



Prairie StridersTM

Running Club

BROOKINGS, SD EST. 1969

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www.prairiestriders.net

Box 504, Brookings, SD 57006

Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025

Noon, Mills Construction, 1311 S. Main Ave., and via Teams at:

Present: Dave Graves, president; Randy Hanson, vice president; Jay Larsen, treasurer; Matt Buenger, Brett Pettigrew, Chuck Tiltrum. Present via Teams: Matt Bien, Kyle Behl.

1. Approved **Oct.4 minutes** for posting on website.

2. **2025 officer election**– The following officers were elected on a unanimous voice vote. They begin their one-term term in January.

- President – Dave Graves
- Vice president — Randy Hanson
- Treasurer — Jay Larsen
- Webmaster — Trevor Penning

3. Discuss what scholarship(s) to list on annual dues mailing —

Jay Larsen explained that from the 2025 annual mailing, donations for the Friends of Bob Bartling Scholarship generated \$1615 while the Prairie Striders/Phil LaVallee Memorial Scholarship generated \$595.

While Prairie Striders led a fund drive to bring the Bartling scholarship to \$100,000, the scholarship wasn't originally created as a Prairie Striders scholarship. As of Sept.30, the Prairie Striders scholarship had a corpus (donated amount) value of \$97,953 and a market value of \$126,625. It produces a \$2,000 annual scholarship. Both scholarships go toward SDSU track athletes.

Based on Jay's recommendation, it was voted that the only scholarship donation option on the 2026 annual mailing would be the Prairie Striders/ LaVallee Scholarship.

4. Status of leadership for Run4Fun Brookings & Predictor Mile — Katie M.
Not present. No update.

Race director reports

- **Community Turkey Day Run** — Nov. 27 — Becka Forester. 55 present.
- **Indoor 5K** — Jan. 24 — Dave Graves/Jay Larsen. 1 signed up today, but sign up doesn't begin in earnest for a couple more weeks.

Miscellaneous

1. **Newsletter mailing update** — Trevor Penning/Jay Larsen — Jay reported he has worked with Trevor to trim the electronic mailing list by not including race entries that are more than seven years old.
2. **Reminder on Friend of Running Award /Volunteer of the Year** — Nominations due by Dec. 8. The awards will be at the Indoor 5K. Nominations can be made on the Prairie Striders website. Go to club information and find the desired page.
3. **Frequent racer awards** — have been calculated by Heidi Ostrem
4. **Beef and Eggs financial status** — For timing, bib purchases, insurance and other expenses, the race owes the club \$1,113 from 2024 and 2025. Race director Kevin Bjerke hasn't been in contact with Jay or Dave Graves. Dave said he will reach out to Kevin to discuss finances and to talk to him about getting a local co-director. (Note: DG placed a phone call, texted and sent an email to Kevin the night of Dec. 2)
(Note: Prairie Striders has a policy that no race director needs to use personal funds when races have a deficit.)
5. **Matt Buenger**, the new director of the Brookings Marathon introduced himself. The event will remain in October for 2026. Matt has served on the marathon committee for three years and has participated in Prairie Strider races as well as many other road races. His wife, Natalie, has served as volunteer director the last two years. Matt is a 2019 civil engineering major from SDSU who works for Banner Associates.

Next meeting – Feb. 3 at Mills Construction, 1311 S. Main Ave. Budget/financial data