



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
SWANLEY AND DISTRICT ATHLETIC CLUB
HELD AT THE OLYMPIC, SWANLEY ON THURSDAY 25 MARCH 2015**

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Mike Baron opened the meeting at 7.30pm with 32 members present. He informed members that there would be a buffet after the meeting and the new process for choosing the Club Person of the Year. There had been a dip in membership last year which has led to the Grand Prix and Kent Fitness League suffering. The Dartford track has been closed since November so Monday training has been held at the Rowhill Triangle. The track reopens Monday 16 March. Summer training will start back at Swanley Park on the 8th April.

Panthers' training has been very successful this year and has produced some excellent young athletes. Numbers have been good at the Kent Fitness League and Sportshall events. The Vets League also produced excellent results.

The Kent Fitness League race held in Swanley Park in November was once again well attended with just under 500 finishers.

The Club are planning a recruitment drive for next year to encourage new members. We need a press officer to build links with local newspapers, to raise the club's profile. Whiteoak Tri are looking into a possible link up with Swanley AC.

One of the club's members, Lorraine Barry, ran her 100th marathon in February this year. She is a great ambassador for the club and a presentation is planned for her later in the year.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Roger Morgan, Katarina Summers, Sarah McCall, Adam McCall, Jane Goddard, Paul Roberts, Mick Boddy, Caroline Burley, Kevin Ladley, Siobhan Iving, and Malcolm Parsons. David Coates sent his apologies.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2014 AGM

The Minutes of the previous AGM held in March 2014 were agreed as a correct record.

Approved by: Bob Tidmarsh

Seconded by: Christina Arnold

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 2014 AGM

Donations were made to the Millfield Trust who let us use their field for parking at the Darent Valley 10k, and to Ellenor Hospice.

Membership cards are now being circulated as a matter of course and members receive their card on payment of their annual subscription.

Kit – thanks were given to Christina Arnold for her valuable work in finding a new supplier for the club's kit which is now coming from a company in Orpington. We have new vests which have a racer back and are more comfortable to run in and easier to keep clean, as well as hoodies.



Wednesday coaching – the club hires the hall at White Oak Leisure Centre from 6.15pm. The Leisure Centre might ask us to book the hall at the earlier time of 6pm as their booking system runs on a half hourly schedule. Training from the Leisure Centre is a bit limited for Seniors but suits the Panthers much better. Parents can sit and wait for their children and some training for Seniors is also held in the hall, ie: circuit training, bleep test. Jackie Boddy spoke about the man with the Alsatian who is abusive and threatening to runners in Swanley Park. He has been reported to the Council and has been spoken to by the Community Officer. The model aircraft that had troubled runners in the park are no longer a problem for runners. With the closure of the senior school in Hextable, Swanley AC might not be able to use their running track during the summer.

Some of the older juniors now run with the seniors on Wednesday evenings. They wear Hi-Viz vests and are told to run together.

Approved by: Sam Goulter

Seconded by: Jackie Boddy

HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mike Baron made a short speech and reported that it had been a quiet, trouble free year. The report was presented and accepted.

Approved by: Annette White

Seconded by: Sam Goulter

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

In Roger Morgan's absence, the latest financial statement was circulated. Thanks were given to Ken Grist for auditing the 2014 accounts. The Club had £20,379.01 in its bank accounts as at 31 December 2014. Profit for the year to 31 December 2014 was £478.82. The Darent Valley 10k made a profit of £1,596.69 in 2014 which was a lot lower than in 2013. This was possibly due to the fact that the Brighton Marathon was run on the same day and that the 2013 race was a Kent Championship race. The Darent Valley 10k costs about £3,500 to put on. Other income came from the VLM/BUPA/CL of £805.80 and the Cross Country Races of £587.29. It was pointed out that we need to keep a cushion of money in the bank as working capital, in the event that the club has to move to new premises. A new pavilion is being built in the bottom car park. We will have to move out of our clubhouse. We might need some money to make changes to suit our needs.

At this point, Christina Arnold presented a cheque for £100 to Anna Willard and Mel Alflatt (Panthers' coaches). The cheque, from DHL, was donated as part of their Match It! Scheme which gives money for hours volunteered. She wondered if other companies offer money under this or a similar scheme.

Thanks were given to Roger Morgan who has done a great job for 4 years and has now decided to step down.

Approved by: Christina Arnold

Seconded by: Paul Foreman

ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The Annual Statement of Accounts for the year 2014 were approved.

