

AGM Minutes

Date	14 th October 2017 at 10:30am.
Location	West Wood Gym, Clontarf Road, Clontarf, Dublin 3

Meeting Objective	Club AGM 2017
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Committee members in attendance:

Steven Moody (Chairman)	David O'Shea (Secretary)	Stephen Eustace (Treasurer)	Tom McEnery (Training co-ordinator)
Muiriosa Ryan (Marketing)	Adam Goslin & Richie Dooley (New to Tri)	Megan Smith (Social Secretary & (Membership)	

Club members in attendance:

Aidan Hughes	John Lyons	John Clark	Brian Stanley
Mark Waters	Michael Dillon	Noel Kelly	Morgan McGuire
Barry McIntyre	Paul Mooney	Killian Nolan	Linda Clarke
Hugh Larkin	Shay Phelan	Cathal O'Sullivan	Darragh Kitt
Kevin Beades	Robert Keenan	Simon Montgomery	Anthony Mulholland
Mathilde Faily	Maura Ormiston	Aileen McCarthy	Caroline Curran
Regina Bowe	Eimear McHugh	Margaret Walnutt	Ava Lyons
Lorraine Carrabin	Vanessa Fenton	Roger Rice	Rachel Hayes
John Walnutt	Antje Danneberg	Brianne Mulvihill	John Kearney
Ken O'Brien	Susan Wylie	Claire Gorman	Martina Duignan
Fergal Daly	Patricia Eadie	Aidan Jones	Pablo Perez Rodriguez
Petrina Mulroe			

1. Introduction

The Chairman gave an introduction to the key items to be discussed at the AGM and some important proposals to be presented to the members.

2. New to Tri (Adam Goslin and Richie Dooley) (the "New to Tri Team")

The New to Tri Team provided an overview of the key events held this year to include:

- New to Tri Coffee Meeting;
- New and Experienced Members pub quiz;
- Club Transition Trainings;
- Club Open Water Sessions; and
- Other spontaneous events.

The New to Tri Team also mentioned the excellent co-ordination between finance, membership and New to Tri.

A special thanks was expressed by the New to Tri Team to (i) Anthony Mulholland (transition training), (ii) Tom McEnery and Ewa W. (OWS), Bernard Hanratty and Ian Cassidy (Bike Induction Course) and John Lyons (general). John Lyons was presented with a gift as a token of the New to Tri Team's appreciation.

The New to Tri Team highlighted that there had been an increase in the number of new members and emphasised the importance of keeping new members involved.

3. Training (Tom McEnery) (TMcE)

TMcE noted that the club's training programme was not substantially changed as Ronan and his predecessors had put a fantastic system in place and in moving forward only minor tweaks are required to the programme.

TMcE provided an overview of some of the key training events held this year to include:

- Training Talk from Anthony Walshe,
- WWT in Lanzarote;
- Killarney training weekend; and
- OWS sessions.

TMcE also noted that we had taken on two new swim coaches (Ewa and Paul Donovan) who had seamlessly joined the coaching team.

TMcE noted the success of the transition training and open water swim sessions that were held, along with the number of members involved in TI coaching, which were supported by the club.

TMcE noted that the outcome of training was the excellent performances by the club in NS, along with the improvement among new members and the excellent performances of members in long distance races.

Finally, TMcE expressed his thanks to:

1. Rachel Hayes for her contribution to swimming as swim captain and noted that Rachel Hayes was to remain as swim captain.
2. Bernard Hanratty in his contribution to cycling as cycling captain. TMcE indicated that there was a vacancy in this role and that people should contact the training co-ordinator if interested.
3. Killian Nolan as run captain and welcomed Darragh Kitt as new run captain.

Training for 2017/2018 (in particular based on responses and feedback received in the Club Survey)

It was noted that members had expressed an interest in the following, which was ultimately a decision for the new training co-ordinator and the committee:

- More training talks;
- OWS sessions;
- Earlier and extended swim sessions;
- Promoting UCD sessions; and
- Continue to promote cycling sessions as drop off in numbers and the general benefit in cycling in groups was highlighted.

4. National Series (John Walnutt) (JW)

JW provided a summary of the club's performance in the 2017 National Series. Noted the contribution from the team co-ordinators of Siobhan Forman and Richard Doyle, as supported by JW as captain. JW noted that the key goals in commencing the 2017 were to:

- encourage greater NS participation in the club;
- provide NS strategy at the start of the year to include two away events;
- continue to provide pre-race profile and booklet; and
- encourage both individual and club achievement.

JW provided an overview of the selected NS races, explained how the NS points are calculated, how our club and individual members performed and summarised some of the individual achievements whether it was in age group category, club championships, CAT1 and CAT 2.

