and jackets, styles and prices to be agreed.

d. Social

As the Ball failed to generate enough interest this year, it was disappointingly cancelled. Unfortunately the deposits to the venue and the entertainers still had to be paid. However, the Pub Quiz was oversubscribed and proved to be a great success. Numerous ideas are being considered and a poll will be sent out to establish what the membership wants.

e. Secretary

The committee continues to meet every 6 weeks.

In accordance with England Athletics the following policies will be added alongside our Club constitution: an Inclusion Policy, Grievance & Disciplinary Procedure, GDPR privacy guidance, Club safeguarding Policy and Health & Safety Policy.

It was also noted that the Club needs to appoint a Welfare Officer to comply with EA standards.

Under the EA terms we are eligible for one London Marathon place, and after the ballot held in December, this was awarded to Paul Biggs.

f. Publicity

Julian presented 2 slides on how he has progressed with the publicity role, keeping the Jogger's journal updated, and how he sees the role going forward. A lot of the detail comes from Strava, race reports from the events people are completing and featuring photos that are available. The monthly handicap gets promoted too. He is also working hard on an overhaul of the SJ website, moving to a Wordpress hosted site. Julian has been concentrating on the technical side whilst also developing the social media aspect and Andy Provost has been a particular help on Instagram. As always, Julian welcomes event testimonials from the members.

g. Treasurer

Andrea informed us that following on from the last AGM, we have made an effort to spend more and this has been achieved through event entries; items for the club; prizes and for people to be able to enter events. She also told us that much work has been completed on the admin side of the account, with a tidy up of signatories on the Barclays account. The Club is still in a good financial position. 3 slides were presented explaining the finer detail.

h. General Members

Monday - We continue to run with enjoyable chatty runs and smiles.

Tuesday – Numbers have remained steady with the addition of new members. Andy thanked all the run leaders on the Tuesday runs. Pub runs have been enjoyed. With the clock change, we make a return to Crowthorne on the first Tuesday of the month.

Tuesday Intervals – A good consistent group of runners continue to enjoy the benefits of the intervals group.

Wednesday – Attracts between 4-12 runners each week while continuing to support the Handicap run on the second Wednesday of each month. Simon reported that the numbers are increasing for Handicap.

Wednesday daytime run – Janet informed us that this session, one hour long and usually led by Carl, is well established now and has been going for 3 years.

Sunday – A good number of runners turn up for this run in Swinley Forest. Several new runners have joined. It's a sociable run followed by post run coffee sometimes joined by non-runners (through injury or recovery). At the suggestion of Gerry Mepham, the Club top is now worn on the last Sunday of the month to promote the Club and raise the profile with the wider community.

Julian summarised that, compared to lot of other running clubs, our Club does offer an incredibly wide range of runs throughout the week.

i. Vice Chair/Chair

The home cross country event was held again at Lord Wandsworth College (LWC). We had great feedback and Andy gave special thanks to the help and support from Dave, Sally, Jackie and all the volunteers. As the club had assisted LWC at their event in September 2023, we received a substantial reduction in our fee to host our own event there. Costs were £1,036.76, revenue was £1,162 giving a credit of £125.24

Volunteer numbers were low unfortunately and we had to rely on help from other clubs to host the event. 403 runners completed the course, a near record high. The next home cross country date has been provisionally set as 24th November at LWC. It was noted that this event will need extra help to assist Clare Gallagher as it's her first year organising the catering.

To encourage greater involvement, we offered Alton Sports cash vouchers in August, September and October. It was interesting to see at least 100-120 individual club runners attending at least 1 club event each month but also many runners completing more than one club run each week. It is encouraging from a club perspective to see such engagement.

Andy reported that there has been an increase in social media activity, and it would be good to see greater attendance and participation at all events and cross country.

j. Chair

Dave reflected back to the objectives set at last year's AGM. These were

- *more Intraclub relays, home and away.* This home relays were successful although the away venue was cancelled due to lack of interest. Dave will try to avoid the week of the handicap in the future.
- *Increase participation in the GM hosted pub runs* – all very successful
- *Increased club attendance* - the annual pub run attracted a lot of interest including a couple of runners integrating it within their long run!

- *Another successful club representation at the XC - the XC, as previously mentioned received good reviews, albeit challenging with the lower volunteer numbers.*

k. Club Awards

In the absence of the Ball this year, Dave took advantage of the AGM to present the Club awards. The awards and winners are as follows:

- **Club Handicap** – Joint winners - Blanche Barnes and Rob Jerret.
- **Full attendance of Cross Country series** – Gabbi Bassett, Nigel Bassett, Emy Circuit
- **Most Improved Club Runner** – Gary Dowling
- **Most Improved New Member** – Wayne Ford
- **Outstanding Contribution to the Club** – Tom Stafford
- **New Award for 2024/25** – A new age grade performance related award for next year was announced. Any club member can enter, any distance, any age, any official time.

