

WEST WALES REGIONAL ATHLETICS COUNCIL



Minutes – West Wales Regional Athletics Council Wednesday 16th February 2022

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Present:	Rob Champion (RC)	Chairman
	Nathan Jones (NJ)	Secretary
	Andrew Jenkins (AJ)	West Wales Club Manager
	John Elward (JE)	Officials Secretary
	Steve Hames (SH)	Officials Committee Representative – Endurance
	Dic Evans (DE)	Trail, Mountain & Fell Running Committee Representative
	Jennifer Boyce (JB)	Pembrokeshire Harriers
	Wayne Griffiths (WG)	Pembrokeshire Harriers

1. **Apologies** Les Cuthbert, Kevin Tobin

2. **Declarations of Interest** None Declared

3. **Actions from Previous Meeting**

- a) UK Inter-Counties Cross Country Championships Teams entered by closing date - end of January.

4. **Discussion**

a) *Regional Officials Development Day in West Wales*

Welsh Athletics have proposed 2 x Officials Development Days in South/East and West Wales. (19th – 20th March) Local clubs would be invited to bring along athletes with a coaching session in the morning with parents/volunteers briefed on various officials' duties. Afternoon sees a mini competition held after lunch. JE asked if this format would be suitable for the West region e.g travelling from Pembrokeshire to Swansea as well as having enough qualified officials to support the day in March on the same weekend as a Gwent League fixture in the area. It was suggested to include the West Wales Officials Development Day on the same day as the Swansea Harriers Outdoor Track & Field Meeting in April – this can provide opportunity for other training too on the day for example EDM. This has been discussed with the Swansea Harriers committee and agreed. It was felt that there would be more success as athletes would enter to compete

and parents would be in attendance. JE has received Assistant Officials course material from UKA by email.

b) Officials Leaflet

JE has created an officials leaflet to give out to clubs / parents / new officials which explains the next steps (Assistant Officials courses).

c) Electronic Gun Purchase

New starter kit has been trialled by start team recently. Cost for an electronic start system would be around £1,800. UKA and Welsh Athletics working to see if there's any funding available to support. No firearms involved, which would mean no essential skills needed to start. JE to approach WA to see if there's any funding, otherwise the region would go ahead to buy a new system ourselves.

d) UK Inter Counties Cross Country Championships - Loughborough

Athletes have been entered for the event in Loughborough on Saturday 12th March. There has been a good response from U13 & U15 athletes across the region's clubs, not so much response from older age groups. John H Collins Gwent Cross Country League & SIAB are also taking place in March.

e) West Wales Track & Field Championships – May 2022

Sunday 15th May – Provisionally Neath (to be confirmed/decided) Possibility to include steeplechase races into a Welsh Athletics Endurance Evening. JE suggested junior club relay. Need to look at the timetable / group of organisers to plan the event.

5. Information - Reports

a) General Council

No report available.

b) Track and Field Committee

No report available.

c) Officials Committee

No report available.

d) Officials Secretary

No report available.

e) Road Running/Cross Country Committee

All cross-country fixtures have been confirmed in the calendar until the end of March. Welsh Schools teams will be selected for the SIAB Schools Cross Country International at Pembrey Country Park (Wales) on Saturday 26th March.

The West Wales Regional Development Day 2 will be held at Carmarthen and Neath on Sunday 6th March. Carmarthen – All Event Groups – Endurance, Throws, Speed and Jumps except Hammer (Neath) Endurance are invite only by regional coaches, other event groups open to all U15 and above (Year 9 +)

f) FMR Committee

Red Kite Challenge - Welsh Half Marathon Trail Championships in Devils Bridge planned for 30th April, including junior and senior races. Trials for international fixtures at Italy and Betws Y Coed? Region has previously agreed to host the West Wales Trail Running Championships. DE awaiting licenses from Welsh Athletics. Entries are now open <http://redkite-barcudcoch.org.uk/ras-y-barcud-2022-registration-now-open/>

g) Welfare Officer

Carl Williams has been appointed as the new Welsh Athletics Compliance and Safeguarding officer. Carl has contacted regional officers to arrange meeting to introduce himself and to answer any queries.

h) West Wales Club Manager Update – Andrew Jenkins

West Wales Club Manager AJ outlined recent developments several upcoming events and activities for clubs in the region:

- 20/2 WW Junior Indoor Championships @ NIAC more volunteers required for registration and presentations
- 26/2 WA Cross Country Championships entries close midnight this Saturday
- 3/3 Carmarthenshire Athletics Development Focus Group
- 5/3 WA Clubs conference and awards night tickets now available
- 6/3 WA officials conference tickets now available
- 6/3 WW Regional Development Day open to all coaches and athletes @Carmarthen/Neath
- 12/3 Race Walking Development session @ Swansea
- 13/3 LIRF @ Swansea
- 13/3 WSAA Sportshall final @ Brecon (ANT & Dyfed)
- 19/3 Gwent League @ Singleton Park
- 26&27/3 Athletics Coach @ Swansea
- Due to increased workload (WSAA) and responsibilities Andrew will not be able to organise any West Wales Championships or Triangular fixtures this year, however will be available to support on the day.

i) Financial Report

Balance at present - Community Account: £1,347.00, Savings Account: £15,500.00

6. AOB

7. Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 20th April 2022 at 7:00pm

ACTION POINTS:

- JE to confirm details for Officials Development Day on 3rd April with Swansea Harriers / Zoe Holloway
- JE Electronic gun purchase follow up with Welsh Athletics
- West Wales Track & Field Championships Arrangements/Organising, steeplechase events into a Welsh Athletics endurance meeting