

Saskatoon Road Runners Association
Minutes – November 10, 2024 Annual General Meeting

1) Call to order (approximately 1:10 p.m.)

President Peter Goode chaired the meeting.

2) Approval of Agenda. Moved by Lorrie Dobni. Seconded by Dave Neuburger. All in favour, agenda approved.

3) Approval of the minutes from 2023 Annual General Meeting. Moved by Lyndon Smith. Seconded by Dave Neuburger. All in favour; minutes approved.

4) President's Report (Peter Goode)

Highlights:

- Successful year.
- Excellent Saskatchewan Marathon.
- Our relationship with Saskatchewan Athletics (always good) this year has been excellent, and some of our events were provincial championships.
- There are approximately 30 running clubs and many events in Saskatoon now. We therefore focused on unique events – Whiteswan Mile, Ekiden Relay.
- Thank you for your service for board members stepping down (Shona Iverson).

5) Treasurer's Report (Dave Neuburger)

Dave Neuburger reviewed the financial statements and the financial results for the year as of September 30, 2024

Balance Sheet:

- Total Net Assets of \$105,921
- GIC and cash balance – we have a GIC and cash balance of ~\$109,000 vs ~\$125,000 in the prior year.
 - The intentional reduced balance is the result of planned donations to Meewasin Valley Authority (Meewasin), partially offset by receipts from membership and interest.
- GST owing of ~\$2,800 – we continued accounting for GST using detailed tracking of GST collected on sales and GST input tax credits paid on purchases.
- Prepaid expenses – nil prepaid expenses this year, compared to ~\$130 last year.

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements:

- Overall net disbursements of \$16,843 in the current year vs \$18,678 in prior year, due primarily to:
 - ~\$85,000 in donations expense (~\$82,000 in prior year) to Meewasin - \$25,000 for the final payment of our \$125,000 3-year donation from surplus assets, and \$60,000 from the 3rd year of our 5-year agreement to donate net proceeds of the Saskatchewan Marathon.
 - offset by ~\$63,000 net revenue from races (~\$59,000 previous year), ~\$4,300 interest income (~\$3,800 previous year), net grant and membership revenue (discussed below).
- Schedule 1 shows the earnings from the races:
 - Marathon surplus of ~\$62,000 vs ~\$57,000 last year. Net proceeds donated to Meewasin.
 - Whiteswan Mile surplus of ~\$700. The surplus was a result of Lyndon Smith and Greg Fenty sponsoring the inaugural event.
 - River Run was not held this year. In the previous year it generated a surplus of \$1,700.

- Grants – annually we pay ~\$4,000 ‘A’ club fee to Sask Athletics and have then successfully applied for a Membership Assistance Program grant, resulting in the net positive dollar amount.
- Memberships – ~\$4,150 for the current year vs \$4,400 for the previous year. We had 173 adult members (180 in prior year) plus 4 youth members (3 in prior year).
- Office & website – continued to benefit from cost reductions implemented in the past few years.
- Storage - ~\$3,550 vs ~\$3,150 in prior year. Significant increases over the past few years.
- Insurance - ~\$685 vs ~\$620 in previous year.

Update: Resolution adopted at 2021 AGM - Donation to Meewasin Valley Authority

At 2021 AGM, the SRRRA adopted a motion “THAT the Corporation donate \$125,000 to the Meewasin Valley Authority, ... with a staged payment schedule ...”. This was based on recommendations that we:

1. Target a \$60,000 SRRRA year-end balance of Total Assets (cash in bank plus GICs) and manage Total Assets to within no more than \$100,000, as balances greater than that are excessive.
2. Donate \$125,000 from surplus funds to the Meewasin Valley Authority, with a payment schedule of \$75,000 in Dec 2021, \$25,000 by Dec 2022, and \$25,000 by Dec 2023, as a staged means of reducing our year-end balance to the target range within the next few years.

As update on progress:

- All three payments have been made for the full \$125,000 donation from surplus funds.
- Total Assets have been reduced from \$207,000 at end of fiscal year 2021 to \$106,000 at the end of fiscal year 2024, just above the high end of the target range (of \$60,000 to \$100,000).

Motion: Dispense with Requirements to Appoint an Auditor

WHEREAS the Corporation does not require the services of an auditor or any person to conduct a review of the financial statements of the Corporation, and it is therefore necessary for the appointment of an auditor or any such person to be dispensed with;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Corporation dispense with the appointment of an auditor and dispense with the appointment of any person to conduct a review of the financial statements of the Corporation, in respect of its fiscal year ended September 30, 2023, and in respect of all previous fiscal years of the Corporation and the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024.

Dave Neuburger moved *that this resolution be passed. Seconded by Lorrie Dobni*. All in favour and motion passed.

