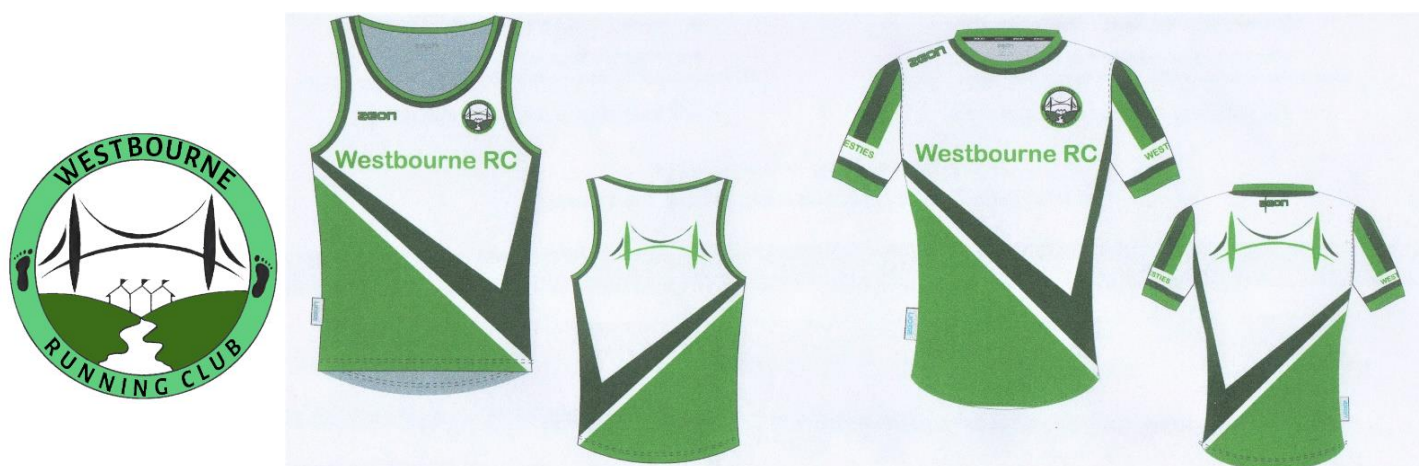


Westies New Kit Newsletter

Dear all, we are pleased to say that the Kit Sub-Committee plus the Westies actual Committee have reached agreement on our new Club shirts and this newsletter tells you all you need to know about the process, the conclusion and, most importantly how you can order what you would like.

Process

Having designed a logo and shirts late last year and, as per the drawings below, these were shown to Westies at the Christmas party, the AGM and also via an online survey which we created which was sent to all current members for their views.



The results of the survey and the feedback from many people was extremely favourable in that we had created a shirt/logo that retained the core colours of the Club but with a more customised look that would be easier to see in a crowd and instantly recognisable, different from other clubs, and highlighting something about our club that makes us Westies – namely the Alum Chine bridge which features in the logo but also on the reverse of the shirts/vests across the shoulder blades.

Having agreed this design, the next stage was to get England Athletics approval and Liz Dyle sorted this and our new designs were approved in January.

The next stage was to choose a manufacturer. Our remit was threefold:

- To supply shirts that were comfortable quality and practical for all;
- To keep prices to a level indicated as affordable by members; and
- To find a supplier that could potentially offer us other items of clothing.

Four potential manufacturers were investigated, and shirt samples obtained so we could assess the materials used, prices negotiated, and discussions took some weeks with each potential supplier. Several people were able to do test-runs in various actual shirts as well so we could assess how they were to run in.

Conclusion

With costs and quality top of our agenda, this fairly quickly came down to a choice between two companies as the others were too expensive or poorer quality. We chose **Zeon** (www.zeonsports.co.uk) as, although slightly more expensive for an initial order than the second-choice manufacturer, the quality was superb and those Westies who test-ran a sample shirt all liked the fabric, stretch and breathability of the shirt.

The shirts will all be sublimated printing which means the colours and logo should not run or fade over time (provided they are not washed above 30° as per the washing instructions). Zeon is a specialist in running shirts and a leading supplier in custom-made sportswear. The fabric for our new shirts will be a 130gsm super lightweight Next Generation fabric designed for running, called NxGn Moma 130.

Recycled fabrics were considered but the survey results did not make this a priority for most members and the quality was not as good nor the comfort as nice so this was not pursued further.

Prices and Sizes

So, Zeon have agreed that for our first order they will honour prices from 2021. We are hoping that existing members will all want to order at least one item from the new kit in the initial order. Prices are consistent with approximately the average prices people said they'd pay in the survey.

