



Prairie StridersTM

Running Club

BROOKINGS, SD EST. 1969

run@prairiestriders.net

www.prairiestriders.net

Box 504, Brookings, SD 57006

Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024

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

Present: Dave Graves, president; Randy Hanson, vice president; Jay Larsen, treasurer; Harry Mansheim, Brett Pettigrew, Chuck Tiltrum; present via Teams, Matt Bien, Dani Bohn, Shari Landmark, Kati Merkley.

1. Approved **July 2 minutes** for posting on website.
2. **Consider donation request for SDSU track and field** — SDSU track and field, through incoming freshman Brett Fraker, requested that Prairie Striders be a \$250 hole sponsor for the team's Sept. 14 fundraising golf tournament. Request approved on a unanimous voice vote.
3. Consider establishing a written policy to provide **financial assistance when race director(s) is using personal funds** to pay for reasonable direct race expenses. — Jay Larsen read a statement that produced considerable discussion. After which, it was agreed by consensus to reword and bring back at a future meeting.

It read: Position Statement: The Prairie Striders Running Club sponsors races in Brookings from one mile to the marathon. Race directors and volunteers make a personal commitment to fulfill the race/event responsibilities. The Prairie Striders officers and members assist, as needed, to organize, staff and conduct the sponsored races/events.

The Prairie Striders Running Club acknowledges and appreciates the race/event director(s) commitment, including financial stewardship, and will provide club financial assistance so personal funds are not used to pay reasonable race expenses when the race/event has no net income.

The general summary of discussion: No one wants a race director to have to foot the cost of a race out of their own pocketbook, however, structure needs to be put in place to determine reasonable expenses and insure the shortfall won't occur the following year

4. Discuss **need for volunteers for SD Festival of Books for Billy Mills** presentation. Is Prairie Striders providing financial assistance for Festival of Books (prior years paid for advertising).

Uncertain right now what needs Billy Mills will have while in town Sept. 20-21. Jennifer Widman with South Dakota Humanities Council will get back to Dave Graves. The program has already gone to the printer

5. **Discuss need for publicity guidelines for race directors** to get race information to media, running clubs, emails, etc. — Jay Larsen presented the following guideline:

Publicity guidelines for Prairie Striders start with the annual race/events sponsored events going to

- area calendars - [Calendar — Sioux Falls Area Running Club \(runsiouxfalls.org\)](#), [Upcoming Races in South Dakota \(runningintheusa.com\)](#)

- community calendars (Visit Brookings, magazines)

Suggested 3 months prior to race/event **and two weeks postings** on social media websites, especially Facebook sites Prairie Striders, Watertown Area Running Club, other area running clubs

- News media releases
- Emails to prior race participants

It was agreed that this is good information and should be sent to race directors at the start of the year. Dani Bohn and Matt Bien noted the marathon has about 20 race sites that their race is listed on. Randy Hanson (Hobo Day) and Dave Graves (Jack 15) asked to have the lists shared with them.

Race director reports

- **Run4Fun Brookings / Predictor Mile** — July 10, 17, 24, 31 — Kati Merkley — Run4Fun was again a great success with 86 to 100 kids per night. The July 31 event was canceled due to threatening weather. However, the storm held off, allowing for 13 to participate in the Predictor Mile, and in 4 in the kids 400-meter Predictor. Anna Mills repeated as the Predictor Mile winner.

Kati noted she may not be able to lead next year depending on her kids sport schedules. However, if that is the case she will search for a replacement for what has become a popular tradition in only three years.

- **Beef and Eggs 5K** — July 13 — **Kevin Bjerke**/Ryan Egeberg — 95 finishers, 107 entries. Strong late turnout, however, we lost about \$100 on the race this year even without giving any donations away. We are down \$1,000 from usual as both the Beef and Poultry sponsors couldn't help us this year...plus we gave out all \$1,200 in prize money (which I suppose will be the norm now with NIL and all...not sad about it, it's fun to see them earn it!).

Jay Larsen noted that the \$100 loss does not include the purchase of 500 bibs for \$800 by Prairie Striders from Race Results. Those custom bibs should be a three- to four-year supply.

• **Oakwood Lakes Trail Run** — July 20 — Andy Carlson reported via email that were 10 participants for a free group run. He also stated that his schedule may not permit him to lead the event next year. Members are encouraged to keep an ear out for someone who would be interested in directing.

• **Jack 15 road race** — Sept. 21 — Dave Graves he is a little behind in planning for this year's event. Runner transportation is still to be determined. Numbers are consistent with past years. As of Aug. 6, there are 25 individuals and six teams (19 runners) entered.

• **Hobo Day 5K** — Oct. 12 — Randy Hanson reported registration is tentatively set to open Aug. 7. The committee will meet Aug. 7. It will consider donating a portion of the proceeds to the Bartling scholarship drive and/or giving participants an opportunity to donate to the scholarship when registering. There also may be discussion about a special mug in this first race since Bob's passing.

• **Brookings Marathon** — Dani Bohn reported the race will be making a \$10,000 donation to the Boys and Girls Club. She also reported the marathon committee is working with its timer (Anderson Race Management) about moving the event to the fall in order to be able to tap into college volunteers.

The committee would want to avoid football game days because of the demand both events would have on law enforcement support.

Miscellaneous

1. **Newsletter update** — Dave Graves — At the printer for design now. Hoped to be in people's email by the end of the week.
2. **Update on Friends of Bob Bartling Scholarship drive** — Dave Graves reported that Dave Bartling checked with the SDSU Foundation Aug. 5. The fund total, which started at \$50,000, is at \$72,000. Letters were mailed July 16, so Graves was pleased with progress to date.
3. **Update on Bob Bartling plaque for Briggs Library** — Dave Graves hoping for the plaque's arrival in advance of Aug. 26, Bob's birthday.
4. **Running chair report** — To be used at Center for Disabilities Run, Walk and Roll Sept. 14 in Sioux Falls; think about finding pusher/rider for Hobo Day 5K Oct. 12.
5. **SDSU Athletics endowment dinner Sept. 26** — Dykhouse Stadium. Jay Larsen is to represent the club.

Next meeting – Noon, Tuesday, Sept.3, at Mills Construction, 1311 S. Main Ave.