

HRH Kick-Off Meeting Agenda for the 2014 Board Members

Wednesday March 12, 2014, 7pm @ Becca's House.

Members Present: Becca Mazzolla, Chris Franklin, Ed Leydon, Valerie Mathews, Celia Arthur

Meeting called to order at 7:48pm.

1. Update from Treasury

- The Financial report-out from the Annual Meeting in February had an understated balance, as there were annual dues checks that hadn't been picked up from the mailbox and cashed
- Ed has filed to renew the club's 501(c)3 status with the IRS
- The club's membership with the Road Runners Club of America has been renewed
- The club's membership with the USATF has been renewed
- A key to the mailbox has been passed to Becca Mazzolla
- A reminder that if HRH is to put on a race, we need to inform RRCA ahead of time

2. Merger issue

- The Board discussed some of the ideas that were brought to our attention by voting members who were in favor of the merger:
 - i. We should grow the membership
 - ii. Do more to encourage elite runners
 - iii. Consider speaking engagements with coaches
 - iv. Consider possibilities for encouraging slower runners
- The Board agrees to take action on points i and iv, and table the other items for future meetings

3. Review/Update our By-laws

- Our by-laws do not answer the question of "What defines a family membership"? How many people in the family have the right to vote?
- The Board has determined that we should not propose a by-law change, but we should revise our application form to indicate that every family member who will participate in club activities needs to submit their own application form, and each would then have the right to one vote.
- **Action: Ed to bring in a proposal to change the membership application form at our next meeting**
- If, in the future, the Board determines that any By-Law changes need to be made, we will hold the vote until the next Annual meeting rather than call a special meeting mid-year
- It was proposed that the Board members bring blank application forms with us to our scheduled runs for any new runners to use

4. Things to consider: Conflict of Interest Policy, Code of Conduct Policy

- The question of whether we needed to implement either of these policies was discussed
- There may be conflict of interest with runners asking for sponsorship for personal charities
- **Action: All Board members review the Road Runners Club of America website and read their Conflict of Interest Policy.** If any changes for HRH are proposed, they will be voted on at a member meeting
- HRH has a policy on giving a Charity \$25 if a member requests it for a race done for a charitable cause (but the club does not pay for the race entry fee)

5. Recruitment

- The Board agreed that we should continue to explore ways to increase membership
- **Action: create a flyer that we can place in gyms or other public spaces – Becca will draft a flyer, and distribute it for review among the board for approval**
- **Action: Valerie to look into advertising our guest runner days in the Democrat Also maybe the Readington News (<http://www.town-media.com/>),**
- We should use social media to promote our web page to other organizations
- Hand out business cards to interested parties

6. Additional calendar items

- RVRR has reached out to HRH to plan a social event.
- **Action: Celia to pursue a joint run with RVRR either on their turf or ours, or at the old Haybale race course**
- Track workouts have been taking place at North Hunterdon but haven't been publicized on the HRH website
- **Action: Becca to pursue availability of local high school tracks, including where other club members are already meeting informally**
- **Action: Valerie to send a note to Steve Brookman to get Mike Redlich's name on the website as routemaster**
- Rotate the location of Sunday runs around the county during the course of each month
- The Board agreed to consider additional organized training runs, such as seasonal weekday runs
 - i. Action: Becca to get her morning running group publicized for runners to join them.

7. New Member Welcome Methods

- We need to formalize a way to introduce and welcome new and potential members.
 - i. Board members to make a point to find out if any new members are running and make sure they don't run alone
 - ii. Anytime we get a new application via email, Valerie will send a welcome email to the new member

- ii.1. Formalize a standard email to send that includes pertinent information for any new member (ie, race resulting, sending a pic to Steve for the website, running warehouse and other discounts, forum access, etc.)
- iii. Be cognizant that Board members may start receiving solicitations via email. Be judicious in passing these along to the Club.

8. Newsletter

- The Board discussed the fact that some other running clubs have monthly or quarterly newsletters
- This would be a good way to stay in contact with new members
- To address the idea of members not wanting to get additional emails, this newsletter could be posted to the website as a PDF document
- Becca will follow up on this item

9. Social Events

- Can we add more social events?
- We would like to get volunteers to support the R2C this year
- Let's see if there is club interest to enter races as a team
- **Action: Celia to pursue the running/rafting idea presented by one of the club members recently**

10. Other items

- Board Meetings - Make minutes from meetings available to all members on the website
- Place order for HRH Clothing. **Action: Valerie & Ed to go to Sneakers Plus together**