**SOLIHULL AND SMALL HEATH ATHLETIC CLUB**

**Minutes of the 43rd Annual General Meeting held at Tudor Grange Leisure Centre, Solihull, on Thursday 21st March 2024, commencing at 8pm**

The Chairman, Robert Pinton, welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were 14 members present; their names are listed in the AGM Attendance Register.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Rachael Easton, Steve Hawley

1. **MINUTES OF THE 42nd AGM HELD ON THURSDAY 16th MARCH 2023**

The minutes of the 42nd Annual General Meeting held on 16th March 2023, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken ‘as read’. The Minutes were duly adopted as an accurate record of the proceedings – carried unanimously. They were signed by the Chairman, Robert Pinton. There were no matters arising.

1. **CHAIRMAN’S ANNUAL REPORT**

A copy of the written report prepared by the Chairman, Robert Pinton, and read to the members present is included as Appendix 1.

It was carried unanimously that the Chairman’s Report be adopted as presented.

1. **TREASURER’S REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

The Honorary Treasurer, Robert Davies, presented a summary of the Club’s accounts for the year ending 31st January 2024.

Accounts are prepared on a monthly basis for the committee to review to ensure that the financial position is understood and that decisions on expenditure are made knowing that they are affordable.

The accounts have been independently reviewed by David Paulin and provide an accurate summary of income and expenditure.

The cash balances at the end of the year, 31/01/2024, were £481.30.04 in the current account and £12,908.24 in the deposit account, giving a total cash balance of £13,389.54. The income and expenditure account showed a small loss of £153.82 for the year.

Robert pointed out that the Club does not exist to make profits. He referred to the proposed increase in membership fees for 2024-25 which should cover increases in track hire costs and affiliation fees.

There is currently a large stock of kit so more should be sold and less purchased in the coming year. The Club also has plans to purchase more competition equipment, e.g. throwing implements, as required.

The Presentation Evening represented a large expense, with an overall cost to the club of £1,253.80, but this was felt to be a very worthwhile use of Club funds.

The Treasurer’s Report and Statement of Accounts were unanimously accepted.

1. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The following Officers and Team Managers were elected for 2024/2025, all of whom are entitled to attend Committee Meetings. Proposers and seconders are shown for newly elected members/positions. The remainder of the committee had indicated their willingness to continue in their existing roles. All votes were carried unanimously.

**PRESIDENT** Lynne Moody

**PRESIDENT ELECT** Annette Brown

**CHAIR** Emma McLeod proposed by Robert Pinton

seconded by Lynne Moody

**DEPUTY CHAIR** Robert Pinton proposed by Annette Brown

seconded by Steve Webb

**TREASURERS** Robert Davies

Karen Baker proposed by Robert Davies

seconded by Malcolm Payne

**HONORARY SECRETARY** Steve Webb

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY** Emma McLeod

**MINUTES SECRETARY** Rachael Easton

**COACH & ATHLETE CO-ORDINATOR** Lynne Moody

**FACILITIES CO-ORDINATOR** Annette Brown

**PROMOTIONS SECRETARY** Annette Brown

**OFFICIALS SECRETARY** Annette Brown

**FIXTURES SECRETARY** Robert Pinton

**WEBSITE MANAGER** Steve Howes

**SOCIAL SECRETARY** Rachael Easton

**SCHOOLS LIAISON OFFICER** Richard McIlwraith

**WELFARE OFFICERS** Robert Davies, Lynne Moody, Rebecca Freeman

**WEBCOLLECT OPERATORS** Robert Davies, Karen Baker, Robert Pinton, Steve Webb, Emma McLeod

**ADDITIONAL MEMBERS** Malcolm Payne

**TEAM MANAGERS**

**CROSS COUNTRY & ROAD RELAYS**

**Senior Men** Steve Howes

**Senior Women** Rebecca Freeman

**Young Athletes**  Stuart Albutt & Robert Pinton

**TRACK & FIELD**

**Midland League** Robert Pinton, Becky Freeman & Mike Bracken

**YDL U13/U15** Lynne Moody

**YDL U17/U20** Sharon Jacks

**H of E (female)** Sue Taylor

**H of E (male)** Sue Taylor

**Sports Hall** Lynne Moody

Sue Taylor proposed by Lynne Moody seconded by Annette Brown

1. **ELECTION OF HONORARY LIFE VICE PRESIDENTS**

This honour is bestowed upon a Club member who has either given an extraordinary amount to the Club over a long period of time or has accomplished a particularly high standing in the sport.

