



**LFR**  
**Regular Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday 3rd March 2022**

Co-Presidents: Naseem Allmomen (NA) and Andrew Corti (AC)

Club Secretary: Christos Bitzis-Politis (CBP)

Club Treasurer: James Handerson (JH)

Membership Secretary: Geoff Hicks (GH)

Races Secretaries: Erika Kulikova (EK) and Francis O'Callaghan (FC)

Publicity & Communications Officers: Jonathan Lissemore (JL) and Gareth Fletcher (GF)

Social Secretaries: Daniel Brittle (DB) and Charlie Abrines (CA)

**RCM Agenda**

**Financial Updates (CT)**

**Races Update (RS)**

**Publicity Update (P&C O)**

**Social Activities update (SS)**

**Membership Update (MS)**

**Club Secretary**

Numerous Updates

**Co-Presidents**

**AOB**

Chair: AC

Minutes: CBP

Apologies: NA, CA, DB, JH, JL

**Financial Updates (CT)**

Discussion on the update of WebCollect, the establishment of the pro-rata for the period of just six months, the termination of PayPal, the membership fees for the 2022/23 Club Year and subjects regarding the launching of the auto renewal function.

**Action to be taken:** CBP is to kindly request of JH to please not activate the Auto Renewal Function, until a precise date for this has been confirmed by the Committee.

It is important to Inform existing members through the ebulletin that they shouldn't renew their 2022/23 membership for the time-being and until further notice, as there is going to be launched the auto renewal function which will facilitate the process.

**Action to be taken:** CBP is kindly requested to please create a relative draft for the ebulletin as per above and share it beforehand with JH, AC and GH.

The Club Constitution requires a very brief report on the Club finances for the 2021/22 Club Year to be presented at the AGM.

**Action to be taken:** CBP is kindly requested to please inform JH of the above

Discussion on the auto renewal function.

How complicated is the auto-renewal function going to be for all those who have used PayPal until now?

Meaning, when paying the LFR membership fees for the first time with GoCardless through direct debit, one's banking details are included in the GoCardless payment automatically, as putting one's details down enables the system to function and the amount to be taken out of the indicated account. With PayPal is a one-off payment.

Do those who have previously used PayPal need to do something specific? Those who were using PayPal will need to supply their bank details for the auto renewal

We just want to make sure that the auto renewal option is being set up and running as smoothly as possible for everyone involved.(GH)

**Action to be taken:** CBP is kindly requested to please contact JH in regards to the auto renewal subject

**Action to be taken:** CBP is kindly requested to please contact the LFR WebSite Team and check what needs to be updated on the LFR website after all the membership and auto renewal issues have been resolved.

Refunds from the Seymour Centre and from the Cross Country Nationals

Have taken the initiative to email the nine members who failed to appear at the Cross Country Nationals, asking them to please refund the Club the £10 contributed by the Club on their registration. Had it been just one or two members who didn't show up, I probably wouldn't have gone through the trouble of contacting them, but with nine absentees from the race, the amount contributed by LFR is £90 which equals to three changing facilities sessions, and the Club cannot afford wasting the above amount. You will be also pleased to know that the Club has been refunded £56, due from December 2021, by not using the

changing facilities at Seymour Centre on the last two Thursdays before Christmas, when these two runs were cancelled due to low attendance.

In addition, I would like to request the amount of £25 to be spent on buying a small present for JS, who has been extremely accommodating and very generous in offering LFR the venue for this year's AGM, as a small token of gratitude towards them (CBP).

The Committee is supportive of the above request and agrees to the requested amount.

**Action to be taken:** CBP is kindly requested to contact JH and liaise with them over the above

**Action to be taken:** CBP is kindly requested to please inform Committee members and all Club officers that for all documents which need to be projected during the forthcoming AGM should be emailed in advance and the deadline for this is Monday the 21st of March

### **Races Update (RS)**

We are very much looking forward to the forthcoming Club Championships event, we now have a venue and we also have managed to have the majority of the trophies back, there is just one missing, the LFR Spirit, but we will try to locate it before the event. We just need to let Daniel know of how many members are roughly planning to attend and also inform in advance the winners to be there and receive their awards.

**Action to be taken:** the RS are kindly requested to please continue their research as to locate the LFR Spirit Award

In regards to having the Club Championship results reviewed and checked, TC and DA are to be both duly thanked.

NC is stepping down as one of the LFR Cross Country Captains and there is a possibility that KK might come forward as a potential candidate for the role, as they are very passionate about the Cross Country events and also very organised as a person.

### **Publicity Update (P&C O)**

We are happy to inform you that the LFR Pride parade application is in, and that LFR will be able to send 70 members to the forthcoming parade. The deadline has been extended and the surprising thing is that LFR has not been charged any participation/application fees.

