

ERR membership 2021 provisional fee levels

Hi all,

So, I thought it might be worth providing the club with an update on the club finances given this strange year we find ourselves in. Obviously, some of us have seen each other around but a lot have not been able to. It's strange and sad times. But as a Committee we want to be upfront and keep you all onboard.

So, to set the scene.....

In March we stopped meeting in the pavilion (costs reduced) and lockdown kicked in but with a regime that allowed Graham the pleasure (!!) of compiling the VPR and "Run in and Hour" results. A number of you also followed Frankie's palates class (costs increased). Leading up to August, following some detailed discussions between the Exec, the Club Coaches and the Committee, I inherited the title "COVID OFFICER". We prepared and agreed a number of risk assessment before starting pace groups on a Wednesday Night. The Committee has been meeting monthly via ZOOM for most of the year, with adhoc meetings as well (some additional costs). YouCanRun courses (couch to 5k) have also started under Marisa and Ian's direction and control (some costs and income).

We also have now agreed with EPC that we can, from the 14th October, use the pavilion in a limited way. (reinstated cost).

As per Simons weekly emails re Wednesdays, if you don't have a booking don't come down and the booking system is our covid record. Also remember the 2 meter rule!!

So we have been busy, but you know that don't you :-)

But this update relates mainly to club finances

At the AGM I told you all we had just under £10k in the bank. Since then the 2020 10k has been cancelled (no 2020 surplus) and many of our club events did not happen (saving), so at the moment I am thinking the end of year surplus will now be between £6.5k and £7.0k but there are still things being developed.

So, we will have used up around £3 to £3.5k in the year on business as usual and new aspects to motivate you all. In past years I have acknowledged Derek's success with the 10k giving us up to £4.5k into club funds annually. So, this broadly matches what we should use used from reserves. That £4.5k works out to is over £20 per member per annum.

We need to hold some reserves and I am still working on needing around £4k in the bank in 2021. So, we are using up our excess surplus with no guarantee on when Covid will stop being the main issue affecting us getting back towards the "old normal life".

So, potentially £2.5k to £3k can still been drawn down if needed from our reserves. BUT there's not enough there to cover all club costs if the 10k does not make its old surplus and other activities resume with the same costs. So, 2021 is going to be an interim year we will have to see what happens and when.

Hugh

Hon Treasurer;

Covid Officer;

Eynsham RoadRunners Club

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As a Committee we have started trying to look ahead, will the 2021 10k happen, and if so, will it be like the 2019 one? Who knows :-) but our reserves still gives us a bit of a buffer for the next year or so. Derek may well be able to juggle the 10k entry fees to get more cash in but we have to consider if the entry fee increases too much will we get the same numbers from 2019 or less; so a delicate balance to be had, but once we know what UKA/EA say we need to do for a covid viable race we will deal with that next year.

However, the current subsidized membership fees are not sustainable and will need to go up in 2021. This is what I alert you to and brief you on why.

Why is the current membership rate not sustainable I hear someone grumbling!! :-) The sums on the website were halved, near enough, to reduce the surplus over the last couple of years.

Well for competing members we charge £10 for the year and then the Club pays England Athletics £15 (it should be £16 but they dropped the fee post covid). So, of our current 169 members, as at 1/10/20, 127 EA athletes cost the club around £1,900, some £650 more than were getting in in 2020. A number of 2019 members didn't rejoin so it should be higher.

The pre covid club membership fee formula was the EA fee plus only £2/£3 for the club due to the 10k annual surplus and then adjusted for the reduction we could afford.

<http://www.eynshamroadrunners.org.uk/how-to-pay-your-membership/>

So, our current thinking is that we need to bring in additional funds, some via the Pilates and YouCanRun, which are now payable for access, and some via membership. With the pavilion being available again we will start incurring those costs again. We may also need to look at whether we have to reduce funding for some club activities. That's before any proposals to invest in other club activities. We have Committee meetings in November and December to firm up on this.

Ideally, we could do with £2k+, if Pilates and YouCanRun continues to be successful then that might cover between a third to half of that. At the moment Pilates is on trial until Xmas and is financially viable to continue, but that could change and require a rethink. YouCanRun needs a course for our new three leaders to lead a course rather than just Marissa and Ian, hopefully in November.

So that leaves a balance to be found, our currently thinking is that we revised our membership formula. Our current proposal the Committee considered on the 5th October is the new formula should be the EA fee plus £6 for the club. So, we think that's £21 if the EA fee remains unchanged.

So, an increase over the old baseline level of £18. If everyone renews then that will increase our funds by around £1,300. It's possible that may not be enough.

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At the moment Social or Second claim (31 of you) would stay at £6. That would apply to the 11 Juniors too, up from £3 but we would not charge the three we currently have registered with EA the £15 on top of that. If junior EA membership surges then we might need to review that.

We would still have a family membership, that needs to be agreed by the Committee but it would be something like £21 (£6 times 3.5) plus the Adults EA fees. So, two adults competing it would be £21+£30= £51, for one competing £36. With the same T&C's as now.

New members would pay the same plus the joining fee which we have not reviewed as yet

Committee members will tell you I was concerned we could have to increase the club's part of the membership fees more than the above, maybe up to £12 not the £6 for adults mentioned here, but Simon has managed to reduce some initiative costs so that has helped. But until the 10k is back on track we remain financially vulnerable and the plan may need to change. I am looking at a route in 2021 that gives us a lesser surplus, but we don't know how sustainable that route is as yet and perhaps we should assume no surplus from the 10k in 2021.

This fee level is still much lower than other clubs in the area.

This is all subject to agreement at the AGM, however that takes place on 24th January.

I hope that makes sense; the Committee will finalize the proposal in December when agreeing the AGM process.

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