Kate Smith (née Whiston) has been a member of this club for 21 years. Her main events are discus and hammer but since 2009 she has been happy to do all four throws to score as many points as possible for the team. She has very rarely missed league meetings.

An additional benefit she provides at competitions is bringing an experienced official with her. Thank you Dad!

We are so grateful to Kate for her contribution to Solihull & Small Heath AC for all these years. We are sorry that the Club has not been able to provide Kate with the consistent level of coaching that she deserves but this has not stopped her remaining with us. Throws coaching is an area that we have often found difficult to fill but we do now have a coach for most of these disciplines.  Maybe in the future Kate might consider coaching?

A big thank you to Kate for all she has done and long may it continue. She fully deserves to receive this honour. She is an example for others to follow.

1. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Malcolm Payne proposed a vote of thanks to Robert Pinton for his service as Club Chairman since 2016. Rob has been a committee member since 1995 and will remain on the committee. This proposal was carried unanimously.

The Chairman thanked the members for their attendance and declared the meeting to be over at 20:40 hours.

**Signed by Chairman……………………………………………………………………….**

**Date………………………**

**APPENDIX 1 Chairman’s Report**

I’m delighted to report on another successful year for our Club in all areas where we compete. Before I go into details of that, on a sober note, in December there was the tragic death of Rachel Pym, the mother of Jess & a lady who had been assisting me with coaching for nearly a year. A lovely lady who is greatly missed by all who knew her and we can’t imagine what her family have been & are still going through.

Starting with the T & F season last summer, in the YDL UAG Midland Regional division we had a very successful campaign. We won 2 of the 3 meetings & were 2nd in the 3rd match to win the division resoundingly, being 4 league points & 166 match points clear of the second placed club. This qualified us for the promotion match which proved difficult with many of our regular athletes on holiday. Nevertheless it was a close competition, missing out on promotion by only 32 match points. This year we should have an even stronger team so the Premier division will be our target.

Our performance in the YDL LAG was even better. We won our regional division by winning all 3 matches. We gained promotion to the Midland Premier league by finishing 2nd in the qualifying match just 25 points behind the winner, City of Stoke. We can look forward to very strong competition this year in the Midland Premier division.

The HOE league is for age groups ranging from under 11s to U17s, but the U11s are not included in the overall league standings. I can’t remember ever not being in division 1 & this consistency continues with another great season. We finished 3rd out of 7 clubs in the first 2 matches & then achieved an incredible 2nd place in the final match to be 3rd overall.

In the Midland league we were in Regional division 4SE which should have had 7 clubs but Harborough & Corby withdrew from the league leaving the division with 5 clubs. This made it more difficult to find venues for hosting & also reduced the depth of competition. We finished 2nd to Banbury who won the division mainly by filling almost all of the places.

The structure has been changed for this year & we are in division 3SW with 7 other clubs, the furthest away being in Hereford which is the venue for the final match on 7th Sept.

The Warwickshire T&F Champs at Nuneaton proved a very successful event for our athletes who gained 23 awards (15 in 2022) which were 11 Gold, 8 Silver & 4 Bronze. Our County Champions were:-

U13 Girls - Ada Masson 200m.

U15 Boys - Luca Deakin HJ & LJ, Lucas Evans Shot & Discus.

U15 Girls - Lola Barker 3000m, Grace Evans Discus.

U17 Girls - Harriet Moss HJ.

U20 Men - Luke Reid LJ

Sen Women - Ellen Crockett LJ & Maddy Whapples 100m.

In June at the Midland T&F Senior Champs Maddy Whapples won Gold at 200m clocking 24.75 secs & Bronze for the 100m in 12.37 secs. The age group Champs were in August where we had 4 Midland Champions. The medal winners were:-

U15 Boys

Luca Deakin 1st in HJ 1.69m & 1st LJ 5.90m & 2nd 80H 11.74 secs

Tom Fitzgerald 1st TJ 11.00m

Kayden King 2nd LJ 5.88m

Nathan Villers 3rd 300m 38.39 secs

U17 Men

Amaan Ahmed 1st TJ 12.05m 3rd LJ 6.17m

U15 Girls

Lola Barker 3rd 3000m 11.32.54

U13 Girls

Freya Mustin 3rd 600m 1.53.11

Four of our athletes were selected to represent West Midlands at the English Schools T&F Champs at the Alexander Stadium. Luca Deakin was our best performer taking Bronze in the junior boys LJ with 6.03m. In the U17s Harvey Nelson was 5th in his heat at 200m clocking 23.05secs, Daisy Burton cleared 1.62m in the Inter Girls HJ in 12th place & Nathan Villers was 7th in his heat of the junior boys 300m in 38.28secs. Unfortunately the latter 2 have since moved to Birchfield Harriers.

