

Empire Runners September 22, 2011 Club Meeting

(Pending approval at the October 27, 2011 meeting)

President **Alex Wolf-Root** (president@empirerunners.org) called the September 22, 2011 meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

Secretary's Report:

Secretary **Paul Berg** (secretary@empirerunners.org) read the August 2011 meeting minutes, which were approved as read.

Treasurers' Report:

Treasurer **Tanya Narath** (treasurer@empirerunners.org) reported that the current club balance is \$48,093 up \$ 9741 from the same time last year.

The Student Grant Fund balance is \$2711, approx \$2286 more than the same time last year.

Annadel Loop had profit of \$137, vs. loss of \$295 last year.

Phil Widener Open had profit of \$1818, vs. profit 1533 last year.

President's Report:

President **Alex Wolf-Root** reported that the club was contacted by an organization raising funds for the care of Ryan Buchanan, a San Leandro teen injured in an accident in May. Interested members can find out more at <http://www.ryanbuchanan.org/>.

In the big track news of the month at the USA Nationals, Montgomery and UC-Davis grad Kim Conley got 2nd in the 5k final, followed by Sara (Bei) Hall in 4th place. Both women will represent the USA at the World games in Panama.

Race Reports/Recent races/Runs:

1. Phil Widener Empire Open PAXC 8/27/11. Mens Senior team is running strong, due to several strong members turning 50 this year.
2. Santa Rosa Half/Full Marathon 8/28/11. Julia Stamps Mallon won and qualified for the Olympic trials, as did 2nd place finisher Tyler Stewart of Novato. The course is getting a reputation as a Boston qualifier, as 34% did so this year.
3. Rebel Rebellion PA XC 9/3/11. Sacramento, hot.
4. Annadel Loop 9/4/11. Don Stewart won again, Michael Zanetti 2nd. Good turnout, despite no porta-pottys.
5. GGP PA XC 9/11/11. Good ER representation.
6. Viking Opener Alumni 2-miler 9/17/11. Record turnout, 43 teams junior and high school, 1500 athletes. Maria Carillo wins most races, Piner boys dominate in varsity. 25th anniversary alumni race featured 161 runners, including 71 from Montgomery.

7. Petaluma Moo-Cow Half Marathon 9/18/11. Great event. 5k won by 12 year-old Riley Bowen, half won by Votja Ripa and Sarah Hallas.

8. Ragner Relay SF to Calistoga, winding through west county, 187-ish miles. Team featuring ER women was 56th out of 295 teams, 2nd place women's team.

Upcoming Races/Runs:

1. Healdsburg Half/Full 10/16/11. Not sold out yet.
2. Cloverdale Harvest Marathon 10/23/11. Half and 5k also.
3. Wine Country Half 10/29/11. Sold out.
4. Harvest Fair 10/2/11, 1k, 5k and 10k.
5. CCAA preview meet at Sonoma State 10/01/11

Committee Reports:

Newsletter redesign committee is still pondering ideas.

New Business

1. Girls on the Run - presented by Val Sell
"I propose that the Empire Runners become a race sponsor for the girls On the Run 5k on December 3rd in the amount of \$1250."

The following is the benefit to ER:

- Logo printed in smallest print on program t-shirts
- Name recognized on sponsor banner at 5k
- Name printed on marketing materials
- Name posted on website
- Company name or logo on all 5k materials at one 5k

After brief discussion, the Board approved the measure by a 6-0 vote (Staroba absent).

2. eGroup proposal – presented by Chris Mason

Proposed Updated eGroup Guidelines:

Subject matter must be of obvious concern to the Empire Runners Club membership.

No advertising, want ads, or commercial promotion.

No obscenity, offensive language, or disrespectful content.

Information regarding local, non-club races should be sent to website@empirerunners.org for placement on the Empire Runners online race schedule.

Chris explained the current egroup policy that allows any member to submit a message to be sent to all members with the approval of one of the two egroup moderators. The problem is that if certain members are annoyed by too many messages and decide to opt out of egroup messages, there is no way to communicate with them in the future, unless they purposely opt in later. The committee is proposing to make the content requirements of egroup messages to be more restrictive so that fewer people would be inclined to opt out. Many other topics of the more broad messages could be addressed in the forums or the Facebook group.

Discussion ensued, the general consensus being to rely on the moderators to use their judgment.

3. Discussion of an idea to allow free race entries to all members for all races except Kenwood and Phil Widener. The idea is to promote the maximum amount of participation and promote membership and online registration. The proposal might entail raising annual membership amounts by \$5 to cover the cost. The free race must be pre-registered online. This could also be done through our website, eliminating PayPal.

Quick action on this proposal would be necessary for this proposal to take effect for next year, as registration begins Oct 1 for 2012 membership. Treasurer Tanya will crunch the numbers on various scenarios.

Monkey Business

New members: **Andrew Gallagher**, Montgomery alum recently moved back to the area. **Steve Agar**, recently moved to Sonoma county from the South Bay, Canada and the Caribbean. Illustrious career includes representing the Dominican Republic in the 1500m at the 1996 Olympics.

Drawing: Nuvit Foster would have won \$200 if she attended the meeting.

President **Alex Wolf-Root** concluded the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Attendance:

Dave Goodwin, **Paul Berg**, Melanie Rosales, Luis Rosales, **Val Sell**, Tori Meredith, **Larry Meredith**, Regan Masi, Andrew Gallagher, **Alex Woolf-Root**, Chris Mason, Patti Lounibos, Jen Ortlinghaus, **Will Ortlinghaus**, Don Sampson, Bob Shor, Theresa Manchester, Mister X, Mini-Mel, Stephen Agar, LT, Super George, **Tanya Narath**