JW noted the importance of all members taking part in the NS, how every point counts and how it can be used as part of one's training plan for an IronMan or long distance event.

National Series Co-Ordinators for 2017/2018

It was noted that the 2018 NS co-ordinators are to be Siobhan Forman, Ivan Eustace and John Walnutt.

5. Marketing (Muiriosa Ryan) (MR)

MR explained how the club and DCT websites switched to mobile versions in February 2017. MR noted that one of the key goals at the outset of the year was to increase Facebook activity, which has seen an increase level of activity over the year. MR also pointed out how an Instagram account was set up after being suggested by one of our members (Alex), which has also seen an increased level of activity.

MR also discussed the WhatsApp groups and general whatsapp etiquette. It was explained that the club's two official WhatsApp groups were (1) the Piranha Announcement group and (2) the New-to-Tri group which are the only groups monitored by the club. It was noted that only club committee members or club captains should post anything on the Piranha Announcement group. It was noted that all other WhatsApp groups are member led and are not official club groups. It was up to the individual members to monitor these.

Marketing for 2017/2018

MR noted that she intends to add a list of the Whatsapp groups to the website and how people can be added to them.

MR noted that, as an outcome from the club survey, over the next month or two the club intends to audit the two official WhatsApp groups and remove any non-members. It is also planned to carry out an audit of the club website and MR will reach out to members, should any volunteers be required, to assist in carrying out this task.

6. Membership (Megan Smith) (MS)

MS provided a summary of the club membership, highlighting the number of members at present (279 on TI list vs 297 of PTC list) and gave a break-down of numbers and when membership activity was particularly busy over the year (noticeable spike in January and additional minor spike in June with DCT gaining popularity). MS noted the level of engagement involved with the membership role, with particular busy email activity (one email query per day).

MS then explained the current membership payment systems in place:

1. Once off payments through TI / direct debit, with a cost of €250 per year (the "**Single Payment**");
2. Monthly standing order of €23 per month = annual cost of €276 (the "**Standing Order**").

MS provided a break-down of how members are currently paying the membership fee:

1. Joined through TI but never paid Piranha = 5% = 15 members;
2. **Single Payment:** TI / Direct Deposit/ EFT = 52% (55%) = 154 members;
3. **Standing Order (SO)** = 42% (45%) = 125 members;
4. 18% (23 members) defaulted at least once during the year, some more frequently. It was noted that this presents a risk to the club as during the defaulting period, it is questionable whether the non-paying member is covered by club insurance;
5. Some members switched payment methods during the year from SO to Direct Deposit/ EFT; and
6. Membership runs January – December, but reconciliation issue of members joining mid year/ random months pay full fees which then runs over, which is difficult to keep track of.

MS noted that the main issue to date is keeping track of those paying via SO, the difficulties encountered to date in managing the system and liaising with those who possibly have missed payment.

Proposal

MS noted that the committee had proposed that all new joiners from 2018 onwards will only have the TI single payment option, i.e. once off payment at start of year (option for ½ year payment of €125 for joiners after June)

MS noted that for pre- January 2018 members the committee was proposing that such existing members would progressively move to payments through the TI website only, i.e. the Single Payment.

Benefits of the Single Payment System:

- ✓ Allows for greater financial control and planning by committee.
- ✓ Cheaper for individuals. It was noted that having raised this question with other clubs, the majority of the other clubs (Pulse, Belpark and Fingal) were using the Single Payment system.
- ✓ Simplifies admin for club and individual – fixes reconciliation issue;
- ✓ In line with payment options with other clubs ie greater integration with TI

Disadvantages of the Single Payment System:

- ❖ Initial transition phase for existing individuals from SO to once off payment
- ❖ Upfront cost for individuals.

The following points were raised by members:

- All members should be required to pay the Single Payment, in the interest of fairness;
- The annual payment (€250) or half-year payment from June onwards (€125) is great value for members when compared to other clubs;
- Whether people could pay at a pro-rata basis on the TI website? It was noted that this is currently not available;
- Whether we would lose out on revenue from members who are currently paying by SO? It was noted that revenue should hopefully increase by changing to the Single Payment model due to ironing out of transitory payment fluctuations;
- Whether we should have a grace period from October to December and encourage people to pay up before December? It was noted that the committee would consider this before implementing the new system.
- Whether the club would also consider individual requests to continue to pay by SO, should they fall on hard times. It was agreed that the committee would consider should cases on a case-by-case basis, should these be brought to the attention of the committee.

It was noted that members should continue to pay by SO until further notice, where members are paying by SO.

MOTION:

In order to simplify the club's membership payment system, from January 2018, all members (to include both existing and new members) should only be allowed pay the club membership fee in a single payment (€250) on the Triathlon Ireland website when renewing their Triathlon Ireland licence and that the standing order option would no longer be available. Should any new members join from June onwards the membership fee will be €125 for the remaining part of the year.