The Committee enquires whether it is worth potentially asking for some more spots on the march.

The Website stories on the LFR website look really good and we have received some very positive feedback, so we are scheduling some more content for the stories section.

It would be good to have some content for the Club championships, the AGM, and events such as the Northumberland race, which was attended by many of the LFR women, it would be great to have such stories on the website, in addition to some exciting photos.

**Action to be taken:** there is one candidature statement still missing and CBP is kindly requested to please chase up EK.

### **Membership Update (MS)**

Registered Club members are currently 556 although they actually are 556, it is still one of those issues that needs to be resolved with JD.

In regards to communicating all the membership subjects which we are considering implementing, not everyone who is currently a member receives the ebuletin, so we also need to communicate these matters through WebCollect, a specific function which I have never used before but which I will try in the forthcoming days.

Discussion on engaging a Club member to volunteer for the period of four week as the Membership helper, as their main task will be to assist with processing the EA registration. This is an appeal that we can also ask members at the AGM and offer them as incentive some more points towards a Club Place for the 2022 London Marathon.

### **Club Secretary Updates**

Discussion on non binary awards for the next Club Championships event.

Have had an exchange of emails with the NY Frontrunners Club Secretary and a zoom discussion with the Aberdeen, Birmingham, Copenhagen, Edinburgh, Newcastle and Stockholm Frontrunners in regards to the subject of including NB members to their own Club awards. The NY Awards Night took place last week and it was the first time for FRNY to honour achievements by their NB members. The NYFR have not changed at all the names of their awards but have just added a third category (non-binary) to the existing two (male and female) where there was a need to differentiate between the three gender groups. For example this year they had a Newcomer of the Year-Male, a Newcomer of the Year- Female, but also a Newcomer of the Year-Non-Binary. For categories where they don't have a winner in one of the categories, they just skip it, for example this year NYFR don't have a Most Improved Runner-Non-Binary, so they have given awards only for Most Improved Runner-Male and -Female. Based on these discussions the most practical solution to put forward for next year would be to introduce a non-binary category. This is a subject that the new Committee will have to discuss and also keep under review based on the membership numbers of non-binary members, as currently they are only a just handful. Using some judicious flexibility on this subject is essential, as not all non-binary members wish to be identified as such; so besides discretion, there are certain other parameters which need to be considered as well.

Discussion on whom to thank during the next AGM, making sure that there hasn't been an omission.

It is important to have the Committee's thanks presented also in an official manner, in written form and preferably through the ebuletin after the AGM, as at the same time, this will also make membership realise how many member's efforts takes for the Club to function, and also as a source of inspiration for any other members who would also like to volunteer in the future.

**Action to be taken:** CBP to share the relevant document with the Committee

Have already notified the Thursday pub and The Seymour Centre in regards to the AGM, so they both know that we are not going to be turning up on Thursday the 24th. Have also notified the Web Team to include a relative notification on the website, thus making sure that there will not be any new runners coming to the Thursday run on that day.

Discussion on the Post AGM venue.

The Committee decides to skip the pub near the AGM venue and then go directly to the LGBTQ+ venue.

**Action to be taken:** CBP is kindly requested to please liaise with The Zodiac and cancel the previous pub reservation.

Updates on the Pride 10k Brooks Running application.

Have sent a four-pages application, and in consultation with MP, have requested £10,000 for the next Pride 10k.

### **Co-Presidents Updates**

Thursday coaching is being cancelled, as there have been numerous members who have moved location further to the east, so having a Thursday coaching session in Battersea Park is not convenient anymore for them.

The coaches have had a meeting and they will be presenting some new and different things to the LFR coaching sessions for the next year.

We have been looking for alternative options to replace Spond.

**Action to be taken:** AC is kindly requested to create and send to Publicity the blurb relative to Spond being decommissioned

Updates from GoodGym, two of the GoodGymers will be coming and joining LFR for a run in Victoria Park in May and then there will be a more structured event with the normal Good Gym crowd, who will be doing the litter-pick on behalf of the wardens of Victoria Park, followed by a picnic or brunch, depending on the weather.

Discussion and suggestions on Victoria Park changing facilities.

Discussion on the BBC documentary relative to people who felt alienated simply by being LGBTQ and have found a sense of belonging. London Frontrunners have been requested to provide four volunteers, one of them will be the lead, the other three will be narrating their stories on having found the sense of belonging with the Frontrunners. This could be included on the ebuletin and thus attract some attention from members.

Discussion on the LFR Gazebo and the possibility of purchasing a different pair of wheels, which will make it simpler and easier to move around.

**Action to be taken:** CBP is kindly requested to please liaise with the new Committee members, in regards to the 2022/23 Inaugural Committee meetings' date.