

## Minutes of the meeting of the General Council (GC)

Held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Microsoft Teams Meeting

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<i>Present:</i>	Joyce Tomala	(JT)	Regional Representative – East Wales
	Arwel Lewis	(AL)	Mountain and Trail Committee
	Fred Malkin	(FM)	Regional Representative – South Wales
	Sharon Leech	(SL)	Road and Cross-Country Committee
	Paul Brooks	(PB)	Regional Representative – North Wales
	Dai Williams	(DW)	Welsh Schools Representative.
	Jamie Clode	(JC)	General Council – Chair
	Lee Hayward	(LHY)	Regional Representative – South Wales
	Lynette Harries	(LH)	Regional Representative – East Wales
	James Williams	(JW)	CEO – Welsh Athletics
	Robert Campion	(RC)	Regional Representative – West Wales

*Papers circulated in advance:*

None

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### 1. Apologies for Absence 6:30pm

Gerald Davies, Kay Hatton, John Hatton

### 2. Declarations of Interest 6:35pm

None declared.

### 3. Actions from Previous Meetings 6:36pm

Action	Owner	Update
Welfare Officer training - highlight concerns around tone and ask for guidance / clarification to be provided so that training relevant for your role is clear.	JC	JC has emailed Zoe.
Contact Alex Donald & Steve Mitchell to declare interest from all regions and to get next steps arranged for IR races.	JT	Email sent and all regions will attend - CLOSED
Distribute draft version of governance calendar to meeting attendee's	KH	Done - CLOSED
Contact Andrew Thomas to identify who is completing governance calendar task	JC	Governance calendar circulated - CLOSED
Ensure minutes and Agenda distribution is in line with byelaws	JC	CLOSED
Speak to Steve Perks around how more frequent & timely updates can be shared with the Group from UK Members	JC	JW fed back that topics have not produced much feedback - CLOSED
Speak with WA Office Lead Roles about future updates to GC	JC	Email to Hannah, arranging a meeting
To liaise with Hanna Pretty regarding roles description and then we will take forward as a committee to support, add to regular meetings	KH / JC	KH has distributed, with all regions to review and feedback at next meeting.
Add Regional Roles as regular Agenda item	JC	Done - CLOSED

ensure agenda template allows for regional feedback and adopts format of previous actions being lead, followed by discussion points, then Agenda	JC	Done - CLOSED
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**4. Items for discussion – notified in advance 6:50pm**

**I. Governance Calendar - any potential clashes**

Webinars and WA sessions should look to avoid clashes with regional or other WA Meetings. JW advised will be looking at a more targeted approach which would recognise this.

**II. Grants**

Working to compile a list of all available grants and share awareness of all current options. Be active Wales fund, predominately around supporting sector as part of pandemic. Now also includes coach education funding. Still seeing a lack of uptake in funding. Specific comms plan to be utilised. Historical document being updated.

Is Be active Wales clubs only?

ACTION – JW to check and provide feedback if Be Active Wales fund can be accessed by regions

**III. Cross country - Parking and timetable**

Comments received back from athletes and team managers, that parking should be free or subsidised for inter regionals. Also, a long gap between senior races.

JW advised that event is free to enter and parking is main income stream for event aside to small amount from schools.

Discussion around merits of spacing to allow others to enjoy the races and draw inspiration. Allowing the senior men’s race to be last, protects the course for the other races also.

JW will feedback to organising team.

**IV. Club contacts**

Welsh athletics club contacts on the website are not up to date and needs updating. JW advised reliance on clubs to update in timely fashion. Jacqueline Brace can always be contacted as required.

**V. Regional eligibility**

WA bye laws clearly start eligibility however recently an athlete was selected for the North when eligibility was for the East.

Discussion held around confusion often on selection and mechanisms available for selectors not providing an explicit answer.

JW agreed that technical solutions and governance should be reviewed, will take forward to see options available and if wording in rules needs to be amended.

**VI. Regional Roles**

To be discussed with regions and feedback at next meeting with view to adopt at next meeting.

## **Meeting of the Welsh Athletics General Council; Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022**

### **5. Items for action – notified in advance 7:15pm**

- James Williams Organisational update  
See separate document circulated with minutes.
  
- Athlete Suspension – Paul Brooks  
Individual runner at the Snowdon marathon used another runner's number. Easily identified as specific number had meaning for original runner. Athlete was rude and offensive when challenged. Both original registered runner and athlete that ran on the day banned for life. Discussion held around mechanisms to enforce a ban across WA events and others. If athlete is not registered with WA, very difficult to enforce any sanctions. Lists of offenders are shared between organisers. If individual has been abusive, a complaint should be raised with Carl regarding breach of code of conduct.

### **6. Future topics for discussion 7:25pm**

Regions in turn to share best practice.

### **7. Date of next Meetings, Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March**