

As 2020 is closed out we all begin to look at the future and the promise it holds. 2020 has been about change and the MS Track Club is no different. In order to survive it is important to adapt to the new environment. The benefits of living a healthy lifestyle have become more evident this past year. MS Track Club was organized in 1971 to promote this lifestyle. Along the way we helped other community groups and non-profits to bring awareness to their mission by helping them with their road racing events. At one time the MS Track Club was the only game in town, and it was not uncommon for us to put on 1 to 2 events a weekend. This was all done with volunteers, no paid labor. During our 41 years of service, we have been primarily led by three people, Bob Coleman, Jim Myrick and Jack Ward. There have been countless other volunteers, too numerous to mention, that have also given their time and energy. The MS Track Club has been a labor of love for so many, for so long. One thing remains constant, the need to help organizations and communities promote a healthy lifestyle.

One proposal that is being considered is for the MS Track Club to become a 501c (3) non-profit which will allow the Club to accept tax-free donations and grants. MTC will transition from being a timing organization to an organization promoting the benefits of living a healthy lifestyle through physical activity and diet. Jack Ward, who has given so much to the existence of MTC, will lead the wellness program and continue to attend health fairs and other civic meetings promoting the MS Track Club and healthy living.

MS Race Timing & Management will chip time and manage, as needed, any races on the 2021 MTC calendar, events, organization, and the operation of the Mississippi Track Club. MS Race Timing is committed to keeping the same format and price structure as MTC during 2021, so our existing races should see no change. It is the goal of MTC to host about three races per year to bring our membership together throughout the year to continue the tradition of the Club – community! These races will also act as our major fund raisers throughout the year to fund programs to promote the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and to promote our membership. It is the intention of the Track Club to continue with the Grand Prix program, working with local groups to help promote this the value this program brings to MTC.

All the details are not finalized as we are in the beginning phases with 2021 being the transition year. We want to continue to build relationships with the running community. We hope to have a membership drive, run, and meeting in February. Please invite those who you feel would like to be a part of our Club!

Please respond with any input and ideas you may have. Let us know what you want the MS Track Club to be. This is your club... all ideas are welcome!

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