



Prairie StridersTM

Running Club

BROOKINGS, SD EST. 1969

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www.prairiestriders.net

Box 504, Brookings, SD 57006

Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2022

Noon, Mills Construction, 1311 S. Main Ave., and via Zoom

at: <https://sdstate.zoom.us/j/92085750989>

Present: Dave Graves, president; Jay Larsen, treasurer; Bob Bartling, John Blatchford, Randy Hanson, Susan Holt, Kati Merkley, Chuck Tiltrum. Present via Zoom: Matt Bien, Michele Buffalo-Knuppe.

1. Approved **July 5 minutes** for posting on website.
2. **Report on Run4Fun Brookings youth track series** — Kati Merkley reported on a fantastic first year of Run4Fun Brookings. A total of 240 kids were registered through the FCA website with more than 100 kids each of the Wednesday evenings. The peak night was July 27 with an estimated 130 kids.

Popsicles were a hit and the number of volunteers was adequate. “I couldn’t be more grateful for how people helped out,” Kati said.

She is considering adding a 4x100 relay for next year.

Appreciation was expressed for Kati’s initiative in making this successful far beyond what we would have hoped for.
3. **Update on future of race management for Brookings Marathon** — Matt Bien — reported that for 605 Running Co. to take over some management aspects of the Brookings Marathon would cost \$10,000 per year, as figure that couldn’t be sustained even with increased registrations and higher entry fees.

Matt will continue to search for a director who could shoulder more of the load in 2024 and beyond.

Matt did indicate there could be more cross promotion between 605’s Skedaddle Half Marathon and the Brookings Marathon.

4. **Update on purchase an assisted race chair - [The Blade Racer – Hoyt Running Chairs](#)** — Jay Larsen presented additional information from

Ainsley Angels, Road Runners Club of America and USATF.

USATF regarding insurance coverage. The Americans with Disabilities Act requires all athletes to be treated equally. So a rider and a racing chair pusher are both covered through USATF race insurance.

Following a motion and second to purchase the All-Around Hoyt Running Chair, there was considerable discussion and then a unanimous voice vote to approve the purchase for \$2,900. Delivery time is six-plus weeks and it will be kept at the Prairie Striders/ Brookings Marathon storage unit.

Discussion points focused on procedural and policy points. Matt Bien noted the club does have a position statement on wheelchairs.

(<http://www.prairiestriders.net/position-statements.html>)

This could be an anchoring point for further addressing running chairs. It also was noted that an application should be developed for the rider and the pusher.

There was a question about liability in using the running chair for practice outings, which wouldn't be covered by USATF sanctioning. Steve Britzman is to be asked if a general liability waiver would be adequate.

Note: I will draft a specific Waiver form which will cover use of the chair for practice outings. I will get it ready during the time we are awaiting delivery of the chair. The City of Brookings has developed various waivers for use of equipment by the public in similar circumstances. Steve, 8/4/22

Miscellaneous

1. **Newsletter update** — Dave Graves — October
2. **Next Sports Show appearance** — Andy Carlson — not present

Librarian's report — Bob Bartling presented his semi-annual report noting with today he is returning to SDSU Briggs Library after his hip replacement in April. Briggs Library Archives is in the process of putting the wrestling collection on the archives website. So far, 43,000+ matches (every SDSU wrestler who ever competed) is on the website. There are 3,000 photos needing to be identified.

This is the link to the online index: [Jim Koch Amateur Wrestling Collection Index - South Dakota State University Archives & Special Collections \(sdstate.edu\)](#)

Bob said the origins of the library can be traced to 1970, when the club purchased a lifetime subscription to Runner's World for \$70. Those issues and running books were put on display in 1976 in the basement shelves of the Bartling Brothers Furniture Store.

Race director reports

• **Beef and Eggs 5K** — July 9 — Jay Larsen received a check and a note from Kevin Bjerke. There were 141 entries and 136 finishers with organizers turning a profit for the first time in several years, largely thanks to having in-house electronic timing. That permitted

donations of \$500 each to Boys and Girls Club and the Prairie Striders/Phil LaVallee Memorial Scholarship plus \$300 for use of Prairie Striders bibs, software and equipment.

- **Predictor Mile** — Aug. 3 — Matt Schreiber/Kati Merkley/Susan Holt

- **Oakwood Lakes Trail Run** — Aug. 13 — Andy Carlson reported the following via email: 8 registered, numbers usually fill the last two weeks; handcrafted wooden race medals are my unique attraction this year; wouldn't turn down more volunteers.

Coffee, stretchy yoga, and visiting afterwards.

Matt Bien asked that old shirts be taken from the storage shed.

- **Jack 15** — Sept. 24 — Dave Graves 27 entries, which includes 3 teams. Need transportation service for runners. Other sponsorships have gone well. Matt Bien said he would contact Darcie Bien to see if a Brookings Boys & Girls Club van could be used.

- **Brookings Marathon, Half Marathon and Relay** — Oct. 22 — Matt Bien said committee meetings will begin in August. Since everything was in place for the May 13-14 events, planning will be simpler for the delayed event. Approximate race entries as of now: full – 80; half – 150; teams – 16. Caps: full – 200, half – 300 and teams – 30.

Next meeting – Sept. 6