**Triathlon London**

**(Triathlon England - London Region)**

**Minutes of the Committee meeting held on Thursday 26th November 2015 at 7pm.**

**Venue: Sport England**

In attendance: Tom Chant, Debbie Clarke, Alan Spelling, Audrey Livingston, Donna Dewick, Jim Desmond, Joe Wilson, Jon Train, Lucy Edwards, Peter Lambert, Chris Hall, Sheila Horsman

Apologies for absence: Jon Lunt, Nicola Dennes

1. **Welcome**

TC introduced the meeting, and congratulated Andrezj Warhaftig (ex-committee member), Peter Lambert on their success at the British Triathlon Federation Awards, Triathlon England Awards and also our own Triathlon London awards. Also of note is that Audrey Livingston won the Children’s Coach award, and James Beckinsale the Participation Coach Award.

1. **Matters of note**

TC had three matters of business before commencement of the budgeting:

* Club tax helpline – will be set up ‘imminently’. JT expecting to receive notification.
* Government spending review has increased sport performance funding and the grassroots level will continue to receive lottery funding.
* BTF is in the process of a re-brand.

1. **Budgeting process**

**ACTIONS – The action points for each committee member forms the yearly plan attached to the 2015-2018 strategy**

**General costs**

TC introduced the budgeting process and preceded to set out the case for budget allocation for ‘general costs’ e.g. AGM cost, annual awards. Etc.

The continuation of the annual awards was discussed, given the costs to run. The committee unanimously agreed that this is a great evening, which should continue. CH noted that this shouldn’t however, be at the detriment to other areas.

TC noted the income is derived from a £3,960 grant from TE and the surplus from the running of coaching courses which from Sept 2015 to August 2016 could amount to £2-3k. This means the income overall is circa £6-7k.

DC further noted that the timing could be earlier and advertising of the speaker should be greater in order to maximise attendance. It was agreed to continue these discussions at a later date.

TC further noted he would discuss with ND the possibility of obtaining a sponsor for the event.

**Media**

LE noted that there was no requirement for a media budget apart from covering travel costs to generate stories outside of the usual London travel e.g train fare to Clacton.

**Juniors**

JD set out his case for funding. He noted that the inter-regional champs is the key event in the junior calendar and that last year was the first event which was not fully subsidised. The same figure was requested for next year, with parents being asked to again pay for travel/accommodation over and above any subsidy.

JT noted that there was a potential to get Orca on board as a kit supplier given a speculative email he had recently received.

JD discussed the London region training squad budget, noting that this is to be superceded in September by the Skills School. As such a reduced budget was requested compared to 2014-15, and no funding is currently required for the Skills School given the uncertainty surrounding the inception.

**Partnerships**

On ND’s behalf, TC discussed the partnerships budget: Orca have requested that Triathlon London (TL) promote them to London clubs. Clearly TL will not do this for free, but there is a potential opportunity to request payment/sponsorship/royalty-type income in return.

JT asked whether it was worth discussing the regions’ approach to sponsorships with HQ as there is potential to centralise the approach.

TC brought up the London Triathlon, noting that TE are yet to communicate their plans with regards stands/awareness. AL noted that having a TL stand at the event could serve as a meeting point for all London clubs, bringing footfall and therefore awareness.

JT noted that it would be a good idea to attend the event, but given the on-going discussions over the past few years, the committee needed to be more pro-active.

AS mentioned that he would speak to his contacts at the London Triathlon regarding cost of stand space.

ACTION – AS to gather the costs and TC to build a budget to look at TL attendance by ourselves or in partnership with BTF/TE

**Coaching**

AL summarised successful workshop at GSK, queried potential for sponsorship of workshops, and requested the same budget as in the prior year.

**Paratri**

DD compared UK to US paratri ‘scene’ noting significant differences, particularly the fact that on registration with the BTF there is no paratri ‘box’ to tick. DD noted three key areas of focus for the year:

* London league assessment of races for paratriathlete participation
* Grants for clubs to promote paratriathlon
* Workshop for guiding PT5 (Blind) athletes

JT noted that the BTF have a sport development ‘pot’ which could be tapped into with the right proposal. DD/JT to discuss potential further.

**Officials**

PL noted that significant rule changes were soon to come in to force. Further, the new drafting events will also require new skills/knowledge among officials.

Requested two meetings for officials this year, and ISEH would be the best location.

Also requested funding for officials to go on training courses to be available as a contingency.

**Academy**

TL noted that there is a hardship fund for academy athletes available, but that this is not a line on the budget as such.

It was noted that the academy receives £3k of funding from the TE, passed down through the TL account. The committee requested to see how this money is spent.

1. **Next meetings**

The next meeting dates are set for:

* 23rd February 2016
* 19th May 2016
* 8th September 2016
* Triathlon London AGM – 6th October 2016
* Triathlon London Awards – November 5th ??? Timing – to start at 6pm??? 6-8pm?
* BTF/TE - AGM /Awards weekend November 12-13th 2016

1. **Close**