

**DORKING AND MOLE VALLEY ATHLETICS CLUB
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY 19TH MARCH 2026**



Location: Pixham Lane Sports Ground, Dorking

Time: 20:00

Chair: John Baker

Minutes: Paula Carter

Attendance: 28 members

Record of Meeting

Chair John Baker (JB) started the meeting.

1.0 Apologies for Absence – confirmed by Secretary Paula Carter

Jill Attfield	Dan Campbell	Tricia Picking
Elizabeth Horner	Keith Winter	Debbie Hodges
Ian Kralling	Martin Schlaeppli	Louise Schlaeppli
Tim Dadswell	Claire Parry	Sylvia MacDonald
Rob Russell	Rachel Russell	Rich Crump
Hideo Takano	Charles Wheeler	Graham Taylor

2.0 Approval of 2025 AGM Minutes

The minutes of the 2025 AGM were circulated in advance.

Motion to approve of minutes of previous AGM 2025:

- Proposed by: Brian James
- Seconded by: Lesley Taylor

Approved unanimously

3.0 Club Awards

Youth Awards

- 4 Youth Awards announced – will be awarded once Youth Squad resumes at Pixham

Senior awards (*Full report [Appendix 1](#)*)

- Most improved Senior Female Athlete – Maisie Wates
- Most improved Senior Male Athlete – Kevin Stroud

4.0 Chair's Report

The Chair summarised a successful year for the club: (*Full report [Appendix 2](#)*)

- **Membership:** 455 members (including 144 EA licences); Youth section of 85.
- **Finance:** Club remains financially stable with a small surplus.
- **Events:** Dorking 10s achieved a record 700 entrants and strong surplus.
- **Systems:** Introduction of Membermojo improved membership management and communication.



- **Coaching & Officials:** Growth in coaching team and two new officials recruited.
- **Club Activity:** Expanded community engagement including Club Day, Couch to 5k, and local events participation.
- **Performance:** 59 new club records set across the year.

Team Reports (summary):

- **Women's XC:** 10th in Division 2 - strong participation and individual age-group success.
- **Men's XC:** Relegated to Division 3 - notable success in relays and masters events.
- **Youth:** Strong participation across all age groups with consistent attendance and development focus.
- **MABAC:** 2nd place overall.
- **Vets Track:** Increased participation; additional league planned for 2026.

The Chair thanked all volunteers, coaches, officials, and organisers for their contributions.

- Dates for diary
 - First Ranmore run: Tues 14th April
 - First Pixham session: Thurs 23rd April
 - Dorking 10s: Sun 7th June
 - Denbies MABAC: Tues 16th June
 - Bench to Bench: Tues 23rd June (provisional)
 - Vets track league: Mondays 18th May/22nd June/6th July/27th July
 - Club Pixham Day: Sun 23rd Aug
 - South of Thames 5 mile hosted by DMVAC: Sat 28th Nov

5.0 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was presented and noted: (*Full report [Appendix 3](#)*)

- Income
 - Subscriptions stable at ~£18k
 - Dorking 10s generated ~£5.4k surplus
 - £500 England Athletics grant received
- Expenditure:
 - Facility hire and Pixham costs remain significant
 - Continued investment in coaching, equipment, and athlete support
 - One-off costs due to break-ins (£500)
- Financial Position:
 - Overall funds stable and sufficient
 - Year-end surplus approximately £5.2k

Questions addressed:

- Variance in membership vs subscription income attributed to previous data issues of old system and family memberships
- Increased bank charges due to card payment processing (Stripe), not charges from banks



Motion to approve of accounts:

- Proposed by: Brian James
- Seconded by: Lesley Taylor

Accounts approved unanimously

6.0 Election of Auditor

Bruce Smith (Chartered Accountant, FSD Group) was proposed as auditor.

Motion to approve election of auditor:

- Proposed by: Caroline Whelan
- Seconded by: Nick Seaman

Approved unanimously

7.0 Election of Officers and Committee

As the outgoing chair, JB ran the election of officers. New roles within the committee and those new to committee were voted for separately.

All positions were uncontested and approved:

Note: # = Club (or UKA) official post.

