

Dorset Road Race League Committee Meeting

Agenda 26th January 2026

Attendees: Heidi Snook – Littledown Harriers, Steve Williams – Littledown Harriers, Ian – Poole AC, Tim – Verwood, Jerry – Wimborne AC, Karen Mitchell – Dorchester Riot, Ian Barnes – Dorset Doddlers, Nic Taylor – RMPAC, Jo Kain – Gillingham Trotters, Roger Cross – Poole Runners, Tracy Brooks – Purbeck Runners, Peter Wallis – Christchurch Runners, Mike Towner, Judith Vlaarkamp – Lytchett Manor Striders

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2. **Apologies for Absence** : Graham Filmer – Poole AC, Paula Wright – Lytchett Manor Striders, Alex Door.
3. **Open Actions from last meeting**
 - a) Arrange for Barry Hopkins to meet with members of DRRL committee and RD's again to clarify EA position, especially those that have subsequently cancelled races. Anyone interested to express interest. To be arranged next 2 months.
 - a) Graham to ask Liz Yelling if she would be able to present end of year awards.

| Item | Discussion in meeting | Action | Action |
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| 1. Action from last meeting | <ol style="list-style-type: none">a) Barry Hopkins from EA to hold meeting.b) Award presentation | <p>Meeting was held online – Link here</p> <p>RunEvents Race Directors Webinar 19/11/2025</p> <p>Liz Yelling was unable to attend. Richard Orme and Peter Clarke did it between them and it was a success.</p> | Mike to contact the Marnhall 12k organisers to inform them of the Race Directors webinar from EA. Race might be held in 2027 with a different group of people. |
| 2. Feed back from past DRRL races. Boscombe 10k and Broadstone Quarter | <p>Boscombe 10k – Very good, all went well. No points to raise.</p> <p>Broadstone 1/4 - 1st race of DRRL this year. Very enjoyable and successful race to start off the year. A few runners were spotted wearing headphones despite it being a no headphone race.</p> <p>Signage was up. Potentially non</p> | Penny (RD) to be contacted and notified. Photos from race to be reviewed as appropriate. | |

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| | club runners were the ones wearing headphones. A discussion was held around whether a reminder could be put on the race numbers, but uncertainty around how effective this might be. | | |
| 3. County Champs – Increasing awareness | There is a declining participation in Dorset County Athletics and Team Dorset events, with Roger highlighting a 23% decrease in participants year over year. The group discussed the Dorset County Championships, where it was suggested reversing the eligibility process by assuming all participants are eligible unless they opt out, though Jerry noted this would still require verifying eligibility criteria. The discussion concluded with Mike proposing to work with race timing companies to announce county championship winners on race days, and the group agreed to explore this option further, particularly given the significant investment in medals for the next 3-4 years. | Options to be considered regarding opting in process. Mike to consider how timing companies may announce winners on race days. All clubs to promote 'ticking the box' when entering races within the championships. | |
| 4. U17 participation in league events | Low participation rates in the under-17 age group, with Jerry noting that clubs bear responsibility for promoting these races within their own clubs. The group discussed the need for | Individual clubs (with U17s) to promote participation in league events. | |

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| | small token awards for the 15-17 age group in under-17 races, as some races already provide these. It was noted that some clubs do not have a junior section. | | |
| 6. Volunteer and selection of DRRL chair | No volunteers – HS was approached and is unable to do this due to commitments. Jo C Kain is happy to chair the next meeting. Date below. | Request for job spec for Chair role Mike to send it round and HS to attach to minutes. Encouraged to use AI tool for Zoom meetings to help with minutes. | |
| 7. Volunteer and selection of DRRL At Secretary. | No volunteers | | |
| 9. Date of next meeting. | 27 th April 2026 @ 7pm | HS/MT to send Zoom/DRRL login details to Jo. | |
| AOB - | <p>Results queries: There is a new email address for results queries. Jerry noted that the new features/changes are brilliant as they allow you to see result over several years. Extra thanks to Richard Orme from Egdon Heath. Live from February 2nd. Live from February 8th.</p> <p>Thanks also to Pete Clarke for his considerable work with the awards for the last 20 years.</p> <p>Are Portland/Round the Rock running for 2027? RMPAC representative noted that this was doubtful due to declining</p> | <p>New email address: This is now being hosted by Egdon Heath Harriers.</p> <p>For any results queries please use the following email address:</p> <p>drrl_results@btinternet.com</p> <p><u>Results – Dorset Road Race League</u></p> <p>To note: If you want to add a missing club affiliation to the results, you must confirm that you were wearing your club vest as required by the competition rule". Richard asks to be informed of errors as soon as possible</p> | |

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| | <p>numbers and not enough people to run the event safely. It was also confirmed that Hobourne 5 was no longer supported by Hobourne management. Future events are therefore very unlikely.</p> <p>It was noted that Swanage 10k was a good race, with a supportive team. However, results were slow to be published.</p> <p>Blackmore Vale – may be cancelled due to the weather. It was requested that if it is postponed to the summer, please can this not be done at 11am due to the heat. It was noted that a covenant was in place with the church, which may impact start time. Blackmore to confirm postponement by Thursday.</p> <p>Update: Race postponed.</p> <p>DRRL funds were raised. These have been ringfenced – a suggestion was made as to whether something should be done with some of these funds. Suggestions included chip timing, club support/kit, youth engagement. It was noted that a treasurer's report does not exist for DRRL.</p> | <p>after each race.</p> <p><u>Advanced results from 2006</u> Its now possible to for an individual DRRL competitor to look back as far a 2006 and view their own individual results for selected races . These can accessed two ways:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Via the DRRL website and selecting the “<i>View All League Results</i> : You can interrogate this database to find the results of individual races in the DRRL for the current year or to find selected details of all races since 2006.” 2. Going directly to https://drrl.egdonheathharriers.com/ <p>In both cases go to the “Results from all years:” section. You can search the database to find your results going back as far as 2006.</p> <p>Clubs to consider how money could be spent/invested and to feedback as appropriate.</p> | |
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