

Carmarthen and District Harriers Committee meeting – Ivy Bush Hotel – Carmarthen Monday April 27th 2015

Present: Hedydd Davies, Nathan Jones, Joan Goldsmith, Edward Morgan, Carol Jones

Apologies: Jane Batten, Rhian Glynn, Steve Glynn

The minutes from the meeting on Monday 23rd March were accepted as a true record, once the correction of Fred Bell was done.

Matters arising from the minutes:

Annual Dinner 2015 – Provisional November 6th. Fred Bell has accepted the invitation to be our guest speaker this year. Many middle distance runners will be present on the evening. Full dinner details will follow in the coming months. Bursary Awards will be involved again this year, with a list being made.

Social Events – the tenpin bowling event will hopefully take place once again this year, after its success over the past 2 years. A camping trip has been organized to France over the summer – Rhian Glynn as organizer will have all dates of these and other details..

The stand is now completed, paid and available for use. It was first used in the Dyfed Secondary Schools Relays. It will become important for the events being held at the track over the next few months.

Volunteers are always needed at any club, to help with officiating, refreshments and administration work. Please speak to the committee members for information. A number of posters created by Helen Williams now can be read inside the portacabin, the refreshment shed and the leisure centre.

The club continue to think of Delyth Brown and hope that she will make a recovery.

Since the Cabins have been worked on, they have been in good shape. All equipment is now kept in the back room of the announcer's cabin.

The website keeps going from strength to strength, with the number of hits and visitors growing from all clubs. Any information or content that you would like to put up, please contact Nathan.

The memberships are coming in, up to about 160 at the end of April but with still some not paid up. Coaches will be checking at a regular basis.

The first track event of the year was held at Carmarthen on 16th April – the Dyfed Secondary Schools Relays & 800m Races. Despite less schools in 2015 with 9, there were more athletes and teams involved (over 300) the support from Carmarthen Harriers members and parents on the evening was very good.

The Annual Dyfed v West Glamorgan Primary Schools end of cross country season match was a success for Dyfed. Out of the 24 selected, 22 returned the reply slips and attended on the Thursday evening at Swansea University. Dyfed won all the medals available, the 2 two team wins along with the top 3 individuals in the boys and girls. The cross country season was a big success for Carmarthen in general with higher numbers competing.

The club tent is still available for all events – Edward Morgan will continue looking into getting a club flag for the competitions. The West Wales new flag has been well used so far.

Since Jess Huddleston's departure to a new job in Cardiff, applications have been open for the Dyfed Club Network Officer. They are now closed.

Financial Report –

The account balance on 27th April is £42, 172. The payment for the stand has been done along with £1800 for the use of the track this summer. A big income had come in from the refreshments sold in the Dyfed Primary Schools Cross Country Champs in the Showground where we received superb support from parents and schools.

Chairman's Report –

Cross Country and Road events have now been completed. Report on the recent cross country fixtures in 2014/15 have been mentioned on previous minutes and on the website, especially the Gwent League and the Welsh Road Relays. All medals for the Relays have now arrived.

A number of people have been very positive about the new club vests that were first available at the start of the year. All members can purchase one trackside £15/£18. Everyone must wear a vest to compete in the competitions.

There has been no new news yet on the age group changes. These changes could effect a big amount on a number of club and school competitions.

Hedydd has not heard from Neville and the Australian athletes for their tour visit at the start of June.

The SIAB Schools International went well. Joan and Carol were part of the management team and Ben Thomas did excellent to finish 2nd Welsh.

The West Wales Track and Field Championships will be held in Neath on Sunday 24th May (closing date a week before) it is hoped that members will attend this along with the Welsh Championships.

London Marathon / Mini Marathon 2015 – Carmarthen Harriers were delighted to see 4 athletes involved in the Marathons on 26th April. As has been mentioned in the last couple of weeks on our website, Iwan Glynn was 45th in the U13 (4th scorer) and Ashraf Liles U17 was 45th (2nd scorer) in the Mini Marathons while Neil Thomas (3.43.57) and Sian Bradshaw completed the 26.2 course in 3 hrs 43.54.

Congratulations to them all. The standard was once again high with the U15 boys winning their age group.

Further results can be found on the Carmarthen Harriers Website and many thanks to Rhian Glynn and Alison Thomas for the weekend's images.

A mechanical failure caused the team coach to break down on arrival at Holloway College. Our thanks to Ffoshelig Coaches for making sure that it did not spoil plans and to the kindness of the North East and West Midlands teams to ensure that alternate arrangements were made and the athletes could arrive at the venue in time.

Preparation of Track Events –

Next events: Wednesday 29th April – Carmarthenshire Primary Schools Athletics Championships at 5pm Carmarthen Track. Extra volunteers would be greatly appreciated.

Jane Batten will be present on the evening to promote the club and try to get new athletes. Posters and membership forms will be available to collect in the announcer's cabin and the refreshment areas.

First Carmarthen Open Throws Competition U13+ - 6pm Thursday 30th April
Javelin, Shot and Discus.

The composite West Wales U17/20 athletics team has had a good start in the Upper Age Group Premier Midland Division league. At the first event in Yate they finished 4th in a high standard competition. After promotion last year, West Wales are now up against other Welsh clubs in Cardiff AAC and Swansea H.

A small team was at the first Welsh Athletics Senior League in Cardiff. 30 athletes were invited but 12 turned up. On the day those athletes that were present performed well. Hopefully these numbers will rise as the season progresses.

Louise Arthur U11/13/15 League 2015.

First match is a home match in Carmarthen on Sunday 10th May. We will need help with the shot judging, refreshments portacabins and with photo-finish. We will need to have a full team out for this fixture. Hopefully there will be better weather this year after the abandonments of the last 2 fixtures held here. Team Managers are – Cressy Morgan, Gill Edwards, Edward Morgan, Nathan Jones.

Coaching Report -

A coaching meeting took place recently with Jake and Jane producing a structure for the coaching. Parents are always welcome to help out in training sessions. Carol now has assistance and will need the prospective new coaches to attend the L1 Coaching Course .

A draft pathway for younger athletes has been drawn up. This proposal sets out three stages that enables young athletes from the age of 9 through arrival at the club and an introduction to all events to more advanced training groups.

No decision was made on the proposal to give tee shirts to athletes competing this year in the Louise Arthur League

Date of next meeting:

Monday June 8th 2015 – 7.30pm at the Ivy Bush Hotel.

www.carmarthenharriers.co.uk