Approved by: Claire Bowler

Seconded by: Peter Godbee

ELECTION OF AUDITOR

It was resolved that Ken Grist is happy to continue in the role of Honorary Auditor.

Approved by: Bob Carter

Seconded by: Clare Brown

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

It was resolved that the following members be elected as the Club Executive Committee for the ensuing year: **Chairman** Mike Baron, **Vice Chairman** Mel Alflatt, **Secretary** Julie Taylor, **Treasurer** Michelle de-Kisshazy, **Women's Member** Sam Goulter, **Member** Helena Orrom, **Member** Annette White.

Julie Taylor has not been a member of the Club for a year. The club rules state that members sitting on the Executive Committee must be members for over one year. This was considered and it was agreed to allow Julie to take on the role.

Other Officers were elected: **Assistant Secretary**, Andy Dunmall, **Assistant Treasurer** remains vacant.

The following Technical Officers were elected: **Child Welfare** Richard Hills and Sam Goulter, **Senior Coach/Coordinator** Anna Willard, **Club Development Officer** Christina Arnold, **Woman's Officer** Clare Brown, **Coaches** - Mike Baron, Anna Willard, Melanie Alflatt, Christina Arnold, Clare Brown, Malcolm Parsons, Sarah McCall, Annette White, Amanda Eaton, Jane Goddard.

The following members with an area of responsibility were elected: **Press Officer** Claire Bowler, **Road Race Directors** Mike Baron and Paul Sims, **Race Administrators** Michelle de-Kisshazy (Ian Pullen approved subject to further discussion with him regarding the role), **Handicap Organiser** Mike Baron, **IT Officers Paul Foreman and Chris Barber** [Martin-Siobhan's husband has been helping with website], **Road Race/GP Organiser** Peter Watts, **Membership Secretary** Zena Harper, **Cross Country Organiser** Andy Dunmall, Bob Tidmarsh and Matthew Woolston, **Junior Group Coaches**, Anna Willard, Mel Alflatt **Newsletter Editors** Andrew Howe and Victoria Ingamells, **Social Secretaries** Jackie Boddy and Mel Alflatt, **Walking Group Leader** Paul Sims, **Council Liaison Officer** Paul Sims, **Kit & Equipment** Christina Arnold.

It was pointed out that Paul Sims is no longer a member of Swanley and District AC but it was agreed that this was of no relevance to him keeping his roles.

Approved by: Claire Bowler

Seconded by: Helena Orrom

JUNIOR COACHING REPORT AND JUNIOR PRESENTATIONS

There are 41 active Panthers with 11 on the waiting list. No advertising is done to promote the Panthers and new members come through word of mouth. The coaching ratio is 1:12 so numbers have to be limited.

Sarah, Amanda and Annette passed their coaching assistant courses and they join Malcolm, Mel and Anna on the coaching team.

Sportshall – Vanessa Elver broke the under 17 girls' record for the Kent Indoor Shot Put. Jamie Pullen and Ben Howe have also done well in their respective events. Lots of PBs were broken. In the White Oak Sportshall, the Panthers broke 15 PBs between them. These athletes were Amy Willard, Ben Howe, Jamie Pullen, Annabel Arnold, Emma Hillier, George Arnold and Jack Canon.

The Cross Country season was well supported and coaches were reduced to tears at Canterbury due to the efforts of some of the children. Ben Howe and Amelia Cockran came third in their age categories and will receive a trophy this weekend. The Panthers are described as the Yellow Army by other clubs.

The Handicap course was changed as the previous one around the lake was a bit dangerous. Joshua Griffiths and Megan Heath were the winners; Zack Connor and Amy Jefkins were runners up.

Track and Field – we fielded a composite team with Dartford Harriers at the recent Kent Young Athletes League. The children got the chance to experience competing in athletic stadiums. Second season starts in April.

Four of the 15 and 16 year old Panthers now run regularly with the seniors and seem to enjoy the harder schedule.

There are plans to buy some new equipment including higher hurdles and Sportshall Relay equipment.

The children compete in the bleep test at training and their competitiveness really comes out.

The coaches would love to have some outdoor equipment but it is not possible where our clubhouse is based. They will be working more with Dartford Harriers in the summer season and taking advantage of their facilities. Some of the children are a bit lively so coaches continue to search out new material to keep them interested. The coaches have witness a real growth in maturity and ability in some of the Panthers which has been a joy to observe and it keeps the coaches motivated.

