

WEST WALES REGIONAL ATHLETICS COUNCIL

Hon Sec: Nathan Jones

Chairman: Dr DH Davies, MBE

Treasurer: Les Cuthbert

Meeting of the West Wales Regional Athletics Council Held at Carmarthen Leisure Centre, Monday 7th October 2019.

PRESENT: Hedydd Davies, Nathan Jones, Andrew Jenkins, Sue Alvey, Dic Evans

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received on behalf of Rob Campion, Tony Clements, Les Cuthbert, Liz Rowland, Jo Salmon

02.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 13TH MARCH

2.1.1 No update on the work at Haverfordwest High School Track. Some school children are still currently on site with the distance club runners at Pembrokeshire Harriers using the facility as well as the indoor dome.

2.1.2 West Wales Projects – Grants for the West Wales Endurance Day, Pole Vault group and Pembrokeshire sportshall were awarded; at present there haven't been any invoices/receipts received by the region on developments/activities.

2.1.3 Attendees at the March meeting went on a telephone link with James Williams (Head of Operations at Welsh Athletics). A grant of £4000 was received last year with the following outcomes; 1 Nutrition Workshops and a strength and conditioning were held with the Nutrition Workshops well attended in particular; 2 West Wales has a very active communication platforms for its clubs and members; 3 Grassroots schools courses – no clubs responded to take the lead therefore did not go ahead. Andrew to look at delivering and book the coaches/administration work; 4 The region has not provided its full quota of officers and representatives to attend Welsh Athletics meetings.

02.2 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF AGM – 26TH JUNE

2.2.1 Clubs will be invited to nominate athletes for the annual Gerry Batty Award for most improved athlete up to and including U20's between October 2018 and September 2019.

2.2.2 £20,000 in the account when Louisa Davies stepped down as the treasurer. It was discussed that the region could possibly spend some money on the purchase of PF equipment, EDM, Weighing scales / chip timing for road events.

2.2.3 West Wales included the U20's and seniors at the West Wales Outdoor Track & Field Championships and was the only region to do so. It was felt that this was a good move and a way to keep the athletes in the sport. South & East Wales championship events were due to be included in the Welsh Athletics League at Swansea, however it was cancelled.

2.2.4 Steven Ouseley and Pete Freeman (Pembrokeshire Harriers) have become L1 qualified in starting and have already started at events.

2.2.5 Around 10 active officials on track, time and field currently in West Wales.

2.2.6 West Wales' UAG U17 & U20 team retained their position in the Youth Development League Midland Premier Division, winning the match in Swansea in July.

03 **CORRESPONDENCE**

No Correspondence received.

04 **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Les Cuthbert has taken over as the West Wales RAC Treasurer and is in the process of receiving all the region's bank details and accounts.

Since the AGM in June, the region has brought in income through sale of vests, YDL bus money and athlete registration fees. Expenditure includes YDL bus to Swansea, stamps and envelopes and engraving of cups.

05 **REPORTS**

5.1 **a) General Council**

No report was available.

5.2 **b) Track and Field Committee**

No report was available.

5.3 **c) Officials Committee**

No report was available.

Donald was thanked for assisting in getting enough officials from the region for the Outdoor Championships and the Welsh Athletics Inter Regionals at Aberdare.

5.4 **d) Road Running / Cross Country Committee**

No report was available.

It was agreed to host the West Wales 10K Road Running Championships within the Ammanford 10K Road Race for the third year. It was a good turnout back in the summer and the West Wales element attracted runners.

Clubs will be invited to come forward if they are interested in incorporating a West Wales 10 miler of half marathon into a fixture.

5.5 **f) Fell & Mountain Running Committee**

Dic who is now the chair of Trail running, reported on the latest Fell & Mountain events. The West Wales Championships have continued to be incorporated into the Red Kite challenge and the committee was happy to do so again this year, provisional date 9th May.