Motion: Accept Treasurer’s Report

Also, it is a requirement of The Non-Profit Corporations Act, 1995 that the financial statements of the Corporation be placed before the members at the meeting.

It is therefore confirmed that the financial statements for the last completed fiscal year of the Corporation were placed before the members at the meeting.

Greg Fenty moved to *accept the Treasurer’s Report. Seconded by Peter Goode*. All in favour and motion passed.

6) Membership Report (Dave Neuburger) Membership numbers for 2024 ae:

- Total 177 - Adult 173, Youth 4
- Of the 173 Adults, 11 are non-paying: lifetime members, special members and Board Directors. The remaining 162 are all regular paying members.

7) Communications Report

Facebook is our social media platform. We have 1.4K followers. 66% are women 34% are men. Age of followers - mostly in age groups 35-44 and 45-54. 58% are from Saskatoon 38% from Regina 27% from Warman 26% from Calgary. Most popular posts with interactions of likes and comments are those with media and photos often reaching 2.3k fb users. Our fb page is a work in progress and any suggestions and material are always welcome.

Website

- Not well used, but still important for SRRA to maintain a web presence.
- Current design is not maintenance-friendly. Site is WordPress based, but utilizes multiple editor applications which creates confusion and makes upkeep difficult. We require someone with (WordPress) web knowledge to basically clear the existing site so in-house maintenance will be easy and straightforward.
- Because the website is not well used, there is no need for extra or fancy features. It just needs to be utilitarian.

Newsletter

- Web based newsletter published monthly and e-mail to members.
- PDF format as that is what Greg is comfortable with. Still looking for some advice/training/education on utilizing newsletter applications (for example MailChimp).
- Content is a struggle.

8) Equipment Report

No report

9) Race Reports

- i) Whiteswan Mile (Lyndon Smith)
 - Reintroduced this event (Greg's brainchild from 1983 and 1984) after 40 years.
 - Uniquely, road mile events merge the road running and track communities.
 - Sask Athletics sanctioned the event as the provincial mile championships.
 - 43 registered, two record times – Masters Male and Masters Female.
 - Participant feedback was super positive.
 - For 2025 -July 6th (tentative), world certified, planning marketing of event, etc.
- ii) Ekiden Relay (Greg Fenty)

- Peter's brainchild to hold an Ekiden relay.
 - Compressed planning for 2024 event - we did get 6 teams (18 runners).
 - Thanks to Race Pros Sports for timing and SRRRA executive volunteers.
 - A big thank you to Jan Smith for sewing the sashes for the relay teams.
- iii) Saskatchewan Marathon (Kim Ali)
- Highly committed race committee made it possible to accommodate record registrations with a total of 5042 registered (3400 Marathon events, 1642 Marafun).
 - Most participants from Saskatchewan.
 - Participant feedback was overwhelmingly positive.
 - Over 500 volunteer positions – volunteer recruitment much smoother than last year.
 - Sask Athletics helped us bring back our elite runner program.

10) Discussion

Suggestions were provided by members in attendance at the meeting and good discussion ensued around two main suggestions and around dates for the 2025 event schedule. [NTD: I don't know names of the members who raised suggestions, and I didn't catch if they volunteered to serve on the Board, or to help with events but remain off the Board. Basically, please add to these notes, or change as appropriate.]

The suggestion was made to hold a trail race at Blackstrap. This fits well with earlier SRRRA experience as the Blackstrap event was highly popular as part of the trail race series SRRRA used to hold (until 2019).

The question was raised whether there are opportunities to explore ways for the Riversdale Athletics Club to collaborate with the SRRRA. One area of interest for Riversdale Athletics Club is to identify fundraising opportunities, such as volunteering at SRRRA events or holding running events. Another main area of interest is recognizing that the competitive athletics community and the road running community do not interact much and better connections is important for building the benefit of life long running for young competitive runners.

11) 2025 Event Schedule

Potential dates for planned events were discussed:

Saskatchewan Marathon – May 25, 2025

River Run – tentative

Whiteswan Mile – July 6, 2025

Ekiden Relay – August 17, 2025 (alternative date of September long weekend?)

Blackstrap Trail Run – October 4, 2025

12) Elections

The following members have volunteered to serve on the Board for 2025:

Lorrie Dobni

Erin Eccleston

Greg Fenty

Peter Goode (President)

Dave Neuburger (Treasurer)
Kaden Nilson
Carl Potts
Lyndon Smith

This meets the minimum (8) required number of board members per our Bylaw Articles.
Additionally at the meeting four additional members and one present on Zoom

13) New Business
None.

14) Adjourn
Moved by Lorrie Dobni. Seconded by Lyndon Smith

(Minutes prepared November 11, 2024 by Lorrie Dobni and David Neuburger.)