MINUTES OF SWANSEA HARRIERS ATHLETICS CLUB

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**25 January 2024 from 8.00pm at the Club Café,**

**Ashleigh Road**

**Present:** Ian Griffiths, Andrew Jenkins**,** John Griffiths, Tony Clements, David Jones, Rob Beresford, Dawn Holley, Ann Owen, Anthony Quick, Brian Fox, Lynne Brier, Catherine Collins, Owen Davies, Susan Griffiths, Richard Harris, Nigel Jones, Kevin Tobin, Rachel Newton, Julie Hartley-Green, Dave Lewis

**Apologies**: Barrie Owen, Neal Merry, Christine McCoubrey, Rod Davies, Daphne Marler, Rob Buchan, Jenny McAdie, Melissa Thomas, Patrick Hache

It was agreed that Lynne Brier would chair the AGM

# President's Welcome

Lynne Brier introduced the President’s report in Barrie Owen’s absence and wished him well.

Lynne thanked all the volunteers who are so crucial to the running of the club many of whom were present tonight.

# Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting 26 January 2023

The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true record.

# Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

# Swansea Harriers Annual Report 2022.

Tony Clements introduced the report which continues to incorporate each Team Managers report into one document.

Tony pointed out some of the challenges and developments highlighted in his report including the difficulties faced this year with the track being unavailable for much of the season. He highlighted the return of our awards nights after covid and how positive this has been. He referred to the need to continually look at the make up of the Trustees group to ensure it reflects the diverse nature of the club’s membership. He also paid tribute to Sue Griffiths who was stepping down as Club Treasurer.

The lack of a definite Welsh senior league structure in Wales was again highlighted as an ongoing concern.

David Jones queried the benefits the club received from Welsh Athletics given the contribution to the governing body from the membership fees.

It was agreed that a meeting or discussion group should be set up to look at the recruitment of more junior male athletes, as it was noted that performances and attendance of boys at the Lower Age Group YDL matches needed to improve.

# Hon. Treasurer's Report for Financial Year ending 30 September 2023

Sue Griffiths explained that the Financial report had been posted on the website with the other papers and copies available at the AGM.

Sue highlighted the funds in reserves and explained that interest rates were beginning to improve.

The Financial Report was unanimously approved

# Election of Officers and Officials

The proposed Trustees for re-election in 2023 were unanimously approved. The re-elected Trustees are Ian Griffiths and Tony Clements. Sue Griffiths and Dai Dix decided not to stand for re-election and thanks was given to both for their very significant contribution over the years.

The AGM also approved the proposal to keep two places vacant to allow co-optees and, moreover, it was agreed that one of these vacancies should be from amongst our 16-24 year old athletes and that the club looks for further diversity amongst the Trustees to reflect the make up of the club as a whole.

The Trustees that will continue in 2024 without requiring re-election are Barrie Owen, Christine McCoubrey, Lynne Brier, Brian Fox, Dawn Holley, Nigel Jones, Rob Beresford and Caroline Wade.

**President**

Barrie Owen was re-elected as President

# b) Elected Vice President

Christine McCoubrey was confirmed as Senior Vice President

Catherine Collins was elected as Junior Vice President

# c) Chairperson

Lynne Brier was elected as Chairperson

# d) Vice Chairperson

Ian Griffiths was elected as Vice Chairperson

# e) Honorary Secretary

Tony Clements was elected as Honorary Secretary

# f) Honorary Treasurer

With Sue Griffiths standing down, Dawn Holley was elected as

Honorary Treasurer.

Sue was thanked by all AGM members for her excellent work over the past ten years as Treasurer.

# g) Membership Secretary

Chris McCoubrey was elected as Membership Secretary

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# Auditors

Peter Hughes was approved as auditor for the coming year

**Proposed Increases to Membership Fee**

Catherine Collins introduced the proposal explaining that the current fees were unsustainable going forward given the ongoing cost of away fixture travel and accommodation. It was also apparent that even with the proposed increases that the fees remained very competitive with other sports’ membership rates.

David Jones felt the senior rate would discourage senior athletes, though it was pointed out by other attendees that the rate remained competitive. The proposed increase of the junior fee to £45 and the senior fee to £55 was supported and passed by all attendees other than David Jones who opposed the increase.

**Announcements and Coming Events**

The next John Collins Gwent League match was noted as being on 10 February at Margam Park, which is our home fixture.

Dawn Holley highlighted that our Senior Awards night is on 5 April.

Ann Owen explained that the club has a home NAL fixture on the 1 June.

**The meeting closed at 20:59**