**Triathlon London**

**(Triathlon England - London Region)**

**Committee meeting Thursday 28th November 2013 at 7pm,**

**at South Bank University Technopark**

**In attendance:** Rohan Byles, Ian King, Tom Chant, Jon Train, Sheila Horsman, Phil Taylor, John Petrides, Alan Spelling, Chris Skinner, Audrey Livingston

**Apologies:** Andrzej Warhaftig, Claudio Casarotti, John Lunt, James Ruskin

**Notes**

* Dave Wardle wins award “TE Volunteer of the Year”
* Meeting structure – non committee welcome, but they need to submit agenda item in advance if they want topic discussed
* JT noted he would put meeting info on site and email to clubs

**2. Review of previous minutes:** Not available. To be reviewed at the next meeting.

**3. Issues rising from AGM:** TC commented on his appointment to TE council in response to email by JL and others.

TC explained timeline from the Triathlon London (TL) AGM to Triathlon England (TE) AGM.

* In relation to the Chair role TC had researched via email to AS and looking at “Roles & Responsibilities” document on the TL web site. The document was referred to in the email.
* London TE Council Representation not discussed at TL AGM of Oct 22nd 2013
* TC explained he had email correspondence with JP on Nov 2nd who agreed TC would represent London at TE Council.
* On 10/11 at TE AGM TC mid meeting AS passed a note to TC saying he could not represent London in council meeting.
* At TE Council meeting TE reps assumed JP could not attend as a rep for London as he was not an elected committee member but had actually failed to inform him of that.
* TC noted a subsequent flurry of emails that followed over the following week.
* Noted that JP was treated appallingly by TE council - they failed to clearly communicate with him. TC apologised if JP felt slighted. JP accepted apology and agreed that the council member representing the region must be elected committee member.
* AS stated that rules were changed 4 years ago council could select any individual to site on council. AS stated that JP was selected to rep in Jul ’12 and as not discussed since was still entitled to position, but conceded that communication had broken down in last committee and TL constitution needs improving to prevent this happening again.
* IK stated that as sitting on council was part of job descriptions when positions were stood for at AGM that this would therefore trump a previous Jul ’12 ruling. IK adds that flurry of emails post council meeting have done nothing to advance triathlon in the region.
* JP is owed apology for his treatment at national level but it is time to move on.
* TC proposes a Constitutional Sub Committee to review constitution with AW, AS and TC to look at the TL Constitution and remove grey areas. The standard Regional Constitution is being supplied to TL from TE.
* AS proposes a vote to agree TC can remain council rep. TC voted in unanimously.

**4. Address from exec committee**  
  
**Phil Taylor Juniors:** reports focus on nine to 15-year olds but focus also on 16 to 19-year-olds in program.  
Going forward plan to increase focus on 16 to 19 year olds with a junior series for 16 to 19-year-olds. A need to keep young in sport and keep momentum going.  
AS queries if 17 to 19-year-olds have a need for such an event and questions the value of putting 17 to 19-year-olds against each other. Based on 2013 expenses Phil states that it would be a cost of around £9.5 thousand to spend on 2014 project.  
2014 project will include IRC event in Nottingham which would be £1800 on coach alone plus accommodation plus meals plus adult supervision costs.  
IK states that £9.5 thousand is affordable.  
TC stated that over 40 Juniors will gain from this project. Funding agreed unanimously.  
  
AS asked about London Youth Games and Human Race clash for juniors. Apparently the event cannot be moved. JT states he has asked London Youth Games if they would consider moving, they are unable to.  
  
 **Alan Spelling Technical report:** A S states that his role is much misunderstood. He has promoted his plans at awards and offered assistance with races. He states that the Willesden race was a struggle he would like to improve it.  
He states there are 24 technical officials. He will help races find officials. He is on the rules subcommittee of BTF  
AS states that he burst into British triathlon Federation meeting and got rules changed rescuing a perilous situation. JT ask if he wants more courses - AS says he wants one LTO course and one RTO course.