Election of Kevin Stroud as Chair #

- Proposed by John Jelly
- Seconded by Jacqui Cooper

Approved unanimously

Election of Nicolette Hutton as Treasurer

- Proposed by Brian James
- Seconded by Nikki Dargue

Approved unanimously

Election of Paul Lomas-Clarke as Membership Sec

- Proposed by Jacqui Cooper
- Seconded by Zara Field

Approved unanimously

Election of Bridget Winn-Taylor – Volunteer Co-ordinator

- Proposed by Kevin Stroud
- Seconded by Dawn Cook

Approved unanimously

Election of Owen Cook to Committee

- Proposed by Dan Jeffries
- Seconded by John Jelly

Approved unanimously

Election of rest of committee as block vote

- Paula Carter (Vice Chair/Secretary) #
- Howard Jones (Coaching Co-ordinator) #
- Ruth Kirkpatrick (Welfare Officer) #



- Chris Edwards (Youth Representative) #
- Jacqui Cooper
- Caroline Whelan
- Dan Jeffries

Block Vote

- Proposed by Nikki Dargue
- Seconded by Lesley Taylor

Approved unanimously

Committee will be co-opting Matthew Cluett who will remotely keep involved

8.0 Membership Fee Proposal

The Committee proposed to hold the membership fees at their current levels in line with the strategy to cover all expenditure each year from the revenue.

Budget set accordingly to more or less break even.

- Individual Adult Member (over 25) – £45.00
- Young Adult Membership for 18-25yr old £30.00 (must be 25 and under on April 1st)
- Youth membership U11 - £40.00
- Youth Membership 11- 18yrs (EA licence compulsory and included) – TOTAL £63.00
- Second claim members £30.00
- The EA licence has been confirmed as £23.00.
- Part way through year memberships:
 - Full fee payable for first 6 months (April to end Sept)
 - From October to end January - Half Price. Available for all memberships NOTE: EA Licence is £23 and not subject to discount.
 - Joining in February/March – full fee payable but membership will expire at the end of March of the following year
 - Can be reviewed on a case by case basis

Question addressed:

- Whilst members that do not renew within a set period will be automatically deleted from membermojo, WhatsApp is currently more manual process - although this is being looked into

Motion to approve Membership Fee Proposal:

- Proposed by: Nick Seaman
- Seconded by: Zara Field

Approved unanimously

9.0 Any Other Business

No submissions for any other business

10.0 Close of meeting

Meeting was closed by John Baker with thanks for support during his time as chair

Appendix 1



Seniors Awards

The trophies for most improved male and female club runners this year go to **Kev Stroud** and **Maisie Wates**.

Maisie Wates

Just entering the U20 category, Maisie's performance in the Surrey league was so strong, especially as it was her first time in a senior race. She also went sub-20 for 5km for the first time recently. Maisie has also run for Surrey in the EA and schools cross-country county and intercounty competitions, and last weekend competing for Surrey in the England Schools Nationals in Liverpool. Congratulations to her on her successes this year.

Kev Stroud

Kev has had a storming year of competition on the track, road and cross-country. He has set no fewer than 13 club records this year and picked up his first-ever medals as part of a team in the Surrey Relays and VAC Masters Champs, as well as being placed 5th V60 in the Surrey Champs. He ran the Valentine's 10K recently in 41.25, his fastest time in years at that distance. A well-deserved winner after a great season and staunch efforts for the club in many competitions.

Appendix 2



Chair's Report

Thank you all for coming tonight. It's good to see so many familiar faces and some new ones.

The club report gives me as chair the opportunity to look back over the past 12 months and pick out highlights, as well as to thank all those members of the club who volunteer and contribute so much to its smooth running.

First a few highlights, and then a look at the competitive activity the club undertakes.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025

The club continues to do well with current membership standing at 455 compared with around 400 this time last year, with 144 members holding EA competition licences. The Youth section is 85 in strength, ranging from U11 to U17.

Financially we are also sound – having achieved our usual small surplus in the year. More later on the finances.

