

## **Minutes for FODAC Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> of September 2014**

Present: Chris H., Chris M., Jacqui, Wendy, Frank, Pete, Sharla, Bev, Ian, David Jenkins, Stef

Apologies: Jools, Jim, Kathy, Graham

### **1. Charitable Status**

David Jenkins joined us for the committee meeting to explain to us how we would be able to convert Forest of Dean Athletic Club into a charity and what benefits this would have for the club. David is a chartered accountant, who recently helped to convert the Monmouth Music Theatre into a charity and he has offered his help and expertise to us.

The Charity Commission would consider this if an organisation is for 'Charitable Purpose'. The organisation must be for 'public benefit' and activities should support 'the promotion of community participation in healthy recreation by providing facilities for playing particular sports.' We need to demonstrate a number of points to the Charity Commission, which may make it necessary to re-write parts of the club's constitution, but David will look into this with our help and we may have to call an AGM to vote for any changes in the constitution.

We will have to appoint trustees, possibly members of the committee and complete annual returns to the Charity Commission.

The benefits include recognition of charitable work, full benefits of the Gift Aid scheme, Forestry Commission reduced rates and improved eligibility for Grants.

We decided to go ahead with the application process and David will start to get the ball rolling.

### **2. Minutes from last Meeting and Matters arising**

We are still trying to find a new supplier for club vests. Stef has been in touch with Raging Bull, who have send a CAD design, but we really need to see sample to check the colour match and check if they can provide technical T-shirts and ladies' fit vests too.

**Action: Stef**

We looked at the samples of Hoodies, fleece and track suit from 3T design. All committee members were very impressed by quality and price. We want to find out if it is possible to do just track suit bottoms or top. We will take photos to make up an order form. **Action Stef**

The Forest Mile went well and the medals for the Juniors have now arrived and will be presented on Saturday **Action Pete**

Yorkley Dash and Carol Jones trophies: Chris has cleared with the organisers of the Silent Valley Race that we will be able to present the trophies to the winners on the day. We will then take trophies to be engraved, to be re-presented at the presentation evening together with memento for the winner.

We need to check that all championship trophies have been ordered **Action: Jim**

Frank is still in the process of checking all CRB/DBS checks for all coaches. **Action Frank**

Frank has checked that there are no implications with UKA if the Club becomes a charity.

Gazebo: Daren Smith has offered to repair the gazebo, but Pete said that although it is a good piece of equipment and it is not suitable as a winter proof shelter and we may need something sturdier, like a Dome Tent for Cross Country events. This may cost approximately £ 300.00. Pete will look into this. **Action Pete**

The calendar on the Junior website should now be updated regularly. Steve Thompson, Nick Wellsted and Graham Copen dealing with this.

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

Since the 15<sup>th</sup> of July we have had an income of £ 1376.81 from membership fees, Quadkid events, Forest Mile event, track fees and kit sales and our expenditure came to £ 669.65. The expenses were made up of England Athletics membership fees, Quadkids prizes, Forest Mile prizes, track charges, a race licence for the Christmas tree race and chocolates for relay team. We are still awaiting some charges from St John's for Forest Mile and some more expenses for Quadkids events.

The current bank balance stands at £ 10449.80.

### **4. Membership Report**

We now have 321 members.

Pete says all participants of the Lydney Satellite Group should become members. He stated that 6 club members attend that group but others should be joining. Frank has not yet received membership forms and fees from new members of that group.

One member has paid her membership fee in cash, but unfortunately her form and cash have gone missing. We have to accept that she has paid. She did not pay the competing member's fee for England Athletics, but the membership fee for herself and her daughter only.

Frank mentioned that he has seen photos of Juniors on facebook and he was not sure if we were allowed to have people posting photos of our juniors from competitions which

may include children from other clubs. Pete said it should be ok, as the children are not named or tagged, however we should not allow that people tag parents in photos of the children. Pete will put message on facebook to explain this to anyone posting junior photos. **Action Pete**

During Quadkids events we get parents to sign a registration form if they would like to take photos of their children during the event. It was decided that we will get wristbands for parents who have permission to take photos during these events. Jacqui will look into getting wrist bands. **Action Jacqui**

The membership affiliation fee for next year will go up to £ 12.00 per person and the club will have to pay £ 100.00 for the affiliation to England Athletics. We may have to send an advance warning to current members prior to the beginning of April, when the membership fees are due. **Action Frank**

## **5. Coaching report**

Pete requested that he could take three/four coaches to a coaching conference, which the committee agreed to.

He also mentioned that Andrew Compton will be attending another coaching course and it was agreed that Wendy would raise a cheque for the cost of this course. **Action Pete, Wendy**

Pete reported that the Juniors performed very well at Avon League with the U 11 team coming in first place and some very good performances by the other junior teams. The Senior Men's team won the Avon League too and we decided that we should ensure that reports of these wins will go to the paper.

## **6. Any Other Business**

Stef suggested that we need to be well prepared to host the X – Country County Championships on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January 2015. Pete has confirmed the booking of the field and parking and the use of showers at the Leisure Centre. We will have to get working parties organised in December to clear the course and make it safe to be used. We decided that we could have a cake sale on the day and perhaps organise a burger van. We will discuss this in more detail at the next committee meeting.

Kate Dennant is currently looking into holding a Junior presentation night and we will confirm details as soon as possible.

Sharla mentioned that the Senior presentation night is booked for the 29<sup>th</sup> of November at the New Inn in Viney Hill with a buffet at £ 5.00 per head. She also confirmed that Vanessa Pegler is arranging a Christmas social night on Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> of December at

Whitemead. Anyone who would like to book this should pay £ 10.00 per person deposit to Vanessa.

Stef had been approached by parents' of junior athletes about the possibility to purchase a High Jump Mat cover to avoid having to carry the mat from the storage hut and back every time it is used. We should try and find out if we would be able to get some funding maybe from Sport England. It was mentioned that we need to ensure that we can install the throwing cage too, as it is quite dangerous not to have a cage when athletes are practicing hammer or discus throwing.

Pete mentioned that there is a course available which gives information on how to apply for grants and funding and he will look up details of this course. We will then see if anyone will be available to go on the course. **Action Pete**

Three members, Fiona Crawley, Helen Kearsey and Pete have expressed an interest in taken part in an officials course and Pete will book course for them. **Action Pete**

Previously it was agreed that we would spend up to £ 1000.00 on new Sportshall Kit. Pete said that he will be spending some of this allocated money in the near future.

Wendy has a booking form from Laker's School for the Blue Gym. It should be booked for Saturday mornings from 9.00am – 10.30am from now until the Easter Holidays.

**Action Wendy**

Chris M. had an offer from Jim and Louise Insall to do a training session on the use of foam rollers. Chris should confirm the date and we will use the last 15 minutes of the sports hall booking on a Tuesday night. The Juniors can finish their session with some track work that evening. **Action Chris M.**

Chris M suggested that we could arrange for a track event next spring to include 800m, 2400m, 100m races. Another idea would be to have a Track and Field Club Championship to also include some throwing events and maybe long jump. We will discuss this in more detail at later meeting.

Chris M. will change the link addresses on the website so that committee members private emails addresses are not showing anymore. They should now read headcoach@fodac.... chairman@ etc. **Action Chris M.**

The Meeting ended at 9.55pm.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 21st of October 2014 at The Fountain Inn.

