**Dulwich Park Runners Mid-Year Club Forum 19 September - 2023 DPR Club Survey Results**

This paper summarises the results of the survey of members carried out in July-August 2023, and suggests some potential actions from the findings. The annex contains a full rundown of the results in an anonymised format.

The survey had 41 respondents, which represents 20-25% of the membership. Most respondents answered all of the quantitative questions, with around half of respondents answering the qualitative questions. The results are broadly very positive, and indicate that respondents are happy with the club’s offer. Respondents were particularly positive about the level of support for members, the club’s friendly and welcoming atmosphere, and the club’s social offer.

There was limited critical feedback or suggestions for improvements, but we’ve picked out the below points to consider (again anonymised, and in no particular order):

|  |  |
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| **Comment** | **Potential action** |
| Some respondents expressed interest in more running opportunities, particularly on Saturdays or weekday daytimes. | Communicate beginners and parkrun ladder (both Saturday) as core running opportunities. |
| Consider further Saturday runs when beginners and parkrun ladder not running. |
| Consider offer of weekday daytime runs, noting that previous takeup has been very low. |
| Some respondents said that they would like more trail or hilly running routes. | Offer more hilly or trail type runs on Tuesday evenings and Sunday runs, potentially as an alternative to the main routes. |
| Some respondents commented positively on the team spirit that comes with competing as a club | Consider whether there are any further opportunities to do this outside of summer relays, summer league and cross country. |
| Some respondents commented that they do not use Facebook. | Ensure that any club news posted to Facebook is copied to WhatsApp or the newsletter. |
| Some respondents would like the club to have a better offer for junior runners. | Running a club event at junior parkrun encouraging members with children to come, perhaps on a monthly basis if we have sustained interest. |
| Reducing junior membership fee to a token amount (£1?) to remove barriers to participation at summer league races. |
| More than 20% of respondents were unable to agree that they were not included or consulted in the club’s decision-making. | Welcome ideas |
| Inclusion issues | More clearly signpost food available at club events for those with dietary requirements. |
| Continue to identify and implement best practice in including transgender athletes in competition. |

**The Committee  
September 2023**

**Annex – Detailed Results**

*Q1. We currently offer regular running opportunities on:*

* *The main club runs at 6.30pm and 7.30pm on Tuesday evenings*
* *Coached sessions on Thursday evenings*
* *Regular social or long distance runs on Sunday mornings*

*Do you think this offer is about right, too few or too many opportunities?*

*Q2. What do you think about the following elements of the club’s regular running offer?*

Ranked from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest), the average scores were:

* Facilities and Venue – 4.3
* Routes – 4.4
* Coaching and Support – 4.6
* Logistics and Organisation – 4.6

*Q3. Do you have any comments on what we do well or suggestions for improvement on these regular running opportunities? For example, if you'd like the club to offer more regular running opportunities, when would you like these?*

18 people responded to this question. The most common themes were:

* general positive comments on the club’s offer (4)
* requests for more runs on trails or featuring hills (3)
* requests for more weekday runs in the daytime (3)
* requests for more weekend runs (e.g. Saturday) (2)
* non-specific requests for more organised running opportunities (2)

*Q4. The club also offers regular running opportunities in a competitive setting, as listed below. How likely are you to participate in each of these?*

Ranked from 1 (least likely) to 4 (most likely), the average scores were:

* Dulwich Dash – 3.2
* Summer League – 3.1
* Cross Country – 3.2
* Summer Relays – 2.8
* Club Championships – 3.0

*Q5. With reference to Q4, do you have any comments on what you particularly enjoy about these events, or changes which would encourage you to participate?*

22 people responded to this question. The most common themes were:

* Positive reflections on enjoying competing as a club / with collective team spirit (6)
* That time and other commitments were a barrier to participation (5)
* Enjoyment of the inclusive aspects of these events for runners of all paces (3)
* Noting that the respondent was more interested in social running (2)

1 person noted that they found inclusion issues were a barrier to participating in these events.

*Q6. The club also organises regular social events. These include our annual dinner, club picnic, quiz night, outings to local cultural or sporting events, and picnics or trips to the pub after our regular runs.   
  
Do you have any comments on what you enjoy about the club's social offering, or how this could be improved?*

22 people responded to this question. The majority (14) expressed general positive comments on the club’s social offer. 1 person noted potential dietary issues as a barrier to participating.

*Q7. Looking further afield, we've previously organised running trips away. How likely are you to participate in any of the below?*

Ranked from 1 (least likely) to 4 (most likely), the average scores were:

* A one day outing to do a non-competitive run outside of London – 3.1
* A one day outing to do a race or event outside of London – 3.0
* A weekend away in the UK – 2.9
* A weekend away abroad – 2.6

*Q8. Do you have any comments or suggestions on how the club communicates with members (including via newsletter, Facebook, Whatsapp etc)?*

21 people responded to this question. The most common themes were:

* General positive reflections on the club’s communications with members (10)
* Noting that either the respondent, or others, do not use Facebook (6)
* Positive feedback on the introduction and use of WhatsApp (5)
* Having difficulty accessing the newsletter (2)

*Q9. Overall, how likely would you be to recommend DPR to a friend interested in running?*

*Q10. Could you please tell us to what extent you agree or disagree with the following?*

Ranked from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree), the average scores were:

* The club is equally accessible to all members of the local community – 4.5
* The club recognises differences between individuals and groups – 4.7
* The club is a welcoming place for everyone – 4.9
* All members are included and consulted in decision making – 4.2
* The club reduces barriers to participation for everyone – 4.6
* There is no tolerance of discrimination, bullying, and harassment in the club – 4.7
* I understand what the club is trying to do in terms of diversity and inclusion – 4.5

*Q11. With reference to Q10, what do you think the club does well to support diversity and inclusion, and what should it start doing/do better?*

21 people responded to this question. The most common themes were:

* General positive feedback on the club (6)
* Stating that the club should be seeking to increase participation by people under 18 (4)
* Specific positive feedback on the beginners course (2)

*Q12. The club's mission, vision and values are on our website homepage (https://www.dulwichparkrunners.co.uk/). To what extent do you agree or disagree that the club currently achieves its vision?*

Ranked from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree), the average scores were:

* To create opportunities for all sections of the community to enjoy running and feel part of a community of runners – 4.7
* To create a social network providing regular opportunities for social interaction for runners and their families – 4.7
* To help individuals improve their running performance and enjoy competing – 4.8

*Q13. To what extent do you agree that the club successfully embodies each of our values?*

Ranked from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree), the average scores were:

* Respect: We appreciate the ‘running journey’ of each member of the club and that everyone has their own challenges, obstacles and ambitions which are of equal value regardless of ability – 4.9
* Community: Members are supportive of each other, and the overall ethos of the club is one of providing a warm welcome and encouragement to individual members – 5.0
* Competition and Sportsmanship: For those members who wish to develop their running and/or compete, the club will promote opportunities to achieve their goals, and celebrate their success – 4.9
* Diversity: The club welcomes all runners regardless of their background – 5.0

*Q14. Is there anything you'd like to add to your answers to questions 12 and 13 which would help us better meet our vision and values, or which isn't covered above?*

3 people answered this question, with no common theme.