



General Membership Meeting

Knights of Columbus Hall

6254 Vicksburg St.

New Orleans, LA 70124

Tuesday, January 22nd, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

- I. Call Meeting to Order (Fred Ruckert, President)
- II. Moment of Silence & Pledge of Allegiance (Casey Urschel, Vice President)
 - a. Moment of silence for Lee Montgomery and announcement of arrangements
- III. Treasurer's Report and Financial Recap (Geoff Rose, Treasurer)
 - a. 15K approximately in net revenue first six months
 - b. Slightly under \$1.2 MM in bank accounts
- IV. Reports of the Executive Board (Fred Ruckert, President)
 - a. State of the Club Report
 1. Larry Fusilier race – Board decided to shift from namesake race to another honor and to do away with race itself for participation, permitting, manpower and financial reasons
 - i. Awards at Annual Ole Man River to be named after Larry Fusilier
 - ii. Complaint (including mild vulgarity) from a member that club has no long runs other than half marathon
 2. Question regarding why meetings such as race committee and HOF committee are not posted for public consumption and attendance by members who want to be heard – the Board will post such meetings in the future
 - i. Next Race Committee meeting announced as January 28, 2019 at 6:30
 - ii. Members reminded they are free to attend Race Committee and Board meetings

3. Update on track meets and summer series
 - i. Questions why Board decided to decrease from four to two summer series races - Board member explained it was based primarily on lack of adequate number of permits and need to use them for larger Club races
 - ii. Questions why track meets limited to one per year – Board member explained decision was based primarily on demand by organizers that Club “own” the race and the view of Board that Club lacked resources and personnel to put on four additional NOTC official events
4. HOF chairperson Anne Marie St. Clair introduced and call for nominations after Mardi Gras
5. Scholarship committee – introduce Rob Stevens as Chair and directed questions to Rob
6. Noted volunteer appreciation party and thanked those involved
7. Announced new two-year contract for Race Director, Chloe Nicolosi

b. RRCA Convention in New Orleans – March 28 -31, 2019

1. Call for attendance at RRCA Convention in N.O. by RRCA Rep. Aaron Boudreaux
2. Discussion of events associated with convention

V. Executive Race Director’s Report (Chloe Nicolosi, Exec. Race Director)

a. Report on last 6 months of races

Ended summer with the first annual New Orleans Pride Run & Walk. With over 800 registered participants, a beautiful new venue in Crescent Park, and unprecedented number of partnerships supporting the event, race was a great success. We then kicked off the fall racing season with the 5th Annual NOLA Bluedoo Run/Walk benefitting Tulane University’s prostate cancer research. 2018 was the best year yet for this event, raising \$193,000 for Prostate Cancer Research setting a new record. Following that, was the Oktoberfest race at the Moss St. Deutschus Haus location along Bayou St. John. Despite the warm weather, we still had a great race. We are addressing the feedback received from participants and looking to revise the day and start time.

November brought the YMCA Corporate Cup Race: Second Line for Literacy and the New Orleans Athletic Club’s 111th Turkey Day Race on Thanksgiving morning. We ended 2018 with the 37th Annual Ole Man River Half Marathon and 5K, running through Old Gretna and finishing along the Mississippi River levee with the beautiful view of the city.

We held the 112th Jackson Day Race in Chalmette again this year. Despite a few setbacks due to the government shutdown, we still had a very successful and beautiful race morning. St Bernard Parish has been nothing but great to work with.

b. Upcoming races and programming -

In a little over a month we will have the 3rd annual Mardi Gras 5K on Saturday, February 23rd. We will have a new course for this year’s race, starting and finishing on the Family Gras Festival Grounds in Clearview Mall parking lot. The Councilwoman

Jennifer Van Vranken will be back again as one of the 2019 Mardi Gras 5K sponsors, along with Gulf Coast Bank as a supporting sponsor. Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers is back on board this year, as the presenting sponsor of the Mardi Gras Kids' Half Mile event, providing each youth half mile finisher receiving a complimentary Raising Cane's kids meal valid at any one of their 20 Greater New Orleans restaurants.

Kicking off the spring race season: The 52nd Al Briede Gold Cup, will be March 23rd. This event will be held in Audubon Park, and will once again be a Crescent City Classic qualifier. Coming up on April 6th is the Bursting with Speed 5K along the Lakefront. As always, there will be multiple raffle prizes for all registered participants and prize money to the top male and female finishers.

As a club, we have worked hard to improve the overall race experience for each participant through varying race distances, unique courses, and a variety of new sponsors.

VI. Reports of Standing and Special Committees:

- a. Bylaws Committee (Sylvia Kamp, Member at Large) - Informed membership that by-laws are under review and input is welcomed
- b. Nominations Committee (Fred Ruckert, President) - Fred asked for participation on the committee from the general membership
- c. Race Committee Meeting (Fred Ruckert, President)

VII. New Business

- a. Questions from General Membership
 1. Question about availability of meeting minutes once they are approved
 - Minutes should be available online once approved – the Board will take steps to make this happen
 2. Observation from member George Melichar about importance of diversity and what we are doing to bring more diverse leadership into the club
 - Fred Ruckert responded that the nominations committee will make efforts to recruit board members that are representative of the membership at large, and that the NOTC has already taken broad steps to make our events more inclusive by partnering with organizations that are outside our traditional scope. One main step to promote inclusivity was producing the first New Orleans Pride Run & Walk, which showed that we are welcoming to ALL runners and walkers of any ability.

- This question was met with a loud outburst from a single member who was asked by Club leadership to leave the meeting, which he did after being escorted out..
 - Fred Ruckert disavowed this outburst as not representative of the club, it's Board of Directors, or membership.
3. Motion from the floor to end questions from General Membership, seconded and approved by voice vote with no dissent.

VIII. Grand Prix 2018 Awards – Awards announced and handed out to recipients, all of whom were congratulated.

IX. Adjournment

The tentative date for the next general membership meeting is in last two weeks of June 2019.