



P.O. Box 568, Beaverton, OR 97075

**ORRC Board of Directors Meeting - Minutes**

**September 19, 2023, 7:30 pm**

**Via Zoom**

Recording at: <https://youtu.be/3d0UB1KFfNY>

**Attendance:**

- Present: Mark Barrett, Daniel Brewer, Margie Palmrose, Valerie Pratt, Julia Reisinger, Tracy Reisinger
- Guests: Andrea Artman, Ryan Bourdo, Hal Brockman, Susan Cooper, Nicki Halin, Kim Kovacs, Adnan Muranovic, Joel Phillips, Charissa Yang

7:32pm Call to order by Tracy Reisinger, President

**Approve minutes of August 22, 2023 (Tracy Reisinger)**

- Daniel Brewer moved to approve the minutes
- Margie Palmrose seconded the motion
- The motion was approved by a vote of 5-0

**Recap Best Dam Run (Mark Barrett)**

- It went well with a few issues
- The gates were not unlocked so we had to rent a “gaitor” to drive to aid stations with supplies
- Friday night the porta-potties were delivered to the wrong place (mile 5 instead of the start line). It was corrected by race morning
- People in the half-marathon liked the course
- The burritos were OK, but not worth the money
- There were only 21 people in the half-marathon, so we will give it one more year, with more marketing to promote it, and make a decision on if we should keep it after 2024 event

**RD Meeting Recap (Mark Barrett)**

- Meet and greet in person, welcome new RDs
- Explain how we do things, stressing RDs are not alone. We want them to succeed, and will support them

**Upcoming Events:**

- Dual Duel (Daniel Brewer)
  - ❖ Everything is ready to go at Catlin Gabel

- ❖ We are waiting to order shirts through Green Layer
  - ❖ We ordered ribbons through Award Specialties
  - ❖ Insurance is sent
  - ❖ Now need publicity to get runners
  - ❖ We've never held this in the Fall before, only summer, so not sure how successful it will be
  - ❖ Needs about 12 volunteers. Will send out a request
- Turkey Trot (Mark Barrett)
    - ❖ Mark, Hal and Dave Cook are meeting Monday at 10am to divide up the responsibilities
    - ❖ Kids get shirts free
    - ❖ There was some discussion on if Tot Trot entrants received a free t-shirt. After the meeting in an email discussion with race directors it was decided that they will.
- Ralph's Run (Mark Barrett)
    - ❖ There will be a new logo. It is still being finalized
    - ❖ The new distance is 20.24 in 2024
    - ❖ There was some discussion about which course the 5K should be, and one of them was 5.5K. After the meeting it was finalized that the 5K will be an out and back containing the end hill that all other participants (10K and 20.24K) have to go up as well
- Award Banquet (Tracy & Julia Reisinger)
    - ❖ There will be no double-dipping for awards. So if a person wins an overall award, they cannot win the masters award as well
    - ❖ The event will be held on Saturday, January 27, 2024 at the PCC Willow Creek site

### **Treasurer's Report (Valerie Pratt)**

- ❖ Valerie shared a report showing the income and expenses of administering the club, as well as income and expenses from races
- ❖ Storage is our biggest expense
- ❖ Currently we're at a loss of about \$50,000 but we don't have the income yet from Turkey Trot, or Ralph's Run (in early January)
- ❖ Most races made a couple thousand dollars, with a few exceptions (Garlic & Summer Solstice)
- ❖ Food is the big cost & Zoo costs
- ❖ We have to report personal property in January, so we'll need to take inventory. Mark Barrett said we usually do a "garage cleanup" in November or December and we can do an inventory then
- ❖ We currently have \$314,000 in cash. In the Wells Fargo account, it is not getting a good interest rate, so Valerie would like to put some of it into a CD or treasury bill to get a better rate

### **Finalized 2024 Event Calendar (Tracy Reisinger)**

We went over the 2024 event calendar, and once we finalize the distance for the Ralph's Run 5K (vs 5.5K) we will send the information to create a magnet to hand out at Turkey Trot and send to members

