



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

25th February 2012

The Royal British Legion, Crieff

Present: George Carson, Fiona Downie, Graham Martin, Tony Wayte, Fiona McDonald, Phil Mestecky, Liz Mestecky, Gordon Morrison, Cathy Tilbrook, Phil Tipping, Doug Flint, Judith Tipping, Allan MacInnes, John Logan, Shelagh Wake, Colin Tipping, Seonaid Roberts

Apologies: Alison Manners, Kirsty McKay, Beth Fotheringham, Rachel Gallagher, Andy Gallagher, Kerry Sweeney, Fiona Lyle, Wendy Duigan, Susan Saunders, Edward Elworthy, Jim McConnell, Karen Nicholl, Al Nicholl, Digby Sym, Ann McLeod, Gordon Grant, Nicola Watson, Jim Alexander, Karen Prentice, Rhian Evans, Fran Loots, Grant Carstairs, Elaine Davison, John Davison

1. 2011 Minutes

The minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting were approved by the members.

2. President's Report

George reported:

Membership as at AGM 2010	51 adults
Membership at end 2010	69 adults and 24 juniors
Membership as at AGM 2011	60 adults and 25 juniors
Membership at end 2011	83 adults and 42 juniors
Current membership	77 adults and 35 juniors

- Impressive number and range of events entered by SH members during 2011
- Club organised races very successful due to hard work and dedication of membership
- Training sessions and social events well attended
- Regular review of training sessions to meet the needs of the majority of club members
- Trial of alternating Monday runs between Crieff and Comrie successful and to continue
- London Marathon: priority for club allocated places to go to members with rejection slips from the open entry process.
- Overall, very healthy running club.
- Thanks to Committee for all their hard work.

3. Treasurer's Report

Phil Mestecky highlighted the following points:

Accounts to end 2011: closing balance of £3699.14:

- record profit from Crieff 10km and TFGS sponsorship helped to make a small surplus in 2011

- stock valued at £455
- 2012 likely to prove more difficult financially because of end of TFGE sponsorship. However, we should manage helped by the healthy balance; lower subsidies for team entries and social events and increased race entry prices e.g. Crieff 10 km to rise to £12/14 to offset loss of sponsorship and SWCHR entry to rise by £1 per team member to ensure we are able to contribute a decent amount to our charity
- A smaller loss than expected for the Junior Section of only £8 (he had anticipated a subsidy of around £300); costs largely offset by grants and funding.

Current financial position – closing balance of £4725.95:

- Good number of pre-entries for the marathon (70). Needed around 85-90 entries to breakeven. If it looked like a surplus was possible then we would increase expenditure to improve the race. No costs incurred yet
- Ceilidh: similar loss to 2010 despite higher cost
- Most membership subs now collected
- Badaguish deposit of £760 paid
- £350 to be paid into account

Fiona Downie asked whether consideration had ever been given to obtaining charitable status for the Club which would enable us to apply for gift aid. Phil reported that this had been considered a few years ago and we had been advised that it would not be beneficial but the committee would look into this again.

Shelagh asked whether we should consider increasing membership subs and Phil agreed this may be something to look at for 2013.

Colin asked whether the committee had approached any other potential sponsors. Phil Mestecky reported that he and Gordon had approached several local firms but without success. Gordon reported that he had still to hear back from Highland Spring but he wasn't very hopeful as they were already a significant sponsor of Scottish Athletics.

Shelagh asked whether the lack of sponsorship would mean that we would have to cancel some of our activities but George confirmed that this would not happen. Gordon advised that the impact of losing the sponsorship should not greatly affect us as we would be increasing race entry fees to compensate. He did not think the price increase would greatly affect the entries to our races.

Phil Tipping noted that the major expenditure was the subsidy for the ceilidh and it should be possible to tighten costs there. George reported that we would be considering changing the ceilidh as there was no commitment now to TFG.

Phil M reported that we had all benefitted from the subsidies for the ceilidh and the away weekend in the good years – perhaps there was no need to subsidise these social activities now? Not having the sponsorship would mean we had to be self sufficient and look at everything on its own merits. Phil confirmed to a questioner from the floor that we did not have a social membership category.

4. Captains' Reports

Ladies: Phil Tipping read out Ali Manners' report in her absence. Full report attached. Highlights:

- currently 43 female senior members
- good participation in wide range of events
- great participation in XC finishing 10th out of 31 clubs in East District League
- Ladies team entered National XC Championships
- Introduction of Achievement Awards at 10k, half and full marathon distances: 12 women achieved standards in at least one category

- Club championship: 18 ladies completed at least 1 race with four completing the requisite 5 races
- Full women's teams entered for both SWCHR and Devil's Burdens Relay events
- Aim to continue to promote participation in competitive running for all women; aim to enter full ladies teams for XC, SWCHR and Devil's Burden

Men: Phil Tipping reported as follows: Full report attached.