**Rohan Byles London League:** 2014 calendar information is being sorted. Existing races targeted plus a few new ones.  
The 2014 league will have a simplified format:  
-mob match.  
-Team event with a small change - no longer five participants including one veteran  +1 female. Instead there will be two competitions - a male competition and a female competition, each requiring three participants to score. There will be no age restriction on scoring. There will still be individual age groups as well.  
Proposal for stickers on race days for leading teams and individuals in 2014 league.  
Confirmation that handover has taken place with Toby Head  
Stated he will request all clubs try to have a London league coordinator. The top three teams from 2013 all had London league representatives on the committee.  
Plans for 2015 also been drawn up including improved roles and spacing out of events. He also talking to non-London league places are finding out how we can help and promotes then.  
IK States the trophy budget will have to rise - point accepted by all.  
JP asks about Hatch End why is there no try. Apparently race capacity is not suitable.  
Hillingdon are not prepared to let Triathlon be in 2014 series but maybe their duathlon in March.  
There is a clash for 2014 between Dragonslayer and Kingfisher, committee agrees to drop Dragon slayer from calendar.  
IK suggests spending money to improve the quality of races.  
Alan Spelling asks what is in place for quality control for example Hillingdon has no racking.

**Dave Clyne Para Tri summary:** He has liaised with triathlon England on grass roots progression - this is at a standstill.  
Focus has shifted to performance since recognition of Paralympic status.  
There is a low demand to host specific races for para triathletes. Attempt to encourage clubs to accommodate para tri at their own events.  
Statement from many in committee that it would be good to have clear guidelines how races can accommodate the many facets of para triathlon. Dave Clyne agrees to assist with this.  
Dave Clyne asks if para triathletes can be accommodated in London league, for example can they race with a handicap? How would they score? RB suggests own individual categories but it's agreed that demand is too slim. CS asked if there is an existing handicap system - it is believed there is not.  
Audrey asks if the Leonard Cheshire charity has been contacted DC confirms they have.  
JT states there was once a thumbs-up pack - it is wondered if a modern version can be found.  
JT discusses the potential to reintroduce the coaching extension to help para tri.  
  
**Ian King treasurer's summary:** Ian states there is £55,000 in bank and asked how we can best spend it. For example can we block book Crystal Palace triathlon places?  
TC states that we are talking to clubs about capacity and awareness and need for support.  
Alan Spelling suggests providing £250 per club to spend  
It is suggested by the committee that maybe they can pitch ideas to Ian King and TC that might want funding.  
Sheila Horsman states that a strategic plan must be evolved to help us spend and develop

In absentia TC makes some brief comment from Claudio Casarotti: Claudio is willing and able to approach national and international corporations for sponsorship for London league races and “low hanging fruit” like sponsorship of the Junior wetsuits.

**Audrey Livingstone Coaching:** Audrey has been co-opted to the committee in place of Karl Grainger. KG is still able to assist but not be the focal point. She is still formatting development plans. Asks how coaches can be brought in to help develop. Would like to increase coaching presence on courses and asked how we can retrain coaches to keep skill levels and retention high. States she believes there is a lack of coaches in clubs which is hindering progress.  
  
**Item 6 Honorary Presidents and VP's:** TC asked for views on the appointment of Honorary Presidents for TL. If TL are able to reward long years of service to TL by the award of title of “Hon Presidents” then it provides recognition and a reward but also has the benefit of moving long standing committee members onwards and upwards making executive positions available for newcomers. The idea was accepted in principle.

Clarification was sought on current President tenure. JL has been President for 7 years but position is a three year term. Both items to be reviewed by the TL Constitution Sub Committee to review the situation.

**Item 7 Young Persons Review:** TC states that Mark Barfield has conducted a review which includes many recommendations. A subcommittee made up of James Beckinsale, KG, AL, PT, TC to go through recommendations and feedback to TE.

**Item 8 Communications to all:** Brief discussion over how we can improve and increase communication to local media and collapse. CS states he is happy to share his media industry contacts.  
  
**Item 9 TE funding workshop:** TC reports that this took place at recent AGM and that next year there will be a two day event with even more workshops.

He states that members should talk to John Train who also has information on further funding avenues  
  
**Item 10 Proposed meeting dates schedule 2014:** February 4, April 8, July 1, September 2.   
AGM: 7th October, Annual Awards set for Saturday 1st November subject to venue. Chris Skinner to take a lead on planning  
  
**Item 11 any other business:**

1. Ian King states that strategy needs to be amended to have positions not names.  
2. Dave Clyne asked whether a London rep at tri show in March. Stated that they will not be.  
3. Alan Spelling asked who is running the London Youth Games. JT states that Hannah Troop from London fields will be involved.  
4. Alan Spelling asks how we get the London Duathlon involved. John Train states that conversation is underway.  
5. Alan Spelling agrees to join subcommittee on Constitution suggested also TC, AE. RB suggests committee shows patience with constitutional changes without interfering at every meeting