



South Wales Regional Athletics Council

Date: Tuesday, 20 August 2024

START: 6:30pm

END: 8:20

Venue: Cardiff International Sports Complex, Leckwith Road

Chair: Chris Pratt (Chair)

Regular Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Chris Pratt (**Chair / Ogmore Phoenix**), Kyle Perry (**Secretary / Barry & Vale Harriers**), Steph Iverson (**Bridgend**), Pete Morris (**Life Member**), Lorraine Price (**Cardiff Athletics**), Rowland Williams (**Pontyclun AC**), Stewart Harding (**CDF Runners**)

Apologies: Paul Davies (**Aberdare**), Mel Westlake (**Heath Massive**), Ron Morris (**President**), Fred Malkin (**Barry & Vale Harriers**), Georgine Fraser (**Cornelly Striders**), Iwan Dowie (**Cornelly Striders**)

1. Apologies

2. Chairmans Update

- Apologies as family bereavement hindered some aspects of role.
- General Council was attended by Chris Pratt and financial position is still £300k short on funding.
- Sports Council Grants have gone for Welsh Athletics but remains open for clubs and regions.
- Role of regional council must be to empower clubs and members to generate income through sponsorship etc as money cannot come from WA moving forward.
- Active Wales may have some funding available for the region.
- Personnel was brought up. Staff levels have reduced but Hannah Pretty is due to return.
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- Discussions have begun with other regions about more autonomy for the regions. T&F to be discussed as a regional drive rather than WA running.
- WA had increased staff from 1998 and taken on more work but this is going backwards and the role of volunteers will become more prominent.
- Region needs to be in charge of the JDL event.
- Goals to have a Welsh team for international events but this will be some way down the line.
- Inter-regional 10k has not yet been decided. This was previously organised by the road running committee but now it must be done by a separate regional meeting.

3. Endurance Regional Events Update

- There have been some issues with regional eligibility in some events recently put on. Can we do anything to make this tighter so that only South Wales Athletes receive medals.
- Results from Porthcawl 10k, Rabbit Run and SAAFA processed but medals are yet to be issued. Some medals were awarded on the podium at the event.
- WFRA licence for Hill & Mountain races cannot be used for regional events.
- There are no races in the region other than Pentrych Hill who did agree that we could use their event for 2025.
- **ACTION:** Contact organisers of Pentrych Hill race to see if we can use this race for 2025.

4. Track & Field Sub-committee Update

- Total of 12 clubs and a total of 921 athletes taking part across 3 events.
- Largest club participation from Cardiff (171), Aberdare (147) and Archers (146).
- Largest age group being U13's for the boys (167) and girls (247).
- The average regional participation was from South Wales with 2/3rds of the total (597) and 1/3rd from East Wales (324).
- There were takings of £2,368 (profit of £1,400) in Fix 1. £2,297 in Fix 2 and £2,704 in Fix 3 totalling £7,368 (**All before expenses**).

DISCUSSION POINTS FOR JDL 2025

- Look at including U17's in JDL. Possibly based on makeup of the regions athletes in this age category.
- Look at dropping the Lower Age group YDL composite team in favour of more JDL fixtures but keeping the UAG.
- Consider the benefits of making the JDL a South Region only competition but we are likely to continue with South & East for another year.
- Look to offer merchandise for athletes.
- Look at changing the name of the league. **SUGGESTION:** 'Glyn Pugh Junior Development League' but this will be put to clubs following further discussions.
- Scoring for event was not accurate and needs tweaking.

- Discussions had regarding procedures for issuing letters on behalf of the region following an email sent in response to an issue at the Inter-Regional Track & Field event.
- Agreement for future such issues to be discussed by the Full Council before being issued to the relevant parties.

ACTION: Put together a financial plan for official and RDP day and bring back to next regional meeting for approval.

5. Cross Country 2024/25

- What will our **regional race** be for 2024?
- We need to put a race on for XC ourselves but this year is now too close and so Gwent League 1 - Pembre to be used as XC Regional event for 2025
- **Medals.** What will we offer? Is it feasible for Team Medals to be re-introduced?
- TEAM MANAGERS NEEDED for Inter-Regionals and UKCAU.
- Discussions about look into ordering new medals. Discussions to be had at Inter-regional committee.
- Cross Country Event for 2024/25 are as follows:
- **Gwent League** - Oct 12th - Pembre; Nov 9th - Llandaff; Nov 30th - Blaise; Feb 9th - Margum; March 1st - Brecon (TBC)
- **Welsh Championships** - Jan 25th - Margum
- **Inter-regional Cross Country** - Nov 16th - Newtown
- **UKCAU** - March 8th
- **ACTION:** Can we have a rep from each club as a contact so that they take responsibility for agreeing the selection for XC.
- **ACTION:** Contact Gwent League organisers and ask if we can use this event as our regional event for 2025.
- **ACTION:** Send email out for Team Managers
- **ACTION:** Look at getting new medals ordered following discussions with other regions.

6. Finance and Stock Update

- We are low on stock for vests and crop tops.
- Smaller vests are needed ready for inter-regionals.
- Need more Regional hoodies and T-shirts for Team Managers and Officials.
- Other regions are putting on their own events which is bringing in their own money.
- Further takings to come in from Welsh Athletics from JDL.
- Shall we look to book a few places at the presentation awards.
- **AGREED:** 2 tickets to be offered to long standing representatives of the region.
- **ACTION:** Send out finances for end of year 2024.
- **ACTION:** Speak Andrew Thomas about finances to get what we are owed to us.

7. **AOB**

- Officers update and request for Trail, Fell & Mountain (Colin Frolley), Officials Endurance (Ron Morris).
- **ACTION:** Send minutes from AGM 2024.

8. **Date and venue of next meeting**

- Tues, 15th Oct 2024