Contributing significantly to our sound financial position was yet another highly successful Dorking 10s event in June. The two races attracted a record 700 entrants and the day went very well, blessed by good weather and supported by a host of DMVAC volunteers. Congratulations to Claire Blunden and her Dorking 10s team on putting on such a great showcase for the club. This year the Dorking 10s celebrates 40 years and all runners will receive a commemorative bag. I'm sure it will be another highly successful event.

The introduction of the Membermojo membership system went smoothly last April and has given us much better visibility on membership and communication with members. The next test will be the first renewal process this April but we are confident it will be a smooth process! The system will send out email requests for 2026-27 at the end of March, and will automatically send out reminders at the end of April. It will also I'm afraid automatically remove members who have not paid after a given period.

On the coaching front, we have had success rebuilding the number of assistant coaches and full coaches in the club – thanks to Howard Jones' efforts and volunteers coming forward to undertake the EA coaching training. Nicola Barnard has completed the assistant coach course and is now doing a full coaching qualification. Richard Crump has started assistant coach with a view to doing full coach. Mary Mickle has started assistant coach. Mark Fitzgerald has completed assistant coach and has gone on to the full coach course but not completed. And Dan Evans has completed his full coaching qualification this year.



We have also gained two new club officials – Debbie Hodges and Richard Thomas, to augment our existing hard-working trio of Graham and Lesley Taylor and Martin Crayton. Thanks to Debbie and Richard for stepping up for the club with enthusiasm.

Charity activity

On the charity front, we have selected two local charities to support this year – Dyscover and Patchworking Garden Project - and are working closely with them so they get as much out of our support as possible. You may have seen Dyscover is offering charity race places to our members to help fund raise, and we have given both charities a table at the Dorking 10s and four race places, again for fund raising purposes.

Individuals can support the effort by donating through a JustGiving page I have created for the purpose.

Last year's charities – Action for Carers Surrey and The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity – were both very pleased for our support, which brought them each close to £2000.

Records galore!

Members have been active in competitions this year, with many good results. On a personal level, there were no fewer than 59 new club records set in 2025, 22 by the women and 59 by the men – with Kev Stroud setting no less than 13 of these!

Highlights include U20 Elise Hollis's 1.37 half marathon; three W50 records by Nikki Hutton at 3000m, 5000m and 10 miles; and two records by Sharon Walker in the W55 category, at 10 miles and half marathon.

For the men, Matthew Cluett set U20 records for the mile and just recently 10k, George James lowered the overall club marathon record to 2.10.10, Dennis Earl ran three V55 records at 10 miles, half marathon and marathon and Graham Mallett set V65 half marathon and marathon records.

Kev Stroud virtually rewrote the V60 record book last year, setting new times from 100m up all the way to 5000m on the track and road. Only Howard Jones stopped a virtual full house, taking the 10k road record at 40:26.

Growing club presence in Dorking

The year has also been a busy one in terms of club activities away from competing. In August we held a successful club day here in Pixham with around 60 members enjoying the good weather, some fun races with prizes, a BBQ, raffle and kit swap, plus an informative session on sports injury and fitness from Massimo Barcelona.

We also took part in the national Let's Lift the Curfew initiative to help female runners train safely at night and began a free Coach to 5k initiative.

Led by Paula Carter with help from Jaqui, Ruth and Caroline this has attracted around a dozen people looking to take their first steps into running. The first session took place on



Thursday 22 January and saw nine people of the thirteen registered take part on a rainy evening.

The programme uses the NHS Couch to 5k app and envisages participants undertaking three sessions a week, two on their own and one in a group led by DMVAC volunteers on each Thursday evening. The program will culminate after nine weeks with a local park run “graduation” on Saturday 28 March.

There are plans to repeat the initiative this autumn.

We also as a club took part in the recent Dorking Festival of Light with a lantern produced by Jacqui Callagan and Heather Macleod. And have also fielded a quiz team for the Patchworking Garden Project quiz evening, to help support them as one of our chosen charities this year.

CLUB AWARDS

The following were presented at the club’s Christmas dinner:

Club person of the year - Nick Seaman

Joe Lloyd volunteer of the year – Martin Crayton

Mabac medals and trophies

These awards go to the club’s highest scoring men and women in the Mabac cross-country league races over the year. Top three women were first, Paula Carter, second Chrissy James and third Fiona Thomas. For the men, the series was won by Tim Dadswell, followed by Will Letts and Kevin Stroud.