- Ralph's Run 20.24 in 2024, 5K and 10K - January 6, 2024
- Hagg Mud 25K & 50K - February 17 & 18, 2024
- Champoeg 10K, 20K & 30K - March 2, 2024
- Vernonia Marathon, Half-Marathon & 4-Person Relay - April 14, 2024
- Hagg Lake Road 5K, 10K & 10.5 miles - May 11, 2024
- Dave's Solstice Run at Blue Lake 5K - Thursday, June 20, 2024
- Dual Duel 10-Mile Relay & 5K Walk - July 23, 2023
- Garlic Festival 5K, 10K & Half-Marathon - August 3, 2024 (the week before the Garlic festival on Saturday, August 10, 2024)
- Best Dam Run 10K & Half-Marathon - September 14, 2024
- Turkey Trot 4-Mile Fun Run - November 28, 2024
- Race Director Workshops - May 4 & October 5, 2024
- Member Awards/Volunteer Appreciation Banquet - January 27, 2024
- Member/Volunteer Picnic - July 4, 2024

### **Cupless Events (Tracy Reisinger)**

- There was a lengthy discussion on continuing the policy
- We've received many comments at races (both positive and negative)
- Is a cupless event a good experience for the new participant, or for faster racers who don't want to be bothered with the issue of carrying a cup, and figuring out how to get it filled at the aid station?
- Mark Barrett thought we should stand firm, and having choices of either a re-usable cup vs having compostable cups would be confusing and hard for RDs to plan for
- Margie Palmrose said a lot of racers try to go fast, and grabbing a cup and drinking on the run is a lot faster than having to wait for your cup to be filled by a volunteer. She thought compostable cups might be a good transition, but to still have silicone cups available. She also thought we could give away "hand canteens" which are easier to carry than the silicone cups
- Charissa Yang observed that aid stations are not always adequately staffed with volunteers, and for the volunteers that are there it can be stressful
- Could we add an option to registration for an event that required participants to check a box acknowledging the event is "cupless" and they have to bring their own "vessel" for water?
- Tracy Reisinger thought we haven't been consistent with getting the message to volunteers and entrants. We need to communicate the policy more clearly, and train volunteers more. Perhaps by sending a separate email to participants that is not lost in an instructional message that includes multiple pages of information?
- We need to possibly use different terminology instead of "cupless" since we have cups... they are simply re-usable. Maybe try "sustainable running" or something to that effect?

- Tracy will research compostable cups for a possible solution
- We will discuss this more in the October meeting

### **Create a Venmo or Paypal account for purchases on race day? (Tracy Reisinger)**

- If people want to purchase a shirt, or register day-of with a check, we currently don't have that option. Do we want to investigate options for purchases on race-day? Due to location, most races have trouble with wi-fi access
- Mark Barrett said that day-of-race registration is possible with registrants using their phones with telephone service
- RunSignup has a store
- A "square" can also be used to accept cash
- Daniel Brewer has a square reader which he uses with his phone (need cell service). You just tap a credit card, than wait for wi-fi to go through when you get service
- Daniel Brewer said Venmo is the more popular service, with most people recognizing it. You use your phone to scan and pay.
- Daniel thinks we shouldn't turn away a chance to accept money
- It was decided that Valerie and Daniel will set up a Venmo account and then have a training session for RDs and volunteers

### **Budget Assistant Positions (Tracy Reisinger)**

- The treasurer position can be overwhelming, so Valerie and Tracy set up "budget assistant" positions to help. This position would not have access to write checks, but help the treasurer manage reports, and help RDs set up their budgets.
- We have two people volunteering for the Treasurer and Budget assistant positions (Debbie Hall, and Adnan Muranovic), and it divides nicely between their skill sets.

### **Elections (Tracy Reisinger)**

- We have a lot of candidates for board positions
- We will have a "meet the candidates" email in October
- The election will start Monday, December 4, 2023 and finish Friday, December 8, 2024
- We will then announce the new board at the January member meeting
- At the January meeting, the new board members will appoint new officers
- We can have up to 20 board members, so we don't have to limit who members can vote for
- We have some candidates up for 2-year terms, and others for 1-year terms.
- There was some discussion about 3-year terms, but we don't want to burn people out, and if they want to go longer they can simply volunteer for re-election after 2 years
- Since the bylaws are changing, the election process could change after this year
- Tracy would like to develop leaders from the membership, so current leaders can step back
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### **Communications Update (Charissa Yang & Tracy Reisinger)**

- We had several volunteers step up, and they were split into two areas, Facebook & the Website