Costs (including VAT) are as follows:

Vest - £24.90

Shirt - £29.90

Sizes are as below. We measured a sample medium and a large shirt. The medium was actually 38" so might be smaller than you'd expect, whilst the large was 42". People prefer different fits so it's up to you. Our test group, including Tim Evans and David Child, tried a large shirt, and this seemed a good size for them.

Unisex shirts

Label	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL
Chest - inches	36	38	40	42	44	46
Neck size	14.5	15	15.5	16	16.5	17

If you cannot see the size you want here or are interested in children's sizes please speak to Lucy.

Ordering Process

Please could you email your orders to Lucy Evans who will collate the orders and liaise with Zeon as required. Lucy is on lucyevans15@yahoo.co.uk. Please make it clear whether you want a shirt and/or vest and what size you want and please write "Kit Order" in the subject line of your email. Please confirm in your email that you have paid for your kit, and how you have done so, as per the instructions below. Shirts are customised so will not be returnable to Zeon.

Timing

We would ask that you place your order no later than **25th March 2022** – this should give us time to get the initial order sorted in time for some of the key races coming up this year. Initial indications are that we would receive the kit during the second half of May with an order placed at the end of March.

Payment

Payment should be made to the Club either by bank transfer or by cheque with the reference of your name followed by “Kit” either written on the back of the cheque or in your bank transfer. Any cheques should be made payable to Westbourne RC and sent to Liz Dyble as Club Treasurer at the address below. Payment must be made at the time you send Lucy your email. Bank details as follows:

Account Name: Westbourne RC
Sort Code: 40-46-11
Account Number: 81421336

Cheques to be sent to: Liz Dyble, Club Treasurer, 3 McWilliam Close, Poole BH12 5HP

Delivery

The Club has kindly agreed to cover any delivery costs for the initial order, and we hope that these will be able to be distributed or picked up by late May. We will of course let you know when the shirts have been delivered to us so we can arrange how you will get your order.

Other clothing items

Zeon have a range of other clothing items that we are going to customise and hoping to offer in a few months' time. These will include hoodies, vest tops and hats and we will update you when these items will be available.

Any questions?

There are some FAQs below but please feel free to email lucyevans15@yahoo.co.uk with any other questions at any time.

FAQs

1. What happens if I don't order now or miss the deadline?

We must submit orders with a minimum number of shirts/vests. This first order should easily meet the minimum number, but a second order won't be made until much later in the year. Unfortunately, if you miss out this time, you may have to wait a while. Also, don't miss out on the negotiated 2021 price - 2022 prices will be slightly higher.

2. When will further orders be taken?

We can't be sure as it depends on demand but it's unlikely to be until next Autumn/Winter. An influx of new members might see an earlier re-order date.

3. How realistic are the sizing charts?

We are satisfied that the sizes given by Zeon are realistic. We've had some samples on trial and they seem to be just right.

4. How will the kit be delivered to me?

Zeon will deliver the bulk order to Liz Dyble. Once received, we'll let you know and arrange to get your kit to you. This might be at a local parkrun, a social event or collection might be possible.

5. What happens if I order the wrong size?

We'll try to help but can't promise anything. It may be possible swap your "wrong sized" shirt for the right size if the Club has it available which is not likely in the next 6 months. Much better to order the right size with reference to Zeon's chart. Don't just look at sizes in other kit you already have - one company's Medium is another's Large!

6. When will we be able to order hoodies, jackets etc?

It was important to get the race wear sorted out first. Zeon do a good range of outer wear such as hoodies, rain jackets, warm-up tops etc. We will probably adopt a standard club design of black with green trim plus of course the Westies logo. We'll give you more details on what's available and the prices later in the year.

7. Do we have to wear the club kit when running in competitions?

The Club rules about wearing kit were discussed at the 2022 AGM. It was agreed that for official events where either you've obtained a discount on the entry fee by quoting your EA registration number or the rules of the event specify that Club vests are to be worn, Westies should wear their Club vest or T shirt. Events like parkruns or charity runs do not need you to wear Club kit.

8. I only recently bought a new shirt so can I get a refund on that?

The Club cannot provide refunds on shirts already purchased but if anyone feels that they are not getting fair value for money given the timing of their previous shirt purchase please speak directly to Lucy.

9. Are the shirts/vests available in Ladies cut?

No. We spoke to members of Purbeck Runners who also use Zeon kit. Initially they had a ladies option but this was dropped as they found the fit less comfortable than the unisex cut. Additionally, the minimum order numbers are per cut which we may find hard to achieve.