

TE NW Committee Meeting 13 March 2014, Lancashire Manor Hotel @1900.

Present: Dave Rigby, Pete Edwards, Gavin Biggs, Sue Taylor, Lucy Cowgill, Jane O'Brien, Rolf Cooley, Mike Myers, Andy Rawley, Gill Smith, Shaun Taylor

Apologies: Andy Richardson, Ron Skilling, Sonia Chadwick

The meeting was opened and everyone welcomed by DR who reminded all present of the need to deal with EGM business initially.

Gavin Biggs explained to the meeting that he had explored the possibility of converting the Regional Accounts to electronic banking format. Following an approach to the Nat West, who required the accounts to be converted from Society to Business accounts at the outset, Gavin explained that the Nat West way of electronic banking was completely unfamiliar to him and that to take this step at present would create far more problems than it solved. On the advice of Gavin the Committee voted to defer this move until such time in the future as the move would be advantageous or was forced upon the Region by the Bank. This being the only matter of EGM business the meeting reverted to normal status at this point.

Minutes of Last Meeting: These were paraphrased by DR . It was noted that the last minutes made no mention of the lengthy discussion regarding the future format of the Senior Series and the formation of a sub-committee to propose new ideas to promote the Series. This committee has yet to hold its initial meeting.

Matters Arising: None

Officials Reports:

Chair – DR reported on the last TE Council Meeting. No major issues had arisen other than the withdrawal of financial support to Regional Managers to run coaching courses this year. Discussion followed on how this shortfall might be made up in the future, for instance, the possibility of applying for grants for Sporting Projects

Officials – Sue Taylor had previously submitted and circulated a written report. The only amendment being the cancellation of the LTO course due to be held on 22 March. There followed an explanation and discussion of the proposed expenditure outlined in the report. The committee voted to approve the expenditure in order to improve the quality of events within the region.

Regional Manager – LC reported on the formation of new clubs within the region ie Team Deane, Bolton. There are now a total of 41 true clubs within the region and a further 5 race teams. LC reported that she had attended various meetings with Clubs and outlined a number of new events across the Region, many being organised by Local Authorities. Several Courses on offer, ie First Aid, are still not full – there followed a discussion about the most economic method of supporting these.

There have been a total of 117 responses to the questionnaire circulated to Regional Members seeking views on the Senior and Junior Series. Comments had been received regarding the scoring system, pricing, venues and athletes other commitments. Discussion then followed about how to publicise Series events as early as possible, maybe even in the previous year.

A further lengthy discussion ensued regarding the future format of the Regional Presentation Evening based on the responses received from the questionnaire. Consensus amongst adults was that they would not attend the evening in its current format.

Academy Budget: The sub-committee previously set up to regulate the Academy Budget had held its initial meeting and its report and recommendations previously circulated to the Committee. MM had asked for a sum of funding which had been approved by the sub-committee. This was endorsed by full committee. It was noted by all this sum may not be available in future years though. Discussion followed on how to best publicise the names and achievements of the Academy via the TE NW website. LC raised the issue of supporting Academy resources via sponsorship. As Ron Skilling had previously asked for a more active committee role, DR agreed to approach him to take on the post of Sponsorship Coordinator with assistance from other committee members as appropriate. Mike Myers agreed to retain his committee position as Publicity Officer for the Region rather than Academy Head Coach to avoid any conflict of interest.

Personal Note from Secretary: Following requests from several members I have attached as many of these from this meeting as possible. I will endeavour to do this in future but need to receive these AT LEAST 1 WEEK prior to each meeting. I can then circulate them as a "bundle" giving everyone time to read and digest prior to each meeting. Your cooperation would be appreciated.

Meeting Closed 21.15pm

Next Meeting: 13 May 19.00 Lancashire Manor Hotel.