Phil Sears handicap

The winners of the Phil Sears club handicap for the 2024-25 season were: for the women, Caroline Whelan, and for the men, Sam Ivin, with the competition being decided only at the last race in March. Well done to them!

Runners up in the women’s competition were Zara Field and Alison Walton, in joint second, and in the men’s competition, Steve Bowie, second, and Andrew Dodds, third.

This season’s competition has one race left to run later this month on the 26th, with only 10-12 points separating the men and women currently in the lead.

Peter Trill Awards

The Peter Trill trophies are awarded based on performances in the Surrey Cross-Country League 24/25 season, recognising DMVAC members who consistently support the team throughout the season. This year they went to Charles Wheeler and Dawn Cook.



TEAM REPORTS

Women's cross-country report – Hannah Morris

The goal of the 2025/26 season was to get as many of the ladies' team out running cross country as possible. We had excellent turnouts at every event, especially at the relays, where we won a number of medals.

The success at the relays set the team up well for the start of the Surrey League. We finished 10th out of 15 teams, with a final score of 999 points across all four races - a brilliant team effort. We showed up, got stuck in, and supported each other through the sun, rain, and mud.

We had some fantastic individual successes:

Sharon Walker finished 1st in the W55+ age group.

Ria Woodfield finished 3rd in the W35+ age group.

And on her debut in the senior race, still as an under-20, Maisie Wates finished an impressive 12th.

A special shoutout also goes to Sam Knivett, who was the only runner to complete all four races, and did it on her debut in the Surrey League.

Well done to everyone who raced this season. Whether it was your first time or your tenth time racing for the ladies' team, it was great to see you out there and enjoying cross country.

Men's cross-country team report – Dan Jeffries

We'll start with the bad news... having gained promotion to Division 2 in the league last season, our new lucky cockerel wasn't lucky enough to help keep us there, and we'll be returning to Division 3 next season. The yo-yo analogy remains and it's probably a fair reflection of where we are currently. I'm confident we'll give our best shot at being promoted again.

League standing aside, we've had lots to celebrate. Our more seasoned runners stole the show and I'm sure the fierce competition for club records helped drive this!

We won V55 team gold at the Surrey Relays – with a team comprising Andrew Curry, Dennis Earl and Kevin Stroud.

This was backed up with a V55 team silver at the Surrey Masters with Andrew, Dennis and Fraser Dawson (an achievement itself, with him returning from heart surgery a few months prior).

Also on the team front, we stormed the new mixed category at the Reigate Relays, entering eight teams, winning gold with Pat Wright, Sharon Walker, Dan Evans & Ria Woodfield and bronze for Sam Ivin, Paula Carter, Andy Carne & Sue Rust.



Individual performances of note this season include:

Surrey XC Champs on home soil at Denbies - we had top 10 age group placers for Dan Evans, Andrew Curry, Nick Hodges, David Moore, Kev Stroud and Tim Dadswell.

Kev Stroud - 1st place V60 in league Race 1, 2nd place Race 3 and a bronze at the VAC Masters XC Champs, Nick Hodges also picked up the V50 Bronze at that event.

David Moore 2nd place V60 in Race 2, 1st place V60 Race 3.

Dan Evans, Bronze V35 Surrey Masters XC Champs, Nonsuch.

Matthew Cluett 2nd overall V20 for Division 2, Matthew and Daniel Campbell also represented the club at the National XC champs in Durham.

We entered a team for the first time at the South of England Masters Championships and again took part in both South of Thames XC races.

Forgive me if I've missed anything. I've focused on XC, there have been many excellent results on harder surfaces, across all distances too.

Thanks again to everyone who raced in a club vest this season.

Youth reports

Under 11s – Dan Evans

Sportshall

We had to pull out of the first meet of the season due to lack of athletes. We returned in January taking a team of boys. We started well, achieving what was a fantastic result for us against the larger teams. We currently have one athlete training with Surrey as a result of this Sportshall meet. Well done all.