- Charissa is now training them in the two areas, and then she can take a step back and focus on bylaws
- Facebook
  - ❖ Volunteers will be assigned specific races to coordinate with RDs. They will be spaced out so no one person is responsible for all races, or races too close together
- Website
  - ❖ We have several projects, including putting ODRs and old photos online; Updating results and photos for races, archiving old ODRs, photos and newsletters (PDF), consolidating some pages, and possibly hosting the election online
  - ❖ The volunteers met and will try and start updating race pages with more consistency

### **Revoke Les Smith Lifetime Membership? (Tracy Reisinger)**

- This was an email discussion started the day after the virtual board meeting
- While updating expiration dates for lifetime members in the database, Tracy discovered that Les Smith was awarded lifetime membership in 2013.
- Based on recent events (Les Smith was convicted of embezzling funds from the Portland Marathon last week), the question was if we should revoke the lifetime membership for Les Smith?
- He's not active in the club, so it wouldn't mean anything, except as a statement that we don't support what he did while at Portland Marathon.
- Daniel Brewer said the last 5 years of his PM leadership were one thing. The first 25 were something else altogether. He thought since he is not active, we leave it alone. However, passivity gets people in trouble these days. Therefore, he very reluctantly and respectfully supported revoking it. Daniel said the Portland Marathon is the very best running event this region has ever had. Les and his vision embodied awesome. And Daniel learned more serving on Les's race committee as anything in running.
- Joe Dudman said as part of Les Smith's punishment in one of his cases, he was banned from ever again participating in any organized races, so regardless of any historical feelings about him or publicity concerns, that seems like a practical reason to quietly remove him from the membership list.
- Charissa Yang observed that unfortunately in this case it only seems appropriate to revoke his membership. He was banned from **any involvement in all running events** as part of his [initial Oregon Department of Justice settlement in 2018](#).
- Alan Cabelly disagreed saying he may be in the minority, but he believed that "no action" is the appropriate response here; lack of action assumes no publicity and no statement that the board has decided to not revoke his lifetime membership. Ty Cobb, no matter how scurrilous and racist, remains a member of the baseball Hall of Fame. Woodrow Wilson, again a racist, continues to be revered as a proactive President. Same for Thomas Jefferson, a slave holder and sexual abuser. Les put Portland on the map with one of the great marathons. Quietly doing nothing is the best response.
- Joe Dudman responded saying Respectfully, he thought individual examples could be misleading. Pete Rose and Shoeless Joe Jackson are NOT in the Hall of Fame, despite

outstanding careers. Lance Armstrong did a lot of beneficial philanthropic work, yet his misdeeds are hard to ignore. In running, we have the sad example of Alberto Salazar. He thought it would reflect poorly on ORRC when (not if) word got out that Smith still had a lifetime membership despite being banned from participation in running events. Very bad publicity and controversy, whether we like it or not. At the very least, we should consider removing his name from the searchable RunSignup database.

- Valerie Pratt agreed that passivity could be easily construed to mean we either condoned his actions, or were willing to look the other way. As part of our continuing efforts to run ORRC as a transparent and ethical organization, with a focus on the best interests of the running community, she felt that the right choice was to revoke his membership.
- Mark Barrett agreed with Alan Cabelly
- Daniel Brewer then added that ultimately in these times, passivity gets you in trouble. We need to recognize the verdict is in, and his lifetime membership is being revoked, and quietly leave it there.
- It was then put to a vote via email, and the results were 4-1 for revoking the lifetime membership with one abstention.
- Tracy Reisinger then went into the database and revoked the membership online

#### **Topics for Next Board Meeting**

- Dual Duel Recap
- Upcoming Events
- Election (work out how to do it)
- Award Banquet Awards
- Generic medals for “my first 5K” or “my first 10K” recipients
- Pay It Forward Fund (PIFF) for people who can’t afford race entry, we can offer discount or complimentary entry)
- Free or discounted entry fee for high school entries?
- DFL Award/Red Lantern Award (for people who come in last to stress that last place is just as important as first place. Think of something unique to give out at each race (not a medal)

#### **Schedule Next Meeting (Tracy Reisinger)**

The board decided to set a standard date, once a month to meet. It was determined that the board will meet the second Tuesday of every month. So the next board meeting will be on Tuesday, October 10, 2023

The meeting concluded at 8:56pm