

Minutes of Meeting Amber Valley and Erewash Athletic Club

**Committee Meeting: 7:30 Monday 22nd May 2023
Community Room, Ilkeston Fire Station**

1. Apologies for Absence

Dan Humphrey ("DH")

The following committee members were present: Jayesh Dave ("JD"), Janine Bonser ("JB"), Damian Banks ("DB"), Rich Woodward ("RW"), Julie Feeney ("JF"), Sarah Turner ("ST") and Vicky Shore ("VS")

2. Approval of last meeting's minutes

Minutes approved by the committee.

3. Previous Actions and Matters Arising

Full Power Fitness

FPF are willing to help but were a bit concerned about the youth of some of our athletes. JD had informed them that it would be U13s and above and he thinks they were originally thinking it would be 15/16yos and above.

JD will speak to them in a couple of weeks but if it's a no-go, he'll speak to other gyms. JF expressed concern that individual PTs may not have knowledge or plans designed for specific athletes. JD will ask about that as well.

Saturday training

JB said that the sit in at track side is largely working but could be better. Concern was expressed about the gate still be open so it was decided it would be locked and only opened when we look to leave. Whilst this encourages check in at the entrance, it is also from a H&S perspective. Stops other wandering in.

ACTION: JB will publicise the gate being locked.

JD explained he had not managed to make it to a Wednesday session, but he will try.

Legacy Leisure

DB explained he had tried with LL, but it was like pulling teeth. The recent invoice was spot on, so he paid, Going forward, he has said he will pay what is due and leave LL to "chase" the 4p difference if they want to.

Long Jump

JD has purchased the sand. He had some issues with this but its sorted and should be in place by June. DH has some tarp that can be used for the covers.

RW explained that he and DH had not yet stock checked the indoor equipment, mainly due to the amount of competitions recently and finding time.

County Champs relay team

This has been booked but, in the end, only girls ran. The boys couldn't get a team. RW expressed that the lack of a TM was the problem and, in his view, going forward the onus should be on the athletes. There was a discussion about whether this was a good idea, and it was decided to revisit next year close to next year's championships.

4. FG development and future proofing

JD said that he felt things were working well and that the introduction of the throws group is helping. He is pushing the idea of moving around with specialist sessions as well. He said he'd speak to BB and DH about introducing more javelin to fill the gap at the younger ages.

RW asked if a list of the open sessions could be circulated with an idea of what groups needed more athletes and which were short on numbers. We could then look at the U13s to see who may benefit. JD said he'd provide.

Future proofing

RW said, after going to Nuneaton, he was surprised to see a smaller club with a really good set up – café, club shop, club-house etc. He wondered if we could do something similar.

JF confirmed this had been looked into years ago but the committee at the time couldn't get anything through. JD said he was keen to revisit it. Perhaps we could look at getting some form of structure that could act as a clubhouse.

JD will speak to LL and look into options. DB suggested a possible location for the structure.

ACTION: JD to carry out some initial prep into a clubhouse.

5. Competitions update

RW discussed the mini leagues, YDL Lower and HoE. He said athlete count had been decent; could be better and he asked that the U15s be pushed a little more. RW explained that we had finished 2nd at YDL and 1st at HoE.

ST and VS both said that the standard of competition at HoE was poor. However, we are in Div 3 and it is perhaps good that we could win promotion. JD said that the plan was to grow so, even if the standard isn't great, the idea is to get more choice in the gender categories.

RW spoke about the coach to HoE. It was very expensive, and we suffered a fair loss but those on the coach enjoyed it. RW explained that DH had suggested the club fund minibus licences for some select people and then we could drive. May be cheaper?

ACTION: RW and DH to look into costs of mini-bus licencing and cost of hire.

6. Recreation Group

JD said that we needed to boost the RG and asked for ideas. Various ones were put forward during a brainstorming such as:

- Leaflets to schools
- Parents to be asked to push at their children's schools
- "Bring-a-friend" day
- Try Days
- Car boot day
- OakFest or similar

JF said social media was key and RW said that we needed a new website. JD said he'd spoken to CK and asked him to crack on with that. If he agrees to, we can move forward. If not, we go to an outside contractor.

ACTION: RW, DH and JF to form a sub-committee to discuss ways to increase Rec Group.

7. Specialist sessions

JD reiterated that the throws sessions are going well. The committee discussed what else we need. The one missing area is sprints although JD is working with CA on hopefully taking that role.

8. Finance

DB stated that there was c£6k in the main account; c£12k in the secondary account. Regarding the third account, DB asked RW to sign a document for the same.

DB added that he had issues with HSBC over the card reader. They have said no but with no rationale. He will look for something different and revert.

Finally, DB had received a request for a refund from the EA but he thought it was a scam. He will check with someone else at EA to check to see if its real.

ACTION: DB to speak to the EA.

9. Kit

VS explained about getting a gazebo and produced a screenshot to the committee. They all agreed it looked good (RW explained that DH didn't agree!). JD said that, as long as we can sell the old gazebo, he thinks this is a good idea. RW suggested we get the gazebo put up so we can get some photos.

ACTION: JD to speak to Andy and Steve about erecting gazebo for photos.

There was also a discussion about the purchase of a camping table for competitions (to assist TMs) and polo shirts for officials of the club.

ACTION: VS to research costs of tables and get sizes from officials for their polos.

RW mentioned the lack of storage and JD said he'd look into it. RW explained that he held a lot of stuff and needs to get it to the club.

10. Social Events

DH not present so no update.

ACTION: DH to chase Derby Conference Centre new prices for the Presentation Night.

11.A.O.B

Sarah-Jane

JD confirmed that SJW had resigned her role as both a committee member and as the membership secretary. JD and the committee wanted to record on record their thanks for her hard work over the past few years.

Membership secretary

RPW said that he and VS had strongarmed Claire Brackenbury into the membership sec role. It was suggested she attend the next meeting if she can.

ACTION: RW to speak to CB.

Noticeboard

ST explained that she had done some work on the noticeboard but that (a) the welfare sec is wrong and (b) the records need updating.

ACTION: JF to provide records to ST and JB to see if she can find a document that could be put on the noticeboard for the welfare officer.

Personal bests

ST explained that she had placed the EA's new initiative "Personal Bests" to the noticeboard and that she asked the committee whether we could order the certificates. This was agreed but it was said certificates could only be awarded on competition bests; not training.

ACTION: ST to order some certificates.

Officials

JF just wanted to flag up that there are only 2 level 2 officials for Mini League and, as such, there is a risk some events may not be able to happen.

Athlete assistance

JD explained that a former athlete had been in touch about offering sessions to our athletes. She has done a degree in sports science and is now keen to offer help and assistance to our younger athletes. It was agreed that JD speak to the athlete and get more details.

ACTION: JD to update.

Daisy

JD asked if the club would be willing to help out Daisy Kaye with financing a new javelin. She has made the junior Commonwealth list. The committee agreed to help. More details to follow.

Date of Next Meeting:

Monday 5th June 2023 at 19:30pm