**Sandymount Dodder Wheelers Annual General Meeting 2020**

**Monday 19 October 2020, 20:00**

**Virtual Meeting by Zoom**

**In attendance**

**Committee:** Gerard Cahillane (President), Thomas Davy (Chair), Lisa Fagan (Treasurer), Peter McCabe (Secretary).

**Full/Associate Members:** Dermot Mulligan,Nicola Kearney, Dominic Rumbles, Pat Farrell, Owen O’Meara, James Forbes, Michael Jackson, Petrina Tinney, Simon Moynihan, Miquel Lequerica, Colin Finnerty, Sarah Caulfield, Joe Walsh, Linda Walsh, Rory Harte, John Fitzsimons, Noel Tobin, Damian Roddy, Alan Lawlor, Andrew Maree, Tim Hennessy, Garnett Berry, Adrian Silke, Christine, Mulcahy, Mary De Courcy, Brian Woods

**Chairman’s Welcome**

Chairman Thomas Davy declared the meeting open at 20:00 by welcoming members to the club’s first AGM, thanking them for participating

**Chairman’s address**

The Chair outlined the following during his address to the members, looking back on a historic first year as a formal club, affiliated to Cycling Ireland:

**A year of growth**

* The Chair thanked the committee and all members for their support and making the year so special, despite the challenges of an unprecedented COVID-19 situation
* Sandymount Dodder Wheelers was formed in January/February with the merger of Sandymount Wheelers and Dodder Wheelers Whatsapp groups
* Outlined that the club had enjoyed a great first year with 127 members, including 15 associate members (affiliated to a second club)
* Joined Cycling Ireland and secured a title sponsor - Bujo
* Implemented two spins – the social Thursday and the Sunday spins – with the Thursday spins incorporating social events, including ‘street parties’ and events supported by the club’s title sponsor Bujo. The Sunday spins were categorised by ability – Green, Blue and Red – with some Sunday’s attracting up to 60 participants
* Our ‘lockdown spin’ raised €3-4k for our charity partner
* We started our Turbo training group on Zwift
* We successfully delivered our version of the Wicklow 200 with 75 participants

**Tackling challenges**

* The biggest challenge was cancelling the Beara weekend for which we had 35 members booked and the Mallorca trip
* Mallorca was cancelled owing to flights disruption. We are doing everything we can to secure the deposit, while recognising that it was a non-refundable deposit and that the Island was open for business
* The Chair noted the likely implementation of further COVID-19 restrictions which are likely to impact the autumn/winter schedule

**Financial Statements**

The Honorary Treasurer Lisa Fagan outlined that there was no income as there was no club membership fee in 2020, while highlighting that there had been no expenses either.

It was noted that SDW pays an annual membership to Cycling Ireland of €300 and that title sponsors Bujo generously underwrite that fee.

**President’s Report on proposed 2021 activities**

The President welcomed everyone and began by outlining a strategic plan of 10 initiatives that the club will focus on in 2021 to ensure a year of sustainable growth, safe cycling and enjoyment:

1. **Build on the success of the road programme:** The club will maintain three formal spins, ensuring a blend of social and more serious riding to suit all abilities and needs:

* Wednesday morning 09:30 spins will continue over the winter
* Thursday evening social spins will resume in April
* Sunday spins will continue throughout the winter months
* All will be subject to the evolving COVID-19 situation

1. **Strengthen Sunday spins with renewed grading:** Introduce five levels to ensure a level for all and the ability to move through the levels
2. **Ensure Sandymount Dodder Wheelers’ presence at national sportives:** As a club, we will be present at the Wicklow 200, Orwell Randonne, Beara and the Great Dublin Bike Ride
3. **Develop a charitable plan:** We will support one national charity event, the Peter McVerry event and one local charity event. Members of the club will be asked to make recommendations of a worthy local cause to the committee with members then voting on a shortlist of submissions via survey money
4. **Ensure an away trip:** We will focus on one away trip for the club abroad, COVID-19 dependent
5. **Run excellent events for members:** We will organise two club events in 2021, including the big event such as the club 200 and a more local, leisurely fun event following the success of both this year
6. **Develop and strengthen our virtual indoor turbo group:** We will strengthen the group and arrange regular virtual training rides given the demand
7. **Deliver seminars that add value:** We will organise a series of virtual workshops and seminars to assist all members with better cycle preparation, including bike maintenance, nutrition, training and maybe guest speakers. Members are asked to request topics
8. **New members induction:** All new members will have an induction in line with standard practice
9. **Put safety first:** We will run a mandatory safety course for all member, given this underpins all of our activities

**Member Questions regarding the Chair and President’s reports**

The Chair, responding to a question regarding the away trip, outlined that the committee would investigate whether the Mallorca deposit could be rolled over for a possible 2021 trip if demand was forthcoming.

