



Kingston upon Hull Athletic Club

Annual General Meeting

Date – Thursday 13th February 2025

Time- 7pm

Location - Clubhouse

1- Welcome by chairperson

Brian Long welcomed everyone, thanked the room for the good turnout and explained the context of the AGM.

2- Apologies

Apologies received from Leroy McKenzie

3- Confirmation of minutes

Brian recapped the AGM minutes from the previous meeting and themes that arose. These were approved as an accurate record.

4- Chairperson's report

Brian has produced summary notes to sit alongside the minutes and his presentation (see attached). He urged us to consider how to judge the health of the club considering four indicators: membership numbers, waiting list, coaching capacity and volunteers.

Membership numbers - previous membership peaked at 295 in 2019 but he was really pleased to report we have now reached 300 members. Track and Field (T&F) 156 Road Runners (RR) 144. Main growth is in RR section and Brian congratulated them on this achievement. He commented that the RR fees are quite competitive compared to other local groups. Janette Chivers added that we also have a lot of younger members in the academy who currently don't count in the figures but add to the picture of growth.

Waiting list – We are getting membership enquiries 3-4 times a week. The Junior Academy is doing well and we are adding children from the waiting list every week. The coaching capacity of the Academy is growing.

Coaching capacity – we have about 24 coaches on the T&F side. 15 athletics coaches and 9 assistant coaches. We need to enhance our capacity by recruiting more coaches and supporting our assistant coaches to go on to the next stage and then to backfill the vacancies they leave. We have some support

from Athletics England to provide more training. Brian thanked the coaching team for their dedication in coming rain or shine to train the athletes and acknowledged the challenges that they face. Particular reference was made to increase in coaching capacity in the Academy enabling the club to bring on younger members.

Volunteers – This remains a challenge. Brian mentioned that we had new committee members Lee and Abi Gabel on the welfare team and the addition of the Club Chaplain role. It is also good to see clubhouse team growing in numbers. He was keen to mention the need for more volunteers and that this would help bring fresh ideas, vibrancy, and support existing members.

Brian shared that 2025 will be his final season as Chair and he will be standing down at the next AGM. This will need some forward planning as to how to fill the vacancy of Chair next year.

Current needs include coaches, communication and website management, secretary, treasurer. Thanks to Julie for her long service as club secretary and to Elliott as he moves further afield for his role as treasurer. We need a communication secretary and website manager and support with time keeping as well as forward planning for a new Chair. The importance of spreading the load was reiterated and Brian offered to speak with anyone interested in putting themselves forward.

Final thoughts – this is a wonderful club and has been built on the backs of its volunteers, it needs cherishing. Thanks to all who are supporting the club. We remain vulnerable to the loss of experienced volunteers. Looking ahead to 2025 this will be a quieter year due to the track refurbishment which starts in March and should take about 6 weeks, we have a new track to look forward to. We will lose our Spring Open but will still have our September Open. The possibility of a social event over the summer was raised. Brian will endeavour to put the club in the best place to thrive in the future. Dave Smith thanked Brian for his hard work.

5- Treasurer's report

Elliot took us through the club accounts (see attached). He mentioned that membership income has dropped as a result of reduced fees but this was less than projected and has supported an increase in membership as intended. The South Cave 10K was a hugely successful event and has brought in very significant revenue – thanks to the whole team led by Andy Dickerson for their hard work with this.

The transfer to higher interest bank accounts has also brought in extra revenue. Donations are down a little. The clubhouse also brings in significant income and Elliot gave thanks to the clubhouse team for their work.

Some investment in coaches is available in the form of an EA grant to fund coach training and there are plans in place for this later this year.

Fixed assets – we have purchased a new container to alleviate storage issues.

We hold good kit and refreshment stock and steps are in place to look at refreshing kit.

Funds for the club currently sitting at £120,000 which is very healthy and good to have reserves for the unpredictable future.

David Bennet mentioned that we aren't promoting the 'Easy Fundraising' scheme. Dave apologised that this has slipped a bit. Brian explained how this works and how to sign up for this and reiterated that with 300 families this could be a significant income stream of 'free money' if we could promote this better. It would be good to have someone to take this one. Janette mentioned that this is publicised on the new website. Again Dave reiterated that a volunteer to help coordinate and promote this would be really helpful.

