

Empire Runners November 19, 2009 Club Meeting

(Pending approval at the December 17, 2009 meeting)

Vice President Nate Koch (nathankoch@gmail.com) called the November 2009 meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

Secretary's Report:

Secretary Paul Berg (pmberg@sonic.net) read the October meeting minutes, which were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer John Harmon (jj2harmon@yahoo.com) reported that the current club balance is \$47,009.71, up \$12,553 from the same time last year.

Expense of clock repair for \$393.

Club received \$100 for Bob Shor officiating Wine Country Half.

The Student Grant Fund balance is \$901.

High School donations to date: \$4200, projected to be \$4450 for 2009.

Cross country team expenses \$2925 through PA championship.

President's Report:

Vice President Nate Koch reported that Shirley Fee has graciously volunteered for the vacant post of Sponsorship Director.

Discussion concerning the complexity of tabulating the Grand Prix results and whether Bob Rogers will continue as GP czar. Steve Rauch will help simplify the process.

Race Reports:

1. Recent races/Runs:

1. XC - Shoreline - 10/24/09 good course
2. XC - Tamalpa - 10/31/09 good course and weather
3. Wine Country Half - 10/31/09 article in newsletter
4. Run to Stop Hunger - 11/8/09 successful, no deaths
5. NY marathon 11/01.09 Dale Peterson said: you must run this once in your life, article in newsletter

2. Upcoming Races/Runs:

1. XC - Champs - 11/22/09
2. Wild Turkey Ramble - 11/26/09 Channel Drive
3. McGuire's Breakfast Run - 11/29/09 8am
4. Last 10k & Final 2mi - 12/19/09 Howarth Park
5. Jingle Bell Run (12/22/09) - Rob and Shelli Main's House (5063 Eliggi Court, Santa Rosa) Potluck!
6. W Valley Track Club 12/13/09 9am

Committee Reports:

1. Cross Country, John Harmon reports that 47 runners are registered for PA championships. Cool and rain predicted. Carpool suggested.

2. Club Party 2/06/10 @ Luther Burbank Garden Club. Val Sell proposed gift certificates to FleetFeet in \$25-15-10 increments for all GrandPrix age groups instead of donated awards. Val will solicit comments. Val also proposed limiting raffle items to 20.
3. Annadel Half-marathon 2/07/09. Val Sell reported that Mark Struzyk is waiting for permits from ranger Bob.

Unfinished Business:

1. ER's subsidization of Viking Opener - Jerry Lyman read the proposal:

That the Empire Runners Club agrees to pay the registration/entry fees for high schools and middle schools entering the 2010 Montgomery High School Viking Opener Cross Country Invitational to be held Saturday, September 18, 2010. This offer is made on the condition that the entry fee per school does not exceed the lesser amount of \$11 per individual or \$135 per school. The Club caps its total contribution at \$5000 and will pay for fees on a first come/first served basis up to that limit. The Club agrees to let the meet directors manage the application of this offer so long as meet directors agree to publicize and administer the offer in a fair and equitable manner to all schools seeking to enter participants.

The Club will fund the event in two payments, the first in the amount of \$1500.00 to be made by August 26, 2009. The second payment, the balance of the Club's obligation, will be made after the event registration deadline (to be determined, probably September 5) and upon presentation to the Empire Runners Club Treasurer from the meet directors of an accounting that includes a list of all schools registering for the meet, the date of each registration, and the applicable entry fee for each school. This list should also include schools that register too late to receive funding under the \$5000 cap, should the cap be exceeded. Checks will be made payable to Montgomery High School Cross Country.

Larry Meredith raised questions regarding ways to ensure fairness in the application process, giving preference to Sonoma county schools, and schools that have historically attended the event. Questions were also raised about ensuring against no-shows, i.e.- teams that apply, since it's free, and don't actually attend. Val Sell suggested a refundable deposit for team entry.

Since Val Sell and John Staroba are the meet directors, it was generally agreed to rely on their expertise, and they will report back with details by April 2010.

Motion for general approval of the idea, contingent on details to follow, proposed by John Harmon, 2nd by Nate Koch. APPROVED

New Business

1. Amendment to new membership fee structure - Jerry Lyman proposed an amendment to the free race entry member benefit. Instead of one free race per

household per year change to one race per **person** per year if it is a family membership, non-transferable. APPROVED

2. Definition of "youth" - Jerry Lyman proposed unifying the definition of "youth" in the various designations of membership, summer track series and race entries, variously designated at 12, 18 or 21 years of age. Several members suggested that the age of youth should be raised, not lowered, to encourage more participation. The motion was WITHDRAWN pending further discussion.

3. Officer Nominations (Elections in December)

President: Nate Koch

Vice-President: Dale Peterson

Treasurer: John Harmon

Secretary: Paul Berg

4. Summer Track Series. Luis Rosales reported that he has received tentative approval from the AD to have the 2010 series at Piner HS. John Harmon will be the meet director.

5. High School subsidies:

a. Val Sell reported that Kenwood 2010 will use chip timing and will therefore need less HS help at the finish and registration

b. Piner HS will provide 10 people to help at the Resolution Run Jan 1, 2010.

c. Larry Meredith will be the HS coordinator, and will present a 2010 funding proposal in December

Monkey Business

1. Tori Meredith alerted members to the budget cuts in PE and music to SR City schools, and directed interested parties to the SR website.

2. Alex Wolf-Root reported that Heart&Sole will be presenting an Elite Mile exhibition on May 7 as part of the All-City meet at SRHS. It is intended to draw a few elite athletes, including local JK Withers, to attempt a sub-4:00 mile for the first time in Sonoma County.

3. Best wishes were extended to Bob Shor and his speedy recovery from surgery.

Raffle: Nate Koch won \$30, and \$30 went to the student grant fund

Drawing: Jim Ray would have won \$200 if he attended the meeting....

Vice President Nate Koch concluded the meeting at 7:47 pm.

Attendance:

Don Sampson, Dave DeSelle, Super George, Ernst Bohn, Paul Berg, Stephen Rauch, Chris Mason, Bones Koch, Victoria Lynn Meredith, Pistol Pete Meredith, Hutch-meister, Mini-Mel-Bell, Jen Ortlinghaus, Will Ortlinghaus, Thermo, Shirley Fee, Luis Rosales, Pappy, Bob Shor, Val Sell, John Harmon, Genny Doyle, Sledge, Wolfman, Dave Goodwin