**Motion one proposed by the Committee: Club Membership Fee**

The Chair outlined the committee’s desire to introduce a modest membership fee from 2021 in order to add value to member activities and experience,

**Tabled Proposal:**

* €25 annual adult subscription in addition to Cycling Ireland membership
* €10 for those who are members of a second club
* €10 for a second family member and E5 for under 18s

**Member questions regarding the proposal**

* There was an overwhelming feeling that E25 was too modest for the level of investment required to run events, that there was no need to discount a second family member or a member of a second club as the club should not be discounting membership of another club
* The proposed fee is modest in comparison to other cycling clubs and other sports clubs
* It was also noted that committee members should not be out of pocket for events run by the club and that this should be avoided, along with additional admin work
* It was also noted that there should be a discount for under 18s and students

**Decision: Membership Fees**

* A new proposal was tabled to double the fee from €25 to €50 for all adult and no fee for students/Under 18s payable annually in line with Cycling Ireland or pro-rata for new joiners in the first year.

1. **The motion was proposed by Peter McCabe and Seconded by Pat Farrell and unanimously supported.**

**Motion two proposed by the committee: Election of Officers**

The following members are reconfirmed for the committee in 2020/21:

* President: Gerard Cahillane
* Chair: Thomas Davy
* Welfare and Covid Officer: Peter McCabe
* Treasurer: Lisa Fagan

The Chairman also outlined the requirement to expand the committee to lighten Peter’s load and his three official roles. The committee proposed Dominic Rumbles be considered to join as Secretary.

1. **The motion to elect Dominic Rumbles was proposed by James Forbes and Seconded by Peter McCabe**
2. **The motion to elect the committee was proposed by Dermot Mulligan and Seconded by Michael Jackson**

The Chair confirmed beyond the formative year, the committee would operate on a rotational basis open to all members.

**AOB**

* The Chair confirmed no notified AOB from club members and that any suggestions or matters for consideration can be raised at any time and would be welcomed as SDW is everyone’s club.
* Universal appreciation was expressed by members for the Chair and the committee for the hard work in establishing the club and organising the activities in a challenging year.
* Dominic Rumbles outlined that the Turbo training group will initially operate two or three spins a week and all are welcome to join.
* Dermot Mulligan proposed co-opting additional members onto the committee to lighten burden with specific activities and also ensure relevant expertise.
* Peter McCabe outlined that the club would align with promoting women in cycling in line with the Cycling Ireland 2020 initiative
* James Forbes suggested that the club we should ensure greater female representation on the committee moving forward
* Dominic Rumbles suggested that the club should focus on portrayal via digital channels to ensure greater female promotion

**Club Constitution**

* James Forbes enquired regarding the composition and ratification of the constitution to ensure it is fit for purpose and protects committee members regarding any disciplinary issues for example
* The Chair noted that that the CI Agenda 2020 strategic objectives and safety points should be included in the club constitution
* Michael Jackson proposed a sub-committed be established to work on key constitution points, reporting back to the committee at a later date
* Members agreed that all aspects should focus on simplicity given the formative stage of the club

**Motion three proposed by James Forbes: Club constitution**

**A constitution sub-committee was nominated comprising Lisa Fagan, James Forbes and Michael Jackson to consider key elements of the club constitution: safety, gender balance (agenda 2020) and disciplinary matters. The sub-committee will report back to the committee.**

**Digital Platforms**

* The Chair noted that CI’s website makes it difficult to post important information and documents and requested members with any digital expertise to help inform simple website development

**Close of the AGM**

**All outstanding actions will be considered by the Committee at its next meeting in early November.**