Last summer Lily Saxon set a new Club record for the junior women’s 800m of 2.07.35 at a BMC meeting in Watford. In January Chris Mcleod broke our Club record for senior Men’s 3k clocking 8.02.92 competing for Tulsa university in the States. But this wasn’t good enough & the following month he reduced it to 7.58.80. He wasn’t finished yet. This time in the 5000m he set an excellent record of 13.49.99. Just think; prior to Sept 1955 that would have been a World record!

We’ve had an excellent campaign in the Birmingham Sportshall League winning all 5 matches & finished 1st in all but one of the age groups. Many of our athletes were selected to represent Birmingham in the Regional competition & some will be competing for West Midlands in the National final.

Turning to this season’s cross country. In the B’ham League the men had a superb season finishing 3rd overall to gain promotion to division 1 for the first time since 2008/9. We were only 13 points behind 2nd & had a cushion of 263 points in front of 4th place. Well done guys. Individually, Ben Holmes was joint first senior man, Rob Michaelson-Yeates was 5th but more importantly was 1st Master & Jenson Williams was the 2nd junior.

In the West Midland Young Athletes league we were 7th out of 22 clubs. The under 13 girls finished 3rd to gain the Bronze awards with the main points scorers being Freya Mustin, Emmie Spencer & Layla Callow. The first 6 individuals in each age group received an award & for Solihull they were Henry Bedford 5th for U11B & Lola Barker 6th in the U15G.

The Warwickshire Champs was the opportunity for more awards. Our U13 girls Emmie Spencer 3rd, Freya Mustin 4th & Layla Callow 5th were the County champions taking the Gold Team awards. Our U13 boys Will Irvine, Oliver Burtenshaw & Derin Cooper took the Team Bronze awards. Jenson Williams received the Silver medal in the junior men & Bronze medals were won by Dan Wort U17M, Lola Barker U15G, Emmie Spencer U13G, & Henry Bedford U11B.

Solihull came away from the Midland Cross Country Champs with the Silver awards for the Junior Men’s Team lead by Jenson Williams in 6th place plus Ewan Naisbitt 14th, Will Jameson 20th & Tomas Maidment 26th. Other outstanding individual performances were U17 Men Peter Mitchell 16th, U17 Women Amira Hamilton 11th, & U13 girls Emmie Spencer 13th.

The English National XC Champs due in Feb were cancelled because of waterlogged car parks. They may be rearranged in late summer.

The British Athletics Inter Counties was held at Wollaton Park Notts & 12 of our athletes were selected to compete for Warwickshire in the various age groups. 8 athletes can be selected for each age group (9 for seniors) & the first 4 to finish score for the county. Our scoring athletes were:-

Emmie Spencer, Freya Mustin, William Irvine, Amira Hamilton, Zakariya Rush, Liz Wood & Lola Barker as per my separate report. Others who competed:-

Layla Callow, Will Jameson, Ewan Naisbitt, Derin Cooper & Dan Wort.

Pontefract Racecourse was the venue for the English Schools XC Champs. We had 6 athletes selected to compete for the West Midlands. Each country can enter 8 athletes & the first 6 athletes to finish score.

Jun Boys John Mitchell 301 (7th)

Jun Girls Emmie Spencer 167 (4th)

Int Boys Peter Mitchel 158 (5th)

Int Girls Lola Barker 177 (4th)

Sen Boys Will Jameson 170 (4th)

Ewan Naisbitt 266 (7th).

In the Independent Schools National XC final at Worksop College Freya Mustin won the Bronze medal in the year 7 girls race.

On the next day, the English Schools National Champs for years 5-7 took place at Prestwold Hall, Loughborough. In year 5 girls out of 250 runners, Alex Healy was 26th & Ruby Philps 39th. For year 7 boys Zak Rush had an excellent run to finish 9th. Year 7 girls Layla Callow was 28th & Freya Mustin 32nd who suffered in the latter stages from 2 major races in a weekend.

A superb year of athletics from our members. No doubt there are some performances I have missed but this shows the wide range that we have & can be very proud of. My heartfelt thanks goes to all our volunteers without whose enthusiasm & commitment much of this would not happen. Here’s to many more years of success for the members of Solihull & Small Heath AC.

Rob Pinton 21st March 2024