Cross-country

We have taken athletes to every Downs league meet this year. We have previously struggled to encourage athletes to participate. This is fantastic, we have had some strong performances from the athletes even beating SLH in one of the meets. I would like to mention one athlete in particular: Freya Squires has attended every meeting this season and at times has been the only female DMVAC athlete. Well done to her.

Under 11s are currently really strong. We have a range of abilities and most engage when attending. Currently have 25-30 attending every week. Challenging at times but also very rewarding. Thanks to Linda who had been a great mentor for me, Lesley Taylor - her passion for athletics is inspiring. Dave Moore who has passed at assistant coaches course and lastly Flo and Daisy who have helped out during DoE.

Lastly anybody willing to offer time and help out this would be greatly appreciated.



Endurance group

This is led by myself and coach Mark Fitzgerald, assisted by Chris Parrott. We have coaches' taken over from Rob Russell, which goes to show how committed he was to his athletes. Rob has been a great mentor for me and is on the end of the phone at any time.

We have a small group but it is full of talent and works hard on training nights in some challenging conditions. There are a couple outstanding performances to note.

Sam Ivin, who recently became a parent for the first time, finished 51st in the Surrey champs this year in some proper cross-country conditions. Great result. Sam has continued this form into training and I'm looking forward to seeing him run this summer.

Matt Cluett, now U20 men 10km and 1 mile club record holder. He is a very consistent trainer and attends most sessions. Matt has now gone travelling and will be missed but I look forward to seeing him at training for the next cross-country season.

And also, Maisie Wates, who was selected for Surrey athletics and Surrey schools this year and competed for Surrey at the intercounties championships in Nottingham, finishing 73rd and coming in as 3rd Surrey finisher. Maisie also travelled to Liverpool last weekend to compete for Surrey schools in the nationals. Good luck to her and thank you to the club for supporting talented athletes.

Andrew Curry winner at most Surrey masters event this year alongside Fraser Dawson. Trains so well when training. Such a consistent trainer and a great influence for the younger athletes.

Lastly, thank you to the club for supporting my coaching journey. The athletes who attend my sessions it's great to see results and the progression of the athletes.

Under 13s – Kevin Irvine

As the awards show, we have some high achievers but most importantly we have consistent numbers training in our two weekly sessions. As coaches it's Chris Edwards' and my ethos that our athletes should enjoy themselves in training - which they certainly appear to do.

U15 update – Dawn Cook

From Easter, this group will represent U16s and I am working with other youth coaches to agree an athlete-centred transition. We coach a mixed programme of endurance, cross-country, track and field.

The group has shown great determination and resilience during winter training turning up regularly in cold and wet conditions. They work well together showing respect for other athletes and me. This age group manages a variety of demands on their time and energy including regular school exams and Duke of Edinburgh awards. We are very lucky that some of our athletes have chosen to support the U11 age group as volunteers on

Thursdays, before coming to their own training session. You may also notice some Dorking youth members volunteering at park run.



Athletes competed in the Lily B and Ebbisham track and field events, turned out full teams at the Bruce Judd relays and entered the Surrey cross-league races. We are now planning 2026 track and field training and events.

Mabac report

In the 2025 Mabac cross-country league, DMVAC came second this year to Epsom Oddballs and just ahead of Runnymede Runners, with Epsom scoring 4791 points, DMVAC 4334 points and Runnymede 3262 points after the series of nine races culminating in the final race at Wisley.

We won this league in 2024, with 6900 points so we need to step on it this year to reclaim the title! We are currently second after two races, again to Epsom.

Vets track league report

The Vets track and field league for over 35s was better attended last summer than in the past, we even managed to come third men's team one time! So well done all who made the effort to take part in these low-key but very enjoyable series of Monday evening events. Thanks especially to Charles Wheeler who captained the team so well.

This year we are also joining the Rosenheim track and field league in partnership with Reigate Priory. Events run on a Wednesday evening from April-July – to give people more opportunity to compete.

SAL report

A few staunch club members took part last summer in this area track and field competition for U18 and over. We compete in a team with Reigate and Holland Sports.

