

## **CLUB HISTORY**

### ***Providing Locally, Supporting Nationally***

Aug 2010 – Sep 2010

With support of Quest88 and South Ayrshire Council, two “Come & Try a Running Bike” events were held at our local athletics track.

Oct 2010

Club formed by parents. The first running bike club in Scotland. Club to initially focus on children due to very limited number of bikes.

Quest88 donates four ex-demonstration bikes on understanding bikes will be used both locally and to help develop RaceRunning in Scotland.

Nov 2010 – Mar 2011

On 8<sup>th</sup> Nov, the club held its first club meeting at Carrick Academy, Maybole. The club continued to meet at Carrick Academy on Monday nights through the winter.

The Club conducted Come & Try Events at Scotstoun Leisure Centre, Glasgow and a Come and Try Session at Edinburgh.

Apr 2011 – Sept 2011

On 25<sup>th</sup> Apr, the club holds its first club meeting at Dam Park Stadium (Ayr athletics track). The club continues to meet at Dam Park Stadium on Monday nights through the summer.

The Club took delivery of four new running bikes, 1 donated by Land Engineering and 3 funded from funds raised for the club by David Anderson, Michael Burke & David Sherlock in completing the Etape Caledonia Challenge and the South Ayrshire Council’s ‘Dress Down Day’.

Members from the club competed in seven disability athletics events including Scotland, England and Denmark.

The Club participated in two special events (Highlands Cycling Festival & George Sq – 3 Years to Go) and demonstrated the bike and provided opportunity to try. The club also conducted Come & Try Sessions at two schools.

Oct 2011

The club took delivery of a trailer purchased from a Bike Club grant. The trailer will assist with transport of bikes to the Winter Venue, events, competitions and Come & Try events.

Nov 2011

ASDA Ayr organise fundraising events for the club.

The club returns to Carrick Academy on Monday nights through the winter.

The club organises first Winter Indoor Running Bike Festival at Grangemouth which is a huge success allowing both new and experienced RaceRunners to come together for a day of fun & friendship.

South Ayrshire Access to Sport successfully apply for funds from Tesco and ‘Awards for All’ to buy 4 larger bikes for the club so we can now target adults as well as children.

Dec 2011

Two of our club members, Gavin & Kayleigh travel to the IWAS (International Wheelchair & Amputee Sports Federation) World Games in Sharjah, UAE where RaceRunning events are included for the first time. IWAS is second only to the Paralympics in stature (it was from IWAS that the Paralympics evolved from). Competing against athletes from Denmark and Sweden, they collect gold medals in each of the four events (100m, 200m, 400m and 800m) both setting four world records each.

Apr 2012

As the result of tremendous support from the public, the club secures an RBS Community Force Award which allows us to buy more desperately needed bikes. We are chosen by the Community Force team to be filmed. A film crew spent a day with us at our second successful Indoor Festival. The resulting film is just wonderful and can be viewed on the website.

Apr 2012 – Oct 2012

The club moves back to Dam Park Stadium on Monday nights for the Summer months. Interest in running bikes in Scotland and beyond continues to grow and the club attends “Come and Try” sessions from Aberdeen to Gateshead and in between.

Our members as well as those in other areas participate in disability athletics events in Scotland and England.

Gavin and Kayleigh are invited to the EPC (European Paralympic Committee) Youth Games in Brno, Czech Republic where they once again take the titles in three events and again setting three world records each against athletes from Denmark, Sweden and Hungary.

Oct 2012

In partnership with East Ayrshire Council, RaceRunning sessions commence at the new Ayrshire Athletics Arena at Kilmarnock on Thursday nights.

It was intended that ACE winter club sessions would move to the indoor facility at the Arena, however it was discovered that the Arena was not heated and therefore too cold.

We return to Carrick Academy for a few weeks but we have outgrown this space and must say goodbye.

Apr 2013

The club is now into its third year and consolidated in its operations:

Monday night Sessions at Dam Park Stadium, Ayr, during summer months

Wednesday night Sessions at Ayrshire Athletics Arena, Kilmarnock, during summer months

For those that wish to compete, facilitating their training and attendance at competitions

Supporting other clubs/groups who wish to include Running Bikes as part of their activities, organising ‘Come & Try’ sessions if required.

We were chosen by the Rotary Club of Ayr to be the main charity to benefit from their Annual Golf Charity Day & Dinner Dance allowing us to buy five bikes in smaller sizes.

Oct 2014

The Wednesday night Session moves into Kilmarnock Harriers AC to become the first activity offered by their newly created Disability Athletics section. This exciting development provides long term stability for this group.

Interest in Running Bikes continues to grow throughout Scotland and there are now also opportunities in England and Wales.

June 2016

Ayr Seaforth Athletics Club, who are based at Dam Park Stadium in Ayr, set up a disability athletics group. The Monday night Running Bike sessions become part of Ayr Seaforth, and other disability athletics disciplines will follow. It was always an aim of A.C.E. that the RaceRunning would evolve into a disability athletics group and this is a very exciting development.

July 2018

A.C.E. RaceRunning becomes a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) and our name changes to ACE RaceRunning, Charity No SC048258.

March 2020

Due to Covid-19 no club sessions run in 2020.

April 2021

Sessions resume, but it is a couple of years before competition opportunities return to normal.

March 2023

Sessions return after our winter break at the new and accessible Riverside Sports Arena in Ayr.

The club acknowledges the tremendous support that we have received from the local community which has enabled us to continue to provide the opportunity of independent movement to those with a physical difficulty that affects their balance and mobility.

We also acknowledge the hard work undertaken by the parents on the committee and say a heartfelt thank you to them and to all the volunteers who assist us.

***Enabling Locally, Supporting Nationally***