MSTC committee meeting minutes 28 May 2012

Apologies: Steve A, Claire, Trevor

Present: Steve Mac, Kay, Callum, Sharon, Mark, Rachel, Steve B, Rose, Jules, Julie, Rob, James

1. Previous committee meeting minutes approved
2. Future of club. Mark: We need to decide what type of club we’re going to be. There has been an exponential rise in number of people wanting to join. Means realigning organisation of the club. Exacerbated by taxation point. We put application in for ‘community amateur sports club status’ – refused on three grounds. Problem is we don’t have open system for membership (all ages). Failure to achieve this could seriously hamper financial viability of club, even if we double subs. HMRC could charge 20 per cent on all profits, backdated for seven years. Rugby club negotiated way out on basis that met criteria but hadn’t registered. We need to protect ourselves against the taxman, whether through this avenue or charitable status. Charitable status is onerous. So we have to change constitution to allow membership for all. Mark has rewritten draft of the constitution. We need emergency AGM to change the constitution. Mark went through HMRC guidance note, copied and pasted. Proposal to call extraordinary AGM. 21 members is quorum. Proposal: vote on new constitution at the Mid Sussex Triathlon? Vote in favour of calling EGM to approve draft constitution carried.
3. Growth of club. Mark proposed creating working groups on each area of the club’s activities. Look at various options for each activity: e.g. open water and pool swimming. Costings and frequency. We already have about five options for pool swimming, three for open water. Cycling and running presently ad hoc. Look at issues systematically over two-month period.
4. Pool swimming: **Mark**
5. Open water swimming: **Steve Mac**
6. Cycling: **Steve B**
7. Running: **Steve A and Rob**
8. Finance: **Rachel**
9. Juniors: **Rose and Julie**
10. Miscellaneous (nutrition, talks etc): **Jules, Ian and Kay**

Should we offer organised activities? If not, why join the club? Could just offer representation etc. Out of 100 members, 78 have paid for pool swim. Give series of options and costings, together with frequency. Deadline: next committee meeting Monday 30 July, 8pm Bent Arms. Investigate feasibility of options, but make no commitments.

1. Mid Sussex Triathlon: numbers down on last year. 294 entries. We have enough marshals. Entries close this weekend. No more time to promote. Last year’s entrants have been emailed. Next year could have an aquabike? Also paratriathletes? Also aquathon? Steve Mac has lots of ideas to improve numbers for next year. **Kay** to email other local clubs in final push for entries this year (done). Dave Lashbrook is to be run co-ordinator, taking over from Mat Record. Registration on Saturday (5pm – 6.30pm) and Sunday. Race is part of Sussex Weald series.
2. GoTri! 14, 15 July. About 14 kids signed up. **Callum** to speak to Andy Lennox about the Middy again (done – possibility of ad next week, Trevor has sent artwork). Big push needed. **Sharon** to distribute leaflets at Kids of Steel. **Steve Mac** to print off. **Kay** to distribute at Ardingly Tri (done). Put flyers in goody bags at our race. **Rose** to check terms and conditions for Oathall. Julie is welfare officer. **Julie and Rose** to put something on website about safeguarding. Recce day, 13 June 5pm. Need extra helpers to marshal the triathlon at the end of the Sunday. Medals, T-shirts under way. We need 20 kids to make it work. Steve has offered mugs, key rings, water bottles for goody bags. **Mark** trying to arrange a safeguarding/first aid course with the BTF for the club.
3. After party. **Jules** to send emails to get an idea of numbers. Everyone to bring own food. Rugby club, Whitemans Green. £250 budget. Club to supply meat and buns. £60 for the club, £40 for bar staff. 3-7pm.
4. Buoys at Ardingly Reservoir. Best not to put out permanently. Cost £50 for concrete sinkers and chains. What distance? 200m, 400m and one more as far as we can get it.
5. Christmas dinner. Jules checked Birch Hotel (80 x £35 a head); Oak Barn restaurant (we can book out restaurant, a la carte menu 75-100), Alexander House (too expensive). **Sharon** to look at changing fees due date, so as to avoid having to pay for dinner and fees at the same time. Proposed date 19 Jan, 2013.
6. Should we offer free swim next time to the person who has kayaked at Ardingly Reservoir? No. But if you spot or canoe you don’t pay for that session, even if you also swim in that session. Next year, offer Ardingly an overall fee for that swim.