**Newcastle AC AGM**

**Burrendale Hotel 7 Feb 2024 at 8pm**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Deon McNeilly (Chairman), Lorna Cunningham (Vice Chairman), Sam McNeilly (Treasurer), David Hicks (Committee Member), Zak Hanna (Committee Member), Ian Brannigan (Junior Representative), Paul Rodgers, Eamon McCrickard, Marty McVeigh, Stevie Rice, Paddy Higgins, Connaire McVeigh, Jerome McCrickard, Joe McCann, Brian McVeigh (arrived at 8.30).

**Apologies:** Richard Rodgers (Secretary), Kerry O’Flaherty (Committee Member), Aidy Brown (Committee Member), Linda Rogan, Mari Higgins, Catherine McIntosh, Pearse Brogan, Jack O’Hare, Donna Daly, James King.

The meeting started at 8.05pm.

**Chairman’s report**

Summary of the events throughout the year including Darragh stepping down from his role and other members stepping up, and thanked Zak and Sam with social media and website and Richard with the database. Races went well, there was an increase in entries in the Hill & Dales back to similar levels pre-pandemic and similar levels with the Cracker. Chairman thanked Jerome for the course planning for the Cracker and all the volunteers who helped throughout the year. Noted many successes throughout the year with many international selections, and mentioned the recent success with the cross country, with wins for the men’s intermediate team and women’s masters team and individual medals for Robbie Hagen, Joanne Mills and Aine Gosling. Noted good attendance at the recent Trim 10 mile and sending a men’s team to Donegal for the Senior cross country. Chairman ended by thanking the current committee for their help throughout the year.

**Junior report**

Summary of successes throughout the year, including 95 members, 60% of which are post-primary which shows good retention. There are currently twelve coaches, majority ANI qualified. The junior club is up to date with all policies including safe guarding. There are a number of training sessions throughout the week. There is good representation across all variety of sport including road, cross country, track and hill. There have been a number of successes and international selections. The juniors organised a summer training day at the Mary Peters Track. Siobhan has done an excellent job writing reports. Thanked the senior committee and chair for support throughout the year.

**Treasurer’s report**

The club is in a good position financially. Events are well organised and run from a financial perspective. The club donated £1,000 to Mourne Heritage Trust in 2023. Off the back of the Cracker the committee agreed at the last meeting to donate a further £1,000 to the Neo Natal Charity and a further £1,000 to the heart charity that helped Paul Fegan. The club supported members that had been selected to run internationally (outside of Ireland), paid for coach hire, Belfast Marathon relay team entries, subsidised club vests and the Christmas dinner. The committee is open to suggestions for other ways of supporting members in the future, and if enough interest will look entering teams to the Fell Relays in October. A review of the IT platforms used for race entries and memberships was undertaken this year, and tried SiEntries for the Cracker which went well and in 2024 the club plan to use SiEntries for the Hill & Dales and also memberships (junior and senior).

**Election of Committee**

Marty went though each role in the outgoing committee:

Chairman – Deon McNeilly (proposed by Joe McCann, seconded by Paul Rodgers)

Vice Chairman – Lorna Cunningham (proposed by Sam McNeilly, seconded by Eamon McCrickard)

Treasurer – Sam McNeilly (proposed by Paddy Higgins, seconded by Lorna Cunningham)

Secretary – Richard Rodgers (proposed by Paul Rodgers, seconded by Deon McNeilly)

Committee – David Hicks (proposed by Eamon McCrickard, seconded by Joe McCann)

Committee – Zak Hanna (proposed by Eamon McCrickard, seconded by Joe McCann)

Committee – Kerry O’Flaherty (proposed by Eamon McCrickard, seconded by Joe McCann)

Committee – Aidy Brown (proposed by Eamon McCrickard, seconded by Joe McCann)

Junior Representative – Ian Brannigan (proposed by Deon McNeilly, seconded by Connaire McVeigh)

Marty asked if there were any additional committee members:

Committee – Paul Rodgers (proposed by Jermone McCrickard, seconded by Deon McNeilly)

Committee – Joe McCann (proposed by Eamon McCrickard, seconded by Jermone McCrickard)

**Membership fee 2024-25**

Membership is currently £25 which covers £18 Athletic NI registration fee and the remainder covering admin costs. Deon proposed keeping the membership at £25 for the year which Jerome seconded. It was agreed that the membership would remain at £25.

**Amendment to constitution**

The constitution does not currently reflect the correct membership (running from 1st April – 31 March). Deon proposed updating the constitution, so it correctly reflected the membership year which aligns with Athletics NI. Jerome seconded this and there were no objections.

**AoB**

It was raised that the same individuals cannot be left to organise races and that all members in the club need to help out and assist race directors by letting them know in advance that they can help.

More should be done to raise awareness of the donations that the club makes to charity.

There was no further business to discuss, and the meeting concluded at 8.35pm.