Awards were presented to:

Coaches Award

Junior Male George Arnold
Junior Female Vanessa Elver

Approved by: Peter Godbee

Most Improved

Junior Male Zack Connor
Junior Female Amy Willard

Seconded by: Bob Carter

VETS LEAGUE REPORT

Clare Brown and Anna Willard spoke about the Vets League and Swanley AC's first season in the League. It had been a very successful season with the women being promoted to the first division for the 2015 season but, more than that, it brought out some fine performances from our athletes. Members received throwing and jumping coaching pre-season and distances and times improved throughout the season. There was great camaraderie between members and everyone was very supportive of everyone else.

Mention was given to Caroline Burley's friend, Brian, who gave great support to everyone, including minding the kit bags. Awards for best Male and Female athletes were presented to Mike Tucker and Helena Orrom.

Approved by: June Williams

Seconded by: Annette White

GRAND PRIX REPORT AND PRESENTATION

The Grand Prix report was presented by Peter Watts. None of the women in the club had completed the full seven races to qualify them for a prize. The Grand Prix shield was presented to Peter Watts, the overall winner in seven events. The other winners were 2nd Paul Roberts, 3rd Peter Godbee.

The next Grand Prix event is the Paddock Wood Half Marathon and the full list of the year's qualifying events is on the club's website. A trophy for the most improved runner was presented to Jackie Boddy.

Approved by: Bob Carter

Seconded by: Helena Orrom

HANDICAP REPORT AND PRESENTATION

The new course around the park is popular and had up to 30 runners on a couple of occasions. The new paths around the park make running slightly easier. There was no rain to speak of.

Trophies were presented to:

	WOMEN
1 st	Helena Orrom
2 nd	Clare Brown
3 rd	Kay Zhang

	MEN
	Andy Dunmall
	Matthew Woolston
	Paul Roberts

Approved by: Jackie Boddy

Seconded by: Sam Goulter

CROSS COUNTRY REPORT

The Cross Country report was presented by Andy Dunmall. The season will be remembered for mud and filth! The Panthers competed and their races were staggered into two age groups. Knole Park KFL had nineteen runners (best attendance of the season). The poorest attendance was at Nurstead where six members ran. Jane Blackmore has run thirteen full seasons without missing a race.

Approved by: June Williams

Seconded by: Clare Brown



SENIOR COACHING REPORT

Coaching is to continue at White Oak Leisure Centre in the winter and Swanley Park in the summer. The Dartford track opens next week.

Wednesdays are well attended and there is always the option to stay in the Leisure Centre hall when the weather is bad and for circuit training and beep tests.

Andy Dunmall helped with coaching this last year when Mike Baron broke his ankle. Thanks were paid to Andy.

Approved by: Annette White

Seconded by: Helena Orrom

CLUB PERSON OF THE YEAR PRESENTATION

The Committee used a different format this year. Each Committee member nominated up to six people who they felt deserved the accolade for the year and these were put forward to club members for their votes.

The six nominees were: Bob Carter, Michelle de-Kisshazy, Andy Dunmall, Helena Orrom, Bob Tidmarsh and Anna Willard.

Third place went to Bob Tidmarsh, second place to Bob Carter and first place to Andy Dunmall. The Shield for the Club Person of the Year was presented to Andy by Mike Baron.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

White Oak Tri – they want to collaborate with SDAC. Their athletes will receive running coaching and, in return, SDAC members can benefit from some free taster sessions. WOT would donate £100 for the coaching and if members wanted they could formally join and compete for us at Kent Fitness League events etc.

Raising Profile of Club – put up poster at White Oak Leisure Centre to attract new members and to put posters in the Park Café.

Darent Valley 10k – now has a Facebook page. There is a plan to leaflet raid cars at the Paddock Wood Half Marathon.

London Marathon and BUPA 10k Baggage Lorries – if anyone is interested in helping at either of these events, to let Mike Baron or Simon Hasset know. The BUPA 10k needs 20 helpers.

Christmas Caper and Relays - try to increase number of runners. They are events very much enjoyed by all participants.

Fun Days in the Park – there are some Fun Days coming up soon in Swanley Park at which the club should have a presence. Mel Alfatt has details and will circulate them.

Flour Runs – thanks went to Mick Boddy for organizing the recent flour runs which were well attended. He is happy to arrange other social runs including runs in Shorne Park and other away-runs.

It was agreed that it was nice to have social runs from the clubhouse every 4-6 weeks. The Christmas breakfast run was excellent and it was agreed it would be good to hold this event again.

Quiz Night - Jackie Boddy will think about organizing a quiz night.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm and members were treated to a buffet.

