**Perth Strathtay Harriers**

**Perth and Strathtay Harriers AGM**

**Wednesday 21st May 7.30-9.00pm**

**Letham St Marks Church**

**Chair:** Bruce Gibb (BG)

**Present:** Callum Cassie (CC), Dave Cassie (DC), Heather Cassie (HC), Sophie Cassie (SC), Nancy Davidson (ND), Emily Falconer (EF), Harriett Gibb (HB), Gail Greenwood (GG), Gill Hilton (GH), Freya Howgate (FH), Lindsay McMahon (LM) (Scottish Athletics), Jack Moncur (JM), Gregg Parsons (GP), Michelle Ridgeway (MR), Jamie Ridgeway (JR), Hollie Walker (HW), Eillen Wood (EW) and Lauryn Wood (LW).

**Apologies:** Gerry Gaskin, Jonathan Greenwood, Aimee Stark, Cat Tavendale and Donna Wilson.

1. **Welcome and Agenda**

BG welcomed everyone to St Marks for the AGM. He explained this AGM was the second to take place in this calendar year in order to get back into an annual cycle of September AGMs. It was noted that the AGM was quorate and met the requirements of the Constitution (15 members present).

BG welcomed Lindsay McMahon from Scottish Athletics who was also in attendance.

1. **Presidents Report.**

BG summarised the Presidents Report. He noted the successes on track, cross country and indoors this year. It was highlighted that as a team national records had been broken and having seven teams in the RAM final was testament to both the athletes and the coaching teams. BG gave his thanks and congratulations to all.

1. **Introduction of the clubs new Mission, Purpose and Values.**

BG highlighted that the Club’s mission, purpose and values set out our identity. He summarised the feedback he had received and how he had incorporated this into the final version which was tabled for information. It was agreed that this reflects what we are and what we do. This will help us develop our 5-year development plan as a club.

1. **Treasures Report.**

The Treasurer report and financial projections were tabled at the meeting. BG noted that there had been a long discussion at the last AGM about the Club’s cash balance and explained the rationale for this. It was noted that based on the projections developed for 2025/26 the committee will now start to draft a development plan for the next five years and this will form the basis of how we invest the funds.

1. **Club Nightly Fees and Memberships.**

A new fee and membership proposal was tabled. It was noted that the current fees will not increase but the majority of athletes will move to a Standing Order system, which will be inclusive of membership fees. A few queries were raised and discussed, including the difference in costs for 6pm versus 7pm athletes. IT was noted that 6pm train for 60 minutes and 7pm for 90 minutes. It was noted that this new policy would not include the 5pm or inclusion athletes.

Further discussion was had around the consequences of an athlete being off training for a period of time (e.g. through long-term injury). It was agreed that in these situations, it would be discussed on a case-by-case basis and payment pauses could be initiated.

Free taster sessions were discussed and it was agreed an athlete could have 4 weeks of taster sessions before membership and payment would be required.

The group voted on the membership policy. There were 13 votes in favour and so the new policy was passed.

LM queried whether the Club provides any athlete funding – e.g. to support senior athletes travel to competitions etc ND advised that it has not previously, as there has been Sports Council funding available but it was agreed that this was an area worth exploring further.

1. **Club Recognitions**

BG outlines some of the notable club recognitions from the past 12 months and highlighted we need to get better at sharing our successes on social media and beyond.

* It was a great year for Lois Garland at senior level, she is close to achieving the Commonwealth Games qualify time and the Scottish 4x100m women’s team, which she is part of, have already met the qualifying standard.
* At cross-country, Tom Hilton, Alex Hilton, Kezi Swift, Gabi Whyte, Ruaridh Hood, Finaly Bell, Eilidh Hearn, Iain Jordan and Ross Allan all represented East District.
* Mairi Gatherer achieved Silver in the T20 London Mini Marathon and Gold in 400m, 800m and 1500m at the Scottish Disability Championships.
* At the indoor championships, Gabi Whyte achieved Gold and broke the national record. Hannah Round got Silver in the 200m.
* The U13 Girls 4x 200m relay team made the national indoor relay finals (Hannah Round, Harriett Gibb, Emily Jones and Sophie Cassie)
* East District Championships – Gabi Whyte achieved Gold in 800m and 1500m (Championship Record), Hannah Round achieved Silver in 100m and 200m, Callum Cassie achieved Silver in Javelin, Kezi Swift also achieved Silver in Javelin.
* Scottish National Championships - Gabi Whyte Gold in 800m, Kezi Swift Silver in 1500m, Emily Jones Bronze in 100m.
* U13 Girls 2nd in the RAM final.

It was noted there is more to come in 2025/26 and lots to be excited about. It was acknowledged that this only comes through the hard work of the athletes and the coaches.

BG acknowledged what a fantastic Club Championship event Lauryn and Iain had arranged. Massive thanks from all and well done on their hard work and success.