VOLUNTEER THANKS

So, my thanks are most appreciatively given to:

- All the committee members for all their diligent work over the last 12 months – they really have had a lot of items to consider
- The club team captains: Dan Jeffries and Hannah Morris, plus Charles Wheeler for the Vets track organisation and Patrick Martin as Mabac representative, and the youth team captains - Ness Kingham and Chris Lazenby.
- All the coaches and assistant coaches and run leaders, etc... who make possible the core activity of the club. And the volunteers to who turn out regularly to support them run their sessions.
- Club officials – Graham and Lesley Taylor and Martin Crayton – who represent the club as England Athletics officials and give their services at many cross-country and track and field events over the year. And to newly trained Debbie Hodges and Richard Thomas.



- Elizabeth Horner and her team for reknown post-Handicap meals and the excellent Christmas dinner at Pixham; and the team who produce the popular summer BBQs led by Martin Schlaepfi
- All who organise the Dorking 10s – race director Claire Blunden and her committee and team – for a great contribution to the club’s standing and presence as well as finances
- And the Winter handicap team led again this year by Paul Reeve
- Finally, Sam Knivett, for organising the club kit ordering and sales.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

First Ranmore run – Tuesday 14 April

First Pixham session – Thursday 23 April

Dorking 10s – Sunday 7 June

Denbies Mabac – Tuesday 16 June

Bench to Bench – Tuesday 23 June

Vets track league – Mondays - 18 May/22 June/6 July/27 July

Rosenheim – Wednesdays – 29 April/10 June/1 July/29 July

SAL – Sat or Sun - 16 May/21 June/19 July/8 August

Club Pixham day – Sunday 23 August

South of the Thames 5 mile – Saturday 28 November.

Many thanks for your attention. In the absence of Paul Hundermark, who has stood down as treasurer, I will go through the financials that he has prepared for us.

Appendix 3

Prepared by P Hundermark on 15 March 2026



Income

Club subscriptions were stable year-on-year at £18,000 after substantial growth in 2024.

A new membership system was implemented during the year, which we hope resulted in a more user-friendly member sign-up process and information more easily accessible to our membership secretary.

D10's generated a strong surplus in the year of £5.4k after donations to two charities totalling £3.7k which was a new initiative this year. Entry fee income was £5.6k higher than 2024 at £16.5k, after a record 700 entries. The D10s continue to be a positive contribution to the club funds.

The club received a £0.5k grant from England Athletics and donations from some of our members.

Expenses

Contribution to Pixham Sports Grounds decreased to £2.9k (almost half of last year) with no request for payment in Q4 due to the healthy financial position PSGA is currently in.

Hire of facilities include payments to St Martin's of £3.3k, Dorking Leisure Centre Hire £2.3k and a donation paid to National Trust where we run on Ranmore Common was £0.3k.

£1.7k of equipment capitalised in the year, a club gazebo and garage door defenders were purchased.

Continued to invest in the club and its people through £0.9k costs for Pixham ground track marking, £0.4k for lights for winter training, £1.9k for coaching courses, entry fees to club competitions £3.5k with the club paying for some entries to the Elmbridge 10k road race to broaden entry fees away from cross-country for adults.

Our garage was broken into twice during the year necessitating a spend of £0.5k, net of insurance proceeds to pay for repairs.

The surplus for the year is £5.2k.

Overall, the funds available have remained stable and sufficient to meet our requirements. At year end, the club's current account held £9.7k and the D10s account £14.7k. Savings are at £74.5k after interest of £1.3k.

The committee is looking at utilising the available funds to the benefit of members during the forthcoming year for coaching courses and renewing equipment.

New auditor

With the demise of our usual auditor, we have been looking for a replacement to audit the 2024 and 2025 accounts and future years. I'm pleased to say Bruce Smith has confirmed he's confirmed that he's happy to review our books.

Bruce is a Chartered Accountant, has previously fulfilled an auditing role, and is the Finance Director of the company FSD Group.

He is in the process of retiring but has agreed to review the numbers for 2024 -2025 and on-going.

Nikki our proposed treasurer who works with FSD adds that she would certainly recommend him both personally and professionally.