

# EGM of the Warwickshire Road Race League

26<sup>th</sup> March 2026 (virtual on Zoom)



**Convened to discuss changes to the league rules - papers circulated in advance**

## **Attendees:**

Chair - Kat Robertson (League Manager, Spa Striders), Tony Mackness (WRRL Treasurer, Northbrook AC), Eric Fowler (WRRL Hon Sec), Rebecca Freeman (Solihull and Small Heath AC), Steve Howes (Solihull and Small Heath AC), Matt Leydon (Spa Striders), Naomi Paterson (Spa Striders), Dave Henshaw (Spa Striders), Stephen Hundal (Leamington C&AC), Dave Goodwin (Massey Ferguson RC, Helen Rowe (Massey Ferguson RC), Richard Clarke (Kenilworth RC), Rob Carr (Kenilworth RC), Paul Smith (Nuneaton Har), Peter Thomas (Centurion RC), Jill Febesk (Balsall Common RC), Andrew Wadworth (Sparkhill Harriers), Stu Steele & Geoff Heaps (Lily Mae Foundation – non-voting attendees)

## **Apologies for absence:**

Brian Acford (Rugby and Northampton AC), Natalie Horlor (Balsall Common RC), Nav Akhtar (City of Birmingham Striders)

## **Discussion of the proposals:**

KR outlined the proposals as previously circulated to all league affiliated clubs. Some comments had been submitted in advance and minor changes made to some of the wording. All submissions were supportive of the changes. Comments made during the meeting are annotated below.

- Introduction of 5-year age categories for Masters runners

SS - 5-year bands are usual in swimming, cycling and triathlon and granularity of age bands supports participation by older athletes.

AW – this banding works well in Staffordshire. Clubs should align their race prizes to these age bands. KR responded that each race organiser determines a prize scheme and the league does not have governance over this aspect. Larger events may have more resources for awards than smaller races.

- Expansion of the V65 categories to add V70 and V75

SS – suggest having an 80+ category. KR responded that there was only one 80+ competitor in the race results analysed. There were 8 male, 6 females in the 75+.

RC – Kenilworth has considered adding 80+ for the 2-castles this race. KR – this is a very big event with wide catchment.

RF – trial what is proposed for this year and come back with further amendment if it appears justified.

- Chip time for WRRL races where Gun time poses a safety risk

RC – the 2-Castles race will use 'gun time' for the top 3 prizes in the open race with other awards determined from chip times. The issue arises if faster 'public race' runners are overtaking league runners in the narrow parts of the course.

KR – the League results co-ordinator has assured that the proposal can be managed in the WRRL calculations. ML confirmed.

SS – 'social' runners in some events may not understand 'gun time'. Agree that the actual positions for first 3 finishers be used as these will likely be near the front of the start anyway, with chip time for other awards.

KR – chip timing is used by organisers of the 2-Castles, Northbrook and Balsall Common for determination of their own race results; the league results will be calculated as now for all races except the 2 Castles where the start is released in timed ‘waves’. No other requests have been received.

RF - asked how a race organiser would formally request using chip timing and how this would be communicated to athletes. KR agreed to set this out.

- Amendments to the WRRR Rules

No further debate on this proposal.

#### **Voting record**

<b>Proposal</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>
Introduction of 5-year age categories for Masters runners	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>
Expansion of the V65 categories to add V70 and V75	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>
Chip time for WRRR races where Gun time poses a safety risk	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>
Amendments to the WRRR Rules	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>

#### **Decisions**

All four proposals unanimously carried for immediate implementation.

#### **AOB item**

A request submitted by Nav Aktar of City of Birmingham Striders – counting volunteering at your own club's race in your Ever-Present tally.

KR supports this idea as it would ensure that athletes from a promoting club that give up their chance to race in order to act as officials and marshals are not unfairly disadvantaged. Others agreed.

RF suggested that this be worked through with potential for a formal proposal at the AGM.