ELVIS Planning Meeting 26th February 2024

In Attendance

Louise Hawker and Martin Hawker – Harold Wood Running Club

Timi Veerasamy, John Hughes and Kresh Veerasamy – Dagenham 88 Runners

Dan Green and Bob Jousiffe – Orion Harriers

Andy Catton – Ilford AC

Ravindra Luggah and Paul Jackson – East End Road Runners

Keith Penfold and Darren Radford – Havering 90

Alex Rutishauser-Perera - East London Runners

Robert Sommerville – Eton Manor

Martin Clarke – Scorer and overall coordinator

Sally Gillam – Minutes Secretary

Plus 2 late arrivals

1. Race Dates

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| Club | Date | Distance | Time | Location |
| Dagenham | Wed 22nd May 2024 | 5 miles | 7.30 | EastbrookEnd Country Park |
| Havering | Tues 4th June 2024 | 5 miles | 7.30 | Raphaels Park |
| East End RR | Tues 18th June 2024 | 5 km | 7.30 | The Olympic Park |
| Ilford AC | Wed 10th July 2024 | 5 miles | 7.30 | Hainault Forest |
| Harold Wood RC | Wed 31st July 2024 | 5 km | 7.30 | Harold Wood Park |
| Orion Harriers | Sat 3rd August 2024 | 5 miles | 10 | Chingford |
| Barking RR | Mon 26th Aug 2024 | 5 km | 10.30 | Barking Park |
| East London | Sun 22nd Sept 2024 | 5 km | 10.30 | Valentines Park |

1. Discussion regarding last year’s series

Generally, all went well.

Ilford asked about changing the start at Orion to avoid the bottleneck. Bob to look at it. Possible timing pens. However, the start is part of the charm!

1. Scoring System

Same as previous years – in other words for both individuals and teams – 6 out of 8 races. 6 to score for Men and Women of which 3 must be Vets.

1. League System

Havering proposed introducing a league/division system. Could be 2 or 3 leagues. Idea to increase motivation and to encourage people to compete.

Decided to use this year as the possible basis for starting the leagues. Also allowing Mart time to trial the software. Clubs to share the idea with members.

1. Timing Systems

Discussion about the creation of a possible manual timing team led by Martin. The idea would be to keep the money spent on chip timing in the clubs. General discussion on the issues concerning timing. Anyone interested in manual timing to contact Martin. As always, clubs choose how they time their race, but it is good to work together to seek discounts from chip timers and to be aware of the options.

1. Sponsorship

Phil Hernon has agreed to continue to sponsor the series for the next 3 years. His sponsorship over the years has been greatly appreciated. However, probably due to an accident, he didn’t pay in 2022 and paid late for 2023. Unfortunately this caused some unwarranted criticism. It would be good to have more sponsorship so if reps could look out for any potential sponsors for the series.

1. Presentation

Barking to organise this year. Pubs seem to work best. Having the evening as close as possible to the end of the series might encourage greater attendance. Reps to encourage members to go.

1. Second claimers declaration

Second claimers should be declared by the day before the first race at Dagenham – Tuesday 21st May. There is no limit to the number of second claimers per club.

Martin wishes to tighten up to avoid any issues.

1. AOB

Orion - £20 on the day entry is to discourage on the day entries. This is not seen as a problem. Race series entry is only £18 and £10 for advance entry online.

Race limits – race numbers are getting close to pre- COVID numbers. Limits are not currently a problem.

Pricing – this remains up to the clubs, but the spirit of ELVIS tends towards reasonable prices.

Essex 5-mile Championship is at Ingatestone 18th August 2024 – please encourage members to enter.