

HELP Executive Committee Meeting – 17 December 2007

Present: Paddy McDonald, Henry Muchamore, Julie Oswald, Sandy Wallace, Brian Carr, Frank McPartland, Joe Forte, Eddie Balfour.

Apologies: George Armstrong.

1) Reviewed minute-taking at meetings. Minute book to be kept. Julie to type up and circulate minutes.

2) Paddy reviewed action points from AGM:

a) Club Treasurer - Alan Proudfoot has indicated that he would like to step down if someone else would volunteer for the position. Frank agreed to take on the role of treasurer.

b) Auditing of Accounts - Frank agreed to approach his accountant re getting the Club accounts audited. The Committee agreed a fee limit of £250. Frank to report back to the Committee.

c) Club Subscriptions by Direct Debit - The Committee agreed that the membership secretary (Brian) should make enquiries at the bank re setting up direct debit facilities for the payment of member subscriptions.

d) Social events - Suggestions are invited from individual members. Ideas so far include: a ceilidh (Ian Murphy), a training weekend (Frank McPartland) and a hillwalking weekend (Brian Carr).

e) The London Marathon - One Club entry is available. Two Club members (Maggie Shea, Richard Bent) have expressed an interest. To be decided by tossing a coin at the Club Christmas dinner on 19 December.

f) World Cross Country Championships - The Club has been asked to provide 12 volunteers for the World Cross Country Championships on 30 March 2008 in Edinburgh. Names so far: Peter Probin, Eddie Balfour, Paddy McDonald, Brian Carr, George Armstrong, Frank McPartland.

g) Amendment to Constitution - The final paragraph now reads; "Upon dissolution of the Club, any funds remaining after all debts have been met will be donated to the furtherance of athletics in the community".

h) Team East Lothian - Discussion re poor turnout of seniors from the three East Lothian clubs. Juniors' turnout also discussed. Agreed to review at the end of the season.

3) Club Publicity - Henry commented on the lack of coverage of Club events in the local newspapers. Henry volunteered to take on the role of publicity officer for the Club. This was welcomed by the Committee.

4) Junior News - Henry is planning to offer a “Run, Jump, Throw” training session for helpers. This is likely to take place at Meadowmill Sports Centre and will be run under the auspices of the ELADG in order to secure funding.

5) HELP Cross Country Championship - Brian clarified the events which constitute the Club Cross Country Championship. These are: the Borders events (7 out of 12 races), the 3 East District Leagues and the National Cross Country. The Committee agreed to carry on as before for this year.

6) The East Lothian Cross Country Championship - This will be held at Meadowmill on 10 February 2008.

7) East District Cross Country Relay October 2008 - Henry informed the Committee that he had been asked if the Club could host this event. The Committee agreed in principle.

8) Coaches/Helpers - Henry is looking to recruit volunteers and asked that his request be publicised on the Club website.

9) Henry will be organising a social event on 9 August 2008 to celebrate his 70th birthday.

10) Julie asked for more information about cross country races to be available to Club members to encourage participation. Brian and Paddy to follow this up.

11) Club Membership - Brian has put Club membership forms on the Club website. Paddy asked that these be amended to include Scottish Athletic Membership numbers. Joe will still accept members' subscription fees at his shop. Brian will send a list of current members to Sandy so that he can update his records.

12) East Lothian Coastal Run - Eddie reported that he had started to map out possible routes. More research and consideration of logistics is required, as well as discussions with Club members. Sandy suggested that the run could take place in 2008 on a small scale.

13) Vests for Overseas Runs - Raised by Frank McPartland. Joe to find out what would be available for an “international” Club vest.

14) Club Road Race Dates for 2008:

5 mile race – 31 May

Half Marathon – 9 August

15) Edinburgh Marathon 25 May 2008 - Paddy and Brian have agreed to be sector marshals. The Club needs to give advance notice to recruit volunteers.

16) The Club Christmas Dinner will take place at 8.30pm at the Tyneside Tavern on 19 December.

Date of Next Meeting – 28 January 2008 at the Aubigny Centre, Haddington.