

Minutes of General Council Meeting 3 September 2025

Present:

Lynne Brier (LB) – Chairperson
Joyce Tomala (JT) – Vice Chairperson / East Wales
Kay Hatton (KH) – Chairperson North Wales
Sharon Leech (SL) – Road / Cross Country
Christine Vorrés
Lynnette Harries- East
Chris Pratt – South
Dai Williams
Arwel Lewis

1. Apologies for absence

Rob Campion, Steve Hames, John Hatton, Sue Hooper, Gerald Davies, Bernie Jones, Fred Malkin

2. Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest declared.

3. Actions from previous meeting

See below:

Item Number	ACTIONS	Person responsible
4.	Ask Board to look at the spread of events across all regions of Wales	LB
	Discuss at Track & Field Meeting	JT
	Ask WA for clarification on the process for Schools to receive grants.	LB
	Bye Laws (Relating to team selection) – add to next agenda for discussion	CV

4. Regional submitted to GC for discussion

JT – Upcoming age group changes. The webinar and information provided by James Williams regarding the upcoming age group changes was very good and needs to be disseminated to all the clubs. There are some anomalies – T & F Indoor and cross country will remain on the old age groups until 1st April, SIAB will stay with old age groups, YDL will adopt new age groups. Trinity will be updated. Old ranking lists and

records will be archived. There are many considerations regarding the changes, distances allowed to run, height of hurdles etc. There is not universal agreement across all home nations about implementing the changes. This adds to the confusion. WA has a video discussing the changes on their YouTube channel. All members have been emailed some links to presentations and a video of the webinar.

LB – Communication between GC and Clubs.

Lynne opened up the conversation about communications between the clubs and general council, and asked for thoughts on how effect is it? The members agreed that it is the role of GC to ensure important information such as these changes must be communicated back to clubs. Each regional representative on the GC Committee must report back to their region, and ensure their reports are in the minutes uploaded to the WA website. Sharon suggested WA add it to the news items on their website when the minutes of the meetings have been uploaded. Christine suggested that in her new role of Club Development officer Zoe may communicate relevant information to the clubs.

KH – Are too many meetings held in South Wales?

Should some events be merged? The cost to take teams down South is about £1,500. The members discussed the costs involved, events, and the reasons for hosting meetings/races in certain areas and why some events are not merged. JT will discuss at the T & F Meeting. Lynette suggested that it should be raised at board level for a whole Wales approach.

Some ideas that have been trialed are smaller events held in various regions.

KH – Funding for Schools

Districts used to get £1000 but the modernisation grant has been expanded to include schools. Not all schools got their grant. Do schools apply? The members discussed what they knew to be the situation, and what the reasons may be for the schools not applying for a grant. It was suggested that the WA regional officer should ensure schools are aware of the grants and encourage them to apply. LB advised that there are planned changes for Junior athletics.

LB – What will GC tackle moving forward? Lynne asked the members to let her know what their thoughts are.

JT – WA Byelaws

9.1 to 9.6 specifically - Following a recent selection for the international Loughborough event, JT asked why they had not been informed about the selection process after being told that the Performance Team had picked the athletes without any consultation to the committee members. JW confirmed this case, and that it is only for this fixture, and suggested a review of current governing structure to provide more clarity. JT stressed her concern was concentrated on the fact that the change to the selection process was not communicated, and the byelaws have been ignored. Members discussed their experiences of the selection process. The byelaws have not been changed, committee members should be present at selection meetings. LB – Too late to put forward a motion for the AGM this year but

suggested the GC put this on the agenda to concentrate on moving forward. Sharon told the meeting that dates for selection meetings are on the WA website, but all agreed they should be communicated to the relevant committees. LH – pointed out that everyone should adhere to the byelaws, and that communication and clarity is needed. JT – the Performance Team and the CEO of WA should not make changes without getting the changes agreed at the AGM. Looking at the WA website, there is not much consistency on the selection processes publicised.

5. Reports Submitted

None were submitted: Sharon informed that the Home Countries international likely to be in London or could be Leeds, but not confirmed, not happening until January. Cardiff Cross Challenges will also host the challenge for the short race in the European Cross Country.

6. AOB

JT – who is the contact for SE Wales Schools? Is there a list anywhere? None known – ask Andrew Jenkins at WA or Steve Jones? Sharon will ask at next meeting.

*Update - Sharon emailed Andrew this morning he rang and spoke with her. His suggestion is that athletes who wish to find out information about upcoming school fixtures ask their PE teacher at school to get in touch with Andrew himself. This avoids too many emails being sent to a member of teaching staff. Andrew can then get the information needed.

The South East have submitted their forthcoming cross country fixtures to Andrew, once other regions have also done so, the information will also be put on the Welsh Schools page of the Welsh Athletics website, as well as school PE departments being informed of the dates. Entries will also be made available to teachers and their students for the Inter Schools Cross Country in the coming days.

7. Dates of future meetings:

Confirmed dates are as follows:

Wednesday 12th November 2025

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.

Minutes written by Christine Vorrés Date: 12/09/2025