The committee would have discretionary powers to decide in exceptional circumstances where the committee receives a request from a member to pay on a monthly basis, due to circumstances of financial distress.

The members unanimously voted in favour of the new payment system.

It was noted that it was the intention of the club to have people move over from Standing Order to Single Payment system by January. The committee are to advertise the change in membership payment on the forum in due course.

7. Treasurer's Report (Stephen Eustace) (SE)

SE presented the treasurer's report and gave an overview of the income and expenditure by the club for the 2016/2017 financial year (year ending 30 September 2017) and the financial plans for the financial year of 2017/2018.

It was noted that the information contained within the treasurer's report was confidential.

8. Gear (David O'Shea) (DOS)

DOS provided an overview of the club gear situation. He noted the contribution of Aidan Hughes who was extremely helpful to date along with Megan Smith who was also on the gear committee.

DOS outlined the suppliers in situ:

1. **Cycle/Tri Gear:** following some early teething issues (design, selection of supplier, fittings) we now had established a relationship with Velo Revolution as supplier of cycle and summer tri suit gear.
2. **Run Gear:** noted that we also had a run gear supplier (Ronhill) in place and had successfully received our first order.
3. **Casual Gear:** noted that we were looking at identifying a casual gear supplier and hope to have a chosen supplier in the next few weeks.

Gear for 2017/2018

In terms of next orders, it was noted that the next winter gear order would be sent in over the next few weeks to have an ETA of early December. It was noted that the spring/summer order would be placed sometime in February 2018 so that we would have this for the early season races.

DOS mentioned that the key aim was to have more people in club gear both pre and post races, which was identified as an issue in the club survey. DOS noted that the gear committee was trying to ensure that members had quality products at a reasonable price.

The following points were raised by members:

- that the price of gear may be a barrier to entry and many new members would not purchase such gear and that this should be considered by the committee;
- that other clubs are far more visible on club cycles; and
- a lot of people are purchasing gear which is subsidised by the club and are not helping out with any club events to include or main event, DCT. It was noted that ideally one should only be entitled to subsidies if they volunteer and that the club needs to emphasise importance of volunteering at such events.

MOTION:

In order to make the club gear more affordable, the club should increase the level of subsidy on winter gear from approximately 15% to in excess of 20%.

The members unanimously voted in favour of the increase in the level of subsidy to winter gear to make it more affordable.

9. Club Survey (David O'Shea) (DOS)

DOS provided an overview of the club survey and some of the key observations. It was noted that we need more input from members and possible proposals for training and other events should they wish to organize same.

10. Social (Megan Smith) (MS)

MS gave an overview of some of the social events that took place over the 2016/2017 season which included:

- Season Kick-off party at Foleys;
- NS Races away in Westport and Cobh;
- The impromptu social events after Barcelona 70.3, Dublin 70.3, Lisbon 70.3 and Lost Sheep;
- Piranha DCT and the upcoming memorial run on 25 November;
- End of season party at Café en Seine; and
- The ad-hoc craic after Two Provinces and Pulse Port Beach races.

MS announced the following events for members to look forward to:

- **TI Awards:** it was noted that this was to be held in the Gibson on 18 November. It was noted that, as was done over the last few years, the club have agreed to pay for the tickets for (i) club committee members, (ii) club champ winners and (iii) AG group winners and (iv) special category winners.
- **Club Awards:** it was noted that the club awards were to be held on the evening following the memorial run on 25 November at the Westbury Hotel. The tickets were to be subsidised by the club.

11. Club committee nominations

The following positions were confirmed at the meeting:

Committee role	Nominee(s)
Chairman	Steven Moody
Treasurer	Stephen Eustace
Club Secretary	David O'Shea
Marketing	Muiriosa Ryan
Membership	Megan Smith
New to Tri	Roisin Pakenham & Claire Gorman
Social & Gear	Adam Goslin & Richie Dooley
Training Coordinator	Killian Nolan

12. AOB

It was noted that Nick Walsh had to step down as Chairman in June. At the time, Vodafone Ireland had agreed to enter a new sponsorship agreement with DCT/Piranha and there was a concern that by entering such a sponsorship agreement there may have been a conflict of interest, given that Anne O'Leary is the CEO of Vodafone Ireland and Nick was the Chairman of Piranha at the time. It was explained that per their strict corporate governance rules, Vodafone cannot enter into a contract (whether it is a sponsorship agreement or otherwise) where there is deemed to be a conflict of interest.

It was noted that due to the possible Pope's arrival, DCT may now have to be organised for another weekend, which is to be confirmed shortly.