3. Yateley Road Races Report and Accounts

Alison presented 4 slides. There were 1,920 for the races with a further 173 for the Fun Run. Entries were lower than previous years in line with the trend of other local races. £11,745 has been donated to charities and causes. Each race will have a limit of 800 to reduce overheads and waste. Further detail can be found in the slides. The series remains good value at £20 per race, with free entry for 70+ year olds.

4. Coaches Report

Dave read through Carl's track report. Numbers in 2023/24 fluctuated between 2 and 20, in 2023 we have averaged between 10 and 16.

Recently over this year, numbers have been generally steady around 18 which is great, except for weekends with big race days like Wokingham half etc.

3cTri regularly support attendance with between 5 & 8 most weeks, this will however fall off in the summer months as the triathlon season breaks into full flow.

I was asked to add in a timed 5km, we did this on the same night as a cooper test. We had good numbers for both. We will be doing cooper tests regularly through the year, and the odd 5km!

Friday night is the only coached session of the week, with a proper warm up, drills, a cool down and stretching at the end. It would be great to get more club runners enjoying this fantastic session, which is subsidised by the club at just £3 per session.

As the Bracknell track cost increases every 6 months, Dave is looking at Military Academy in Sandhurst. The access to the detail needs to be finalised.

Jackie Kent recommended that V's group be rebranded "Technique Group" in place of "Beginners" to reflect more accurately what the session involves.

5. Club Subscription

Once again it is proposed that the annual subscription for membership fees remains at £15. As EA membership has increased to £19, anyone wanting a joint membership will pay £34. Dave will ensure this is reflected on MemberMojo.

V commented that EA membership advantages should be promoted, and Dave replied that this has in fact be implemented. The renewal now stresses that EA membership gives you a discount for some events and also eligibility for the marathon ballot that takes place within the club.

6. Election of Committee for 2024/25

The election took place with the results below:

Position	Candidate	Proposed by:	Seconded by:	Result (Elected Unopposed)
Chair	Andy Provost	Paul Biggs	Jackie Kent	Elected Unopposed
Vice Chair				Vacant
Treasurer	Andrea Hadfield	Dave Bartlett	Alison Jones	Elected Unopposed
Secretary	Mo Willcox	Alison Jones	Richard Boese	Elected Unopposed
Membership	Dave Bartlett*	Andy Hazell	Andrea Hadfield	Elected
Social	Claire Rowse	Alison Jones	Cat Wickham	
Events-Winter/XC	Gabbi + Nigel Bassett	Andy Provost	Emy Circuit	Elected Unopposed
Events-Summer/relays	Gary Dowling	Cat Wickham	Paul Biggs	Elected Unopposed
Publicity	Julian Rawcliffe	Dave Bartlett	Lisa Harrold	Elected Unopposed
Welfare Officer				Vacant
General Members				Elected Unopposed
Monday	Patrick Wadsworth	Paul Biggs	Gerry Mephram	Elected Unopposed
Tuesday	Sarah Gray + Andy Hazell	Cat Wickham	Andy Provost	Elected Unopposed
Wednesday	Paul Biggs + V Taylor	Dave Bartlett	Jackie Kent	Elected Unopposed
Sunday	Scarlett Palmer	Mo Willcox	Richard Boese	Elected Unopposed

*As Dave declared his intention to step down from his position a Chair and move into the Membership role, the decision was put to a vote. Janice was unable to attend the meeting so had her statement read out by Simon Whillis, while Dave gave a 2 minute pitch for why he was most suitable. The vote was taken when Dave left the room and a majority vote for Dave was recorded. Simon Whillis proposed that Janice be offered Lifetime Member in recognition of all that she has done for the club, including 22 years as Membership secretary, and this will be actioned after the meeting.

7. Non-elected Posts for 2024/25

Position	Candidate
Yateley Road Race Directors	Jenny Robinson + Alison Jones
Handicap Run Organisers	Simon Whillis + Richard Boese
Webmaster	Julian Rawcliffe
Track Coach(s)	Carl Bradshaw, James Casey, Newton Johnstone, Vinnett Taylor
Kit Director	Cat Wickham supported by Sarah Gray
Pure Beginners	Lisa Harrold
Home XC	Andy Provost + Dave Bartlett

8. Any Other Business

V suggested that she is willing to produce a podcast once a quarter as an alternative way of communicating and marketing the club. This was accepted as a great idea and can go under the umbrella of Publicity.

Paul Biggs asked the meeting if we could all think about how to encourage more participation at club runs and get more runners running. V suggested we could utilise a buddy-up system to initiate and welcome new runners. We need to make sure SJ is not cliquy and intimidating. We need to try new methods and maybe reach out to other club to see how they operate. The demographic profile of the Club is skewed towards the older runner. In a bid to reach out to younger members, Dominic Allen suggested a reduced membership to target them. V Taylor suggested trialling new fun activities, including tried and tested 5K timed runs and bleep tests.

9. Closing Remarks

Dave closed the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance.

The meeting was closed at 9:45pm.