The development of the throws group was acknowledged. It has grown from three athletes to a full training squad over the past 12 months with lots of successes to be proud of.

It was noted that Donna is running the Berlin Marathon on Sunday – Good luck to Donna!

1. **Election of Office Bearers and Committee.**

Positions to be nominated and voted on as per the constitution were identified.

Thanks were offered to Iain Jordan for his contribution to the committee on standing down.

***Nominations:***

Where existing committee members had stated a desire to remain the secretary nominated them in the first instance.

**President**

Bruce Gibb was nominated by HC as the incumbent and the floor was asked for any additional nominations. There were no further nominations. Bruce Gibb was elected.

**Vice President**

Nancy Davidson was nominated by HC as the incumbent and the floor was asked for any additional nominations. There were no further nominations. Nancy Davidson was elected.

**Secretary**

Heather Cassie was nominated by Gill Hilton, Eileen Wood and Vicky Jones, as the incumbent and the floor was asked for any additional nominations. There were no further nominations. Heather Cassie was elected.

**Treasurer/Membership Secretary**

Donna Wilson was nominated by HC as the incumbent and the floor was asked for nominations. There were no further nominations. Donna Wilson was elected.

**Welfare Representative**

Aimee Stark was nominated by HC as the incumbent and the floor was asked for nominations. There were no further nominations. Aimee Stark was elected.

**Competition Representative**

Gail Greenwood was nominated by HC as the incumbent and the floor was asked for nominations. There were no further nominations. Gail Greenwood was elected.

**Junior Coach Representative**

Eileen Wood was nominated by HC as the incumbent and the floor was asked for nominations. There were no further nominations. Eileen Wood was elected.

**Senior Coach Representative**

Jack Moncur was nominated by HC as the incumbent and the floor was asked for nominations. There were no further nominations. Jack Moncur was elected.

**Athlete Representative – Track**

Iain Jordan stood down and the floor was asked for nominations. Jack Moncur nominated Tom Hilton.

A discussion was had around age restrictions as Tom would not currently meet the threshold. It was discussed having an athlete sub-group made up of athletes across disciplines and age categories. It was agreed that HC should put this out to the whole membership for nominations

**Athlete Representative – Field**

Lauryn Wood was nominated by HC as the incumbent and the floor was asked for nominations. There were no further nominations. Lauryn Wood was elected. It was agreed LW would be the single athlete representative on the committee heading up a sub-committee of other athletes.

**Inclusion Representative**

Gerry Gaskin was nominated by HC as the incumbent and the floor was asked for nominations. There were no further nominations. Gerry Gaskin was elected.

**Fundraising**

No one in role at present. The floor was asked for nominations, no nominations were put forward. It was noted that this does not necessarily have to be a committee role.

**Parent Representative**

Gill Hilton was nominated by HC as the incumbent and the floor was asked for nominations. There were no further nominations. Gill Hilton was elected.

1. **Any other business**

BG noted that he has been receiving lots of positive comments about the direction the club is going in. He

thanked the current committee and noted he feels positive about how the committee is working together.

**Welfare:**

There was a discussion around female welfare. It was noted that a supply of sanitary products is now available at training/events and there are two representatives (LW and HW) for younger athletes to speak to. DC also highlighted the use of laminated discs which can be handed to coaches by female athletes to alert them they have their period. HW queried if there are any groups that could come in deliver training sessions for both female and male athletes. LM said she would send on some links to the groups but highlighted that we make sure any training provided is supported with the appropriate qualifications. Areas such as menopause, eating disorders and food nutrition may be other areas worth covering in the future. It was also suggested a parents evening to advise on nutrition, hydration, clothing etc may also be useful.

**Club Kit:**

BG advised that GH and himself have identified a supplier. There will be a 3-week turnaround with the hope of having vests/crop tops in time for the first cross country event. Colours will remain the same (orange/blue) with some re-branding.

**Awards night**

It was noted that organisation is underway for the awards evening, with a date still to be confirmed but likely October/November. This year three new awards will be added: Ian Leitch Jumper of the Year; Jim Hunter Thrower of the Year and Ian Newton Middle Distance Runner of the year. These awards will be about recognising personal endeavour and achievement, and not necessarily about being the best.

**Special thanks**

Thanks were given to Graeme Gatherer who raised £1400 raised for the club running the London Marathon. These funds were used to purchase new equipment for RJT group.

Thanks were given to Gail Greenwood as Team Manger. It was noted that this is one of the hardest roles and huge thanks and acknowledgement were given for all her hard work and commitment, as evidenced by getting seven teams to RAM final.

Thanks were noted to Aimee Stark for all her work identifying volunteers and managing the PVG changes.

**ACTIONS:**

* HC to email membership and ask for athlete representative nominations for an athlete sub-committee.
* GG to send out a questionnaire to athletes and parents to gather feedback.
* ALL consider whether we would like to develop an athlete funding award