A development day was held recently in Betws Y Coed where the Irish team joined up. The Mountain International race was moved to Llanberis and the World Trials a few weeks ago. Dic would like to see a West Wales Mountain Running Championships, down towards Pembrokeshire in the Preseli Mountains. Very few West Wales athletes have taken part in these race disciplines this year.

5.6 **g) Welfare Officer**

Sue reminded clubs that they must have two welfare officers with one male and the other a female. They must have been on the child protection course.

06 CLUB NETWORK OFFICER

Andrew Jenkins also reported on his latest visits and future plans. In the last few months, he has attended staff days, completed parent inductions at Swansea Harriers, attended schools summer competitions, Ammanford Sportshall championships, Ammanford 10K Road Race, Community coaches sessions, West Wales Primary Schools cross country league, Star Track Summer camp in Swansea, Welsh Athletics Road Relays and the Carmarthenshire Primary Schools cross country championships.

Coming up will be a series of ADC Weekly Sessions, West Glamorgan primary school league, Pembrokeshire primary schools at Carew Airfield, Afan Nedd Tawe Secondary Schools & Colleges cross country relays, Welsh Athletes & Schools indoor combined events, Dyfed Schools AGM, Primary Run Jump Throw and Welsh Athletics Assistant Officials and Coaches courses.

Clubs have been offered a free space for the upcoming Welsh Athletics Clubs Conference on 19th October. Only a few clubs have so far taken this opportunity.

07 REGIONAL MATTERS

7.1 West Wales Cross Country Championships will still be held at Pembrey Country Park on Saturday 9th November. Due to the Welsh Inter Regional Cross-Country Championships being incorporated into the Welsh Inter Schools at Brecon, the selection race will be in Cardiff on 12th October

7.2 Clubs will be invited to come forward if they are interested in incorporating a West Wales 10 miler of half marathon into a fixture.

7.3 Kevin Tobin has confirmed that three men and one female are interested to run at the Leeds Abbey 10K at the end of October. It was agreed that the region will contribute towards the entry fee and travel costs.

7.4 The West Wales Indoor Athletics Championships 2020 have been confirmed as Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th January with the same set up as last year (jumps on Saturday, Shot and track on Sunday)

7.5 It was agreed to host West Wales Championship races for 200m to 1500m only at the Welsh Athletics Indoor Open Meetings for U13 to U17 in December and January.

7.6 West Wales held its first of the Regional Endurance Days in Carmarthen on 28th September with further days to come at Pembrey and Swansea. In the near future, there will also be other event specific days organised such as throws and jumps.

7.7 Clubs Support – clubs to decide what is needed at their club and discuss options around providing a paid officer over a certain cycle depending on funding. Swansea Harriers have agreed a two-year post that is split into two parts. In Carmarthenshire, there's discussion around the club, Carmarthenshire County Council and Welsh Athletics creating a post.

08 INTER REGIONAL MATTERS

Thanks went to the team managers at the Welsh Athletics Inter Regional Athletics Championships at Aberdare in August – Peter Walton, Rob Campion, Kayleigh John, Caroline Wintle and Kelly Griffiths.

That day, U20 and seniors were taken out of the competition and replaced instead by the U13. Discussions on the Inter Regional will take place at the Welsh Athletics AGM around the consultation and views of the regions being communicated.

09 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Dic suggests a Inter County/Inter Regional event for seniors / development for 18 years and over. This used to happen previously where athletes went to competitions in Ireland and vice versa; something to think about.

9.2 Dyfed Schools have held a meeting around the competition calendar. It was agreed that each of the four areas will be responsible for organising a certain discipline. AGM in November.

9.3 Welsh Athletics Strategy – The strategy has been based around the consultation evenings held in all four of the regions and will be athlete focus.

9.4 New Cross-Country licenses states that organisers must have a race referee as well as a race adjudicator.

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on at Carmarthen Leisure Centre on Wednesday 27th November at 7.00pm.

Nathan Jones
Hon Secretary