6- Election of committee members

Brian explained the committee structure of the club

Current Main Committee – Chair - Brian Long– chair, Treasurer – Elliot Marling, Dave Smith, Abi and Lee Gabel as welfare team, Membership Secretary Karen Lonsdale and Coach Coordinator – Leory McKenzie.

Re-election of Chair -Brian nominated by Dean, seconded by Abi.

Treasurer – Elliott is standing down. Dave proposed by Di, seconded by Lee. Di proposed a vote of thanks for Elliott.

Membership secretary – Karen Lonsdale proposed Dave, Seconded nby Malcom
Coach coordinator – Leroy – Brain nominated and seconded by Dave,

Lead Welfare officer – Dave Smith stood down as lead welfare officer, he also mentioned would be good to have a welfare officer from the RR team. Abi Gabel – nominated as lead welfare officer by Dave and seconded by Dean, Lee Gabel - nominated by Dave and seconded by Dean.

Secretary – floor opened for offers to fill this position but there were no volunteers at this point. Dave explained a little about the role of secretary and what this involves. Lona Moore pointed out that may of the people in the room are already volunteering and we may wish to consider the wider pool of people not current present. Brian raised that the lack of a secretary may become an issue with England Athletics.

Anita Pace asked for clarification about the role and what this involves. Anita kindly offered to give this some thought.

Thanks go to Julie who has been club Secretary for many years.

Road Running Committee team: Andy Dickerson, David, Rivers, Paul Clarke, Lisa Webb, Tom Aitchison, Lara Aitchison, Steve Sole, Claire Bear-Smith, Cheryl Sayer. Nominated Elliott Markling and seconded by Gregan Clarkson.

7- Subscriptions for 2025

Decision taken last year to reduce fees and Brian proposed to keep the fees the same for 2025. Senior £15, U13-U20 £15, U11 £10 Associate £5, 2nd claim £15. Proposed Dave and seconded by Dean.

8- Annual review of constitution

Brian made some suggestions for amendments.

RR subcommittee – maximum size of committee to be increased from 8 to 10.

Brian suggested that the quorate number be reduced to 4 for main committee meetings. Proposed Dean seconded Janette.

Dave – proposing people registered with EA portal under the clubs name e.g. coaches should be considered associate members and have voting right without paying associate membership fees. Agreed.

9- AOB

No items submitted to the Chair before the meeting

Malcom Brooks – represents Humber AA – last year they really struggled for level 2 field officials - currently has Dave Smith, Di Smith, Darren Gibson and Steve Wymark. 8 Members attended recent level one training which is positive.

Proposed once members reach level 2 field official -they are awarded a bag with items e.g spike, weather writer, waterproof pen and a horn . Malcolm pointed out that the club lose points if we do not have the right number of officials. Dave mentioned that this has been funded by the club previously. Dave was keen to encourage the level ones to bring them on and to be involved more in the level 2 role. Dave thanked Malcom for raising this important issue. Gregan suggested that these packs would be useful for the level 1 officials.

Rebekah Koyuncu mentioned the challenges for parent helpers in being able to volunteer and also have the opportunity to see their own children compete at events. Should the expectation for parents joining the club to contribute to the club so that there are sufficient numbers so that all volunteers can watch and support their own children? Janette has been raising this with new parents to the academy. Ben Thompson mentioned that he wasn't sure what the volunteering commitment would be and what this would involve and asked if this could be better publicised. A conversation was had around the fact this would be an expectation but not a mandatory requirement. It was suggested that using social media to communicate this and better explain what is involved. Malcolm Brooks

mentioned sending out a proforma early in the season to parents to ask about what parent helper availability is covering the various meetings that we have as a club. Brian agreed that communication is something we still need to work on. Anita Pace asked about a club newsletter and this could go out via email – to communicate better with parents, promote team events etc. Brian agreed to follow this up.

Brian thanked everyone and the meeting was closed.