- 9 men completed Club Championship and increased number of 35 completed at least one race
- Club Championship: decided to drop Glen Lednock race. Forfar half marathon already taken place – some negative feedback. Need to review because of unpredictable weather at that time of year.
- SWCHR: Aim was 3 teams and 2 top 2 finishes and we fielded 4 teams. Men's team were 1st and Women's were 4th. Marginal conditions on day with high winds and heavy rain: he would consider a bad weather course if faced with similar forecast in future. Use of Comrie Croft as wet weather alternative for bbq & prize-giving had worked and would be available in 2012
- Massive improvement in XC turnout – full teams for East District League; only injury prevented full team for National XC.
- Training sessions: attendance on Wednesdays and Saturdays has increased; Monday remains good.
- 5x5 relay had record turnout of 40
- 2 teams entered for the Clydestride relay
- first running of Strathearn Marathon on 10th June 2012. Positive reaction to race from running and local community.
- For 2012 aim to continue to promote championship, relays and XC and encourage people to attend training sessions.

There was a discussion about the timing of the Wednesday club runs and following a suggestion from Allan it was agreed to change this to 6.30 pm after the clocks changed and to alternate between Crieff and Comrie throughout the summer.

Tony wondered whether the 5x5 relay could incorporate a leg for the juniors? Phil advised that last year we had held a junior relay and the annual junior prize-giving in the evening but thought this was a good idea which the committee would consider.

5. Social Secretary's Report

Phil M reported that the 2012 social calendar would remain much the same as last year. George reported that Wendy and Lawrence were willing to organise a climbing session and perhaps a climbing day for the juniors. Phil would give consideration to an away day Sunday run. Phil Tipping would circulate information on his proposal for a 2 day 46 mile run from Dalwhinnie to Fort William.

6. Junior Section Representative's Report

Liz reported as follows: Full report attached.

- At the end of 2011 we had 42 Junior members ranging in age from 9 to 16. This was an increase from 24 in 2010.
- Good turnouts at the xc races with 22 racing at Stirling
- Sunday training sessions are still going strong with between 15 and 20 turning up regularly
- Open day held in August was a big success attracting more than 20 children many of whom subsequently joined the club.

Competition and performance highlights:

- Sol Sweeney finishing 5th in the East District XC at Livingston and getting selected to race for the East District in a national XC race. Unfortunately he was away skiing so couldn't claim his vest.
- U13 Girls finished the 2011/12 season in 4th place in the East District League
- Sending a team to the Junior 800M relays at Grangemouth at U14. It was a very high standard and professionally organised event and our boys acquitted themselves well.

Social activities:

- Everyone enjoyed the Eggstravaganza and the weekend away at Badaguish where the relay race including the Juniors was great fun
- The Junior prize giving evening at Braidhaugh was also a great success. A great chance to acknowledge the achievements of the junior section.
- Most popular of all was the Mince Pie run with a special visit from Father Christmas at his jolliest!

Coaching:

- We now have 6 club members trained up to Assistant Coach or Jog Leader level
- In addition we have 4 regular helpers including Tracey and Sandy who will be going on their Assistant Coaching course in April

Finances:

- In 2011, thanks to grants and a wonderful donation from the Johnstones, the junior section was able to breakeven without subsidy from the rest of the club. Details attached.

Looking ahead:

- Sending a selected team to the National Junior Road Race Champs in Glasgow on March 18th
- Full programme of races on the road, hill races and maybe a return to Grangemouth for the 800M relays
- Looking to improve participation and performance next year in the XC now that we have a benchmark to aim for.

Tony requested that reports on the activities of the Juniors be added to the club blog: perhaps written by the juniors themselves? Liz agreed to consider this.

Cathy asked whether there was any reason for the current minimum age of 9 for membership of the juniors? Phil M explained that for developmental reasons and also the huge range of abilities between a 9 year old and a 15 year old there was no current plan to reduce the age.

7. **Election of Officers and Committee**

The new Committee was elected as follows:

President:	George Carson
Treasurer:	Phil Mestecky
Secretary:	Seonaid Roberts
Social Secretary:	Phil Mestecky
Ladies' Captain:	Kerry Sweeney
Mens' Captain:	Phil Tipping
Media/Communications:	Gordon Morrison

In addition, the following roles are co-oped onto the Committee:

Crieff 10km Organiser:	Liz Mestecky
SWCHR/Strathearn Marathon Organiser:	Phil Tipping
Welfare Officer:	Seonaid Roberts
Junior Section Representative:	Liz Mestecky

On behalf of all members, George expressed his thanks to Ali Manners for her hard work as Ladies' Captain in 2011.

Phil Tipping added that there were plenty of jobs for members who did not wish to be on the committee. In particular to let him know if anyone was willing to help with the organisation of the SWCHR.

8. **Any Other Business**

Cathy asked whether it would be possible for members' PBs to be recorded on the website? Gordon agreed to consider this and suggested publishing a blank table which could be populated by members. Phil Tipping wondered whether we should publish club records on the website. Tony mentioned a website where it was possible to add results. Gordon reported that he had added photographs to our website and welcomed any photos from events in which our members participated.

9. **Close of Meeting**

The meeting closed at 9 pm.