

WEST WALES REGIONAL ATHLETICS COUNCIL



Minutes – West Wales Regional Athletics Council Wednesday 20th April 2022

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Present: Rob Champion (RC) Chairman
Nathan Jones (NJ) Secretary
Andrew Jenkins (AJ) West Wales Club Manager
Les Cuthbert (LC) Treasurer
John Elward (JE) Officials Secretary
Steve Hames (SH) Officials Committee Representative – Endurance
Wayne & Kelly Griffiths (WG) Pembrokeshire Harriers

1. **Apologies** Jennifer Boyce, Dic Evans
2. **Declarations of Interest** None Declared
3. **Actions from Previous Meeting**
 - a) Officials Development Day & Electronic Gun purchase was actioned and been completed.
4. **Discussion**
 - a) **Regional Officials Development Day in West Wales**

An Officials Development Day for West Wales was held on the same day as the Swansea Harriers Open Meeting on Sunday 3rd April rather than on a separate non-competition day where parents could try out officiating on the track and the field. It was decided to appoint key Officials as Mentors to look after the volunteers and Zoe Holloway (Welsh Athletics) had advertised the day and included an expression of interest section. Once the meeting started the volunteers did not want to move from their first choice. 13 enthusiastic volunteers took part in the regional day from various clubs across the region Swansea Harriers AC, Carmarthen & District Harriers, TROTs, Llanelli AAC, and 3M Gorseinon Road Runners. Some have now shown interested in attending the Regional Championships, YDL and WA courses.

Thanks to Swansea Harriers Trustees who allowed the Region to use their open meeting as an opportunity to host a Regional development day, and to John and Zoe for their work.

b) West Wales Regional Athletics Championships – May 2022

Cwrt Herbert Athletics Track in Neath on Sunday 15th May for U13 – Seniors. Entries opened on OpenTrack on Saturday 9th April (four weeks window) and closes on Saturday 7th May 23:59. Provisional timetable and eligibility has been included with entry link and will likely see some changes after closing date when number of athletes and officials are known. 1500m and 2000m Steeplechase for U17-Seniors are incorporated into the joint South & East Wales Regional Championships in Aberdare on Wednesday 18th May.

Officials and trainee officials in the region have been emailed by JE asking to help at the championships. Pole Vault for South & East Wales Championships will be at Aberdare.

c) West Wales Trail Running Championships Devil's Bridge – 30th April

Red Kite Challenge – West Wales and Welsh Trail Running Championships at Devils Bridge will be taking place on Saturday 30th April, including junior and senior races. The half marathon is a trial for the Celtic Challenge, while the under 17s race is also a trial for the WMRA International Youth Cup.

d) Electronic Gun Purchase

New starter kit / electronic gun has been purchased by JE and trialled by the start team recently for the first time at the Swansea Harriers Open Meeting.

5. Information - Reports

a) General Council

No report available.

b) Track and Field Committee

No report available.

c) Officials Committee

No additional details to add.

d) Officials Secretary

No report available.

e) Road Running/Cross Country Committee

Welsh Athletics are looking to host the Welsh Cross Country Championships at a new venue next year. Possibility of the Welsh Cross Country Relays event being reinstated. Welsh 5K road in Whitchurch and Caerphilly 10K Road Races are coming up in May. Possibility of a Podium 5K at Bute Park in August which could incorporate a home countries event.

f) FMR Committee

No report available.

g) Welfare Officer

Carl Williams has been appointed as the new Welsh Athletics Compliance and Safeguarding officer. There's a meeting on 23rd May to get all club officers up-to-date and given support. Qualified officials and coaches are to complete a safeguarding course as part of their licence.

