# **SANDYMOUNT DODDER WHEELERS**

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**Sandymount Dodder Wheelers**

**Committee Meeting Minutes**

**26 October 2022**

**In attendance:** Ger Cahillane (President),Thomas Davy (Chair), Christine Mulcahy (Treasurer), Peter McCabe (Welfare and Safety Officer), John Desmond, Sarah Caulfield.

**Agenda**

1. **Minutes and Actions from 23 August meeting**

All matters actioned or completed – Minutes approved

1. **Role of Secretary**

At the recent AGM John Desmond and Sarah Caulfield were both elected to the Committee. After a short discussion it was agreed that John Desmond would become Secretary and Sarah Caulfield Assistant Secretary.

1. **Safety**

PMC to speak to Aidan Hammond about running another Safety course. Noted that this was run in January 2022 and was very beneficial to new members but also to more experienced cyclists.

The Committee discussed the role of Group Leaders and the importance of Leaders for each cycle in terms of ensuring that Spins were both fun and safe and also inasmuch as possible that they achieve the average speed for the colour. Discussion also around ensuring that Leaders are well versed in the route for the Spin.

Committee agreed that PMC should make enquiries about running a Leader Training course, possibly through Aidan Hammond but PMC to enquire with other clubs as to possible other options.

1. **Website**

Dominic Rumbles who stood down at the AGM as Secretary due to work commitments has kindly offered to continue to help run the website but it was agreed by the Committee that anyone who is comfortable working with the website should help where possible.

TD noted the website would be used more often to publicise events by creating linked pages as this would be more practical than having a string of messages on WhatsApp.

1. **Finance**

No change to report as to Club’s finances as no new bank statements received and electronic access not available unless expensive bank charges are paid.

CM to look at possibility of moving account to Credit Union who operate current accounts, details to be passed on by PMC.

CM to add JD and SC to the mandate, noted this would require new mandate to be signed by all Committee.

1. **Membership and Spins**

*COUCH TO 50K*

The Committee agreed to run a ‘Couch to 50k initiative’ as a means of enabling new and returning members an accessible transition into the club/to raise standards/confidence:

* Focus on retention of new members
* 5 consecutive Sundays in the new year
* Graduation ceremony at the end
* All ages and abilities
* Target to have first spin in early/mid-February. To be publicised on the website.

*MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION*

Committee discussed how to attract more members and ensure good participation from existing members. TD noted that we are similar to other clubs who were very busy during COVID but members are now back doing a lot of things which were previously restricted so a drop off in participation is not too surprising.

SC noted that apart from the website that we need to look at how we can use Social Media to generate more publicity for the Club. Committee members to revert with ideas for next meeting.

*VIRTUAL SPINS*

Committee agreed to aim to restart Virtual Spins on 3 November.

*MEMBERS TAKING PART IN APPROPRIATE GROUPS*

Committee discussed at some length how to ensure that members participate in Spins appropriate to their standard. The main issues seem to be

1. Members taking part in Spins above their level. Agreed that it is the role of Leaders to have a quiet word after the Cycle, anyone can struggle on a particular day but Leader should try to assess is it one off or recurring.
2. Some members may join a Spin at below their level as the time or the distance suits on the day. This is only an issue if the Member splits the Group and pulls away in which case again a quiet word from the Leader is needed.

Committee discussed changing around the cycles, moving Yellow to Sunday etc but agreed that we should monitor for the next few weeks and then discuss again.

1. **September Event**

The committee discussed the September club charity event which was a major success. TD stated that funds raised for Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association were circa E13,500 with a further E600 in cheques to be lodged.

1. **2022 Autumn Event**

Committee discussed the Autumn event held in Antrim which was in general very successful with good attendance in all 3 groups. Committee noted that Nicola Kearney had put in a lot of effort and her local knowledge was invaluable. There were some issues with knowledge of routes on the day but this was mainly due to late changes in attendees for the 135km cycle which were unavoidable.

1. **2023 Abroad Event**

JD suggested the Committee consider holding the Ireland trip in May and the Abroad trip in Autumn on the basis that the weather in Ireland might be better in May while the Abroad trip might not be so hot in Autumn. Committee saw merit in the suggestion but noted that conditions in Mallorca were exceptional for the time of year and agreed that as we have already publicised the 2023 trips we should not now change.

Mallorca will be the venue for the Abroad trip.. Committee agreed the Trips sub committee to continue to work on the Abroad trip logistics.

1. **Christmas Social Event**

TD to make enquiries with Merry Cobbler about available dates in late November.

1. **Christmas for Kids Event**

PMC to speak to Dave Tilly and enquire whether he would be willing to help out again.

1. **AOB**

* Next meeting: Tuesday, 23 November at 8pm in O’Reillys.