



## **East Essex Triathlon Club**

### **Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2023**

#### **In attendance:-**

Paul Gribbon, Sue Fuller, Matthew Dodd, Ben Brooks, Jenny Harley, Ian George, Zena Shean, Gemma Kemp, Jack Martin and Chris Muers.

#### **Apologies received from:-**

Toby Knight, Liz Payne, Jo Phelps, Mike Shean and Laura Mason.

#### **Matters arising from the last Committee Meeting**

Ian to look to arrange a date to clear the sheds out in December 2023/January 2024.

#### **End of Season Awards**

Given the lack of interest for the event at the Rayleigh Club, Laura has been looking at booking Rayleigh Cricket Club for the 8th December, 2023 instead with a view to getting a caterer in to arrange the food. The cost will be around £10 per person.

Everyone on the committee agreed with this suggestion and were also happy for the Club to pay for the decorations on the night. Once finalised then a note will be put out to Members.

#### **2024 East Essex Events**

All the three Club events have now been booked and confirmed with the venues and registered with British Triathlon. Ian to open the events on EntryCentral once they have all been fully tested.

For anyone taking part who is not a Member of British Triathlon then they will be directed to the British Triathlon Website to purchase a Race Pass at the point of entry through EntryCentral. We all agreed that the Race Pass has added a further administrative cost and burden on participants but there was little we could do as this had already been introduced by British Triathlon. Ian to look at other events on EntryCentral as we probably need to mention the Race Pass somewhere on the event entry notes.

It was also agreed that we should organise some more flyers to help advertise the events. IG to organise this with Mike Grout.

### **Adult League 2024**

Sue has very kindly put together a provisional list of races that will count towards the adult league in 2024. We all agreed that all the Cross Countries should form part of the league along with the Good Friday Crown to Crown and the Southend 10k but take out the Parkruns. We also felt that we should try and include more open water swims either at Westcliff but also at Trifarm or possibly Hadleigh. The Southend Wheelers bike TT's at Christmas and Easter would also be included along with one or two more during the summer. Hogg Hill would also be a league event. Ian to book Hogg Hill for 2024. Sue will release a preliminary list of events out to Members which will be finalised once other events has published their dates. For the sprint races we would include Walden, the Bridge, Grays and possibly Southend and Blackwater. For the standard distance the idea would be to include Box End, St Neot's and one or two others with an even spread of dates throughout the summer.

### **London Marathon Place(s)**

Ian advised the committee that the London Marathon had again updated how they allocate Club marathon places. Clubs with fewer than 10 first-claim members no longer qualify for an entry in the London Marathon. Clubs with between 10-39 affiliated members (currently 456 clubs) will be placed in a ballot that will allocate 228 entries, meaning that at least half the clubs will be allocated one entry each. As a Club I think we fall in to the second category although we need to check the number of affiliated members. Ian to investigate this to find out the exact number of affiliated members we have. Places will be allocated to all eligible clubs so we no longer need to apply, and we will be informed by e-mail at the end of November with the ballot result.

### **Financial Update**

Paul briefly commented that the Club's financiers were on track, and we expected to finish the year with around £1,500 in the bank.

### **Chas Baynes Lifetime Achievement Award**

All members of the committee unanimously agreed who should receive the Chas Baynes Lifetime Achievement Award this year and this will be presented on Friday the 8th December, 2023 at the End of Season Awards.

### **Keith Muggleton Recognition**

The committee all agreed that Keith should be refunded for the use of the Club bike box as he had hired the bike box to compete for GB. Going forward anyone Club member who wants to hire one of the bike boxes to race for GB can have it's use free of charge. In the past the Club always used to recognise Club members who raced for GB buy buying a piece of club kit, however going forward we felt that free use of the bike boxes would be a good alternative.

## **Triathlete of the Year**

Ian asked if all committee members could please vote for Triathlete of the Year and encourage as many other members to vote as soon as possible. Given that the date of the awards has changed then Ian will put the date back for closing entries until the end of November, 2023.

## **Any other business**

- It was agreed that the AGM will be held on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 at Rayleigh Cricket Club. Zena kindly offered to book the venue and once confirmed Ian will get the date and other details out to Members along with a copy of the minutes from the 2023 AGM.
- The committee also discussed the cost of Membership for 2024. We agreed to increase the cost of all memberships by £5 so the adult renewal will increase from £25 to £30 and the adult new from £30 to £35.
- Jack has also been looking into a club race for 2024 and has suggested the Belvoir Castle Triathlon on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 as this event offers various distances and kids races which will mean everyone from the Club can get involved. The idea would be that all distances would count to the club league so sprint, standard and our course the half-ironman distance. Jack to revert at the next committee meeting.
- Jenny has also been looking at race merchandise and brought along a cap as an example. We all thought this would be a great idea and liked the logo but after a vote it was decided that the logo should not include the year.
- Chris Muers also offered to book the kids cycling at Dunton for next year.
- Following on from the committee meeting in September and the winter rides, it was felt that we should look to put a schedule/rota together for both the Saturday runs and the Sunday rides so Members (and potential new Members) can see what club training sessions were coming up. Ian offered to volunteer for both, and Matthew Dodd would be happy to help with the Sunday morning rides. Would anyone be able to put something together that Richard can put on to the Club website?
- It was also agreed that we would open access to the club kit for Members who wanted to order new kit in time for Christmas. It was also agreed that we should only offer the kit with East Essex Tri on the front of the kit. Gemma to speak to Champion System.

## **Date of next meeting**

9<sup>th</sup> January, 2024