

Welsh Schools Athletics Association

Management Committee Meeting

10am Thursday 12th June 2025

1. Apologies & Present

Apologies: Gwilym Williams (WSAA President), Rhys Williams (WA Performance) & Euan Coney (WA Competitions Track & Field).

Present: Steve Jones (WSAA Chair) SJ, James Williams (WA CEO) Ja Wi, Jo Warner (WSAA Immediate Past Chair) Jo Wa, Andrew Jenkins (WA) AJ, Darran Williams (WA Competitions Officer) DW, Gareth Oldham (WSAA Treasurer & Powys) GO, Sharon Leech (WSAA Vice Chair) SL, Steve Mitchell (WA National Talent Development Coordinator – Endurance) SM, Ieuan Jones (WA Performance Coordinator) IJ and Alex Donald (WA Endurance Competitions Manager) AD.

2. Approval of minutes / matters arising from previous meeting held 21/04/2025

Minutes approved Jo Wa seconded by GO.

3. Actions arising from previous meeting (21/04/2025)

3.1 Buses to Derby for SIAB. WA are happy to provide two buses for the SIAB team to travel to Derby and this has been budgeted for with the possibility of a minibus to cover mid Wales athletes if required. This enables all athletes to be able to get to Derby if parents or guardians are unable to and can also build team spirit by travelling together and eases logistics with athletes arriving all at once. Therefore, the decision to save on budgets by not providing transport from the last management meeting is reversed.

AJ – is there a match fee this year and if so how much. IJ – yes £50pp.

4. Fixtures

4.1 05/07/25 Welsh Schools U15 U17 & U20 Championships at Aberdare

DW facility is booked, all eight district team managers have been distributed entry details and declaration instructions along with athlete and team manager notes. Afan Nedd Tawe have already declared some athletes and team managers can add athletes and make changes as they go making the declaration process as smooth as possible. Thursday 26th June is the entry deadline, only athlete changes can be made after this date, no additional entries will be accepted.

4.2 09/07/25 Welsh Schools U14 & U16 Cup & Plate Finals at Aberdare

SJ will start undertaking the task of compiling staff officiating duties, instructions, timetables and declaration forms with the support of DW for distribution as soon as possible.

4.3 26/07/25 WA U13, U15, U17 & U20 Combined Events Championships at Swansea

DW entries will be opened soon and there will be a capacity on the number of athletes able to compete in each age group and gender.

AJ – will the championships be used as selection for SIAB indoor. SM – yes, selection policy is being finalised on how many athletes gain automatic selection. SJ – age groups will be the same as in Glasgow therefore logical that there is incentive to attend in Swansea.

4.4 19/07/25 SIAB U17 International @ Derby

Selection meeting will be held early evening after school on Tuesday 8th July 2025. AJ to create team meeting link to send invites and selection policy to district team managers.

4.5 22/10/25 Welsh Inter Schools Cross Country Championships @ Brecon

AD – Brecon have this week confirmed the venue is available, all other preparatory roles will be acted on in the next few weeks.

4.6 21/03/26 SIAB U15 & U17 Cross Country International @ Faenol Estate North Wales

AD – Faenol Estate will be the race venue with all teams able to be accommodated at the Conwy Centre at a cost of £56pp which included dinner, breakfast and a packed lunch. SIAB delegates will be accommodated at a nearby Hotel.

4.7 U16 & U18 Combined Events Indoor International @ Glasgow

We are awaiting details from the Scottish Schools Athletics Association

5. 2026 Age Group Changes Update

SJ recent correspondence has been received from English & Irish Schools neither of whom now intend to adopt the new age group changes. This presents a number of logistical, financial and licensing challenges to be overcome making the future viability of SIAB events more problematic.

6. Teachers Education & Initiatives

AJ – Friday 13th June we have 16 PE teachers from the three districts of Afan Nedd Tawe, Dyfed & Glamorgan Valleys booked on the secondary teachers' workshop at Swansea University. The workshop has been put on free of charge in an effort to upskill and train more new and existing PE staff in the delivery of athletics as well as enabling senior

leadership team staff to release PE teachers without putting further pressure on budgets. If successful and WA budgets allow we look to deliver two more free courses next academic year, one in North Wales and one in East Wales to give PE staff from the other 5 districts the opportunity to attend at a venue closer to their place of work or residence.

7. Competing Out Of Age Group Request:

Correspondence was received from a parent of unattached athletes requesting to compete out of age group in schools events. The request has been escalated to the UK Athletics Rules Group for a final decision for which all parties are awaiting the outcome of.

8. AOB including date of next meeting

SJ – WSAA Executive Meeting will be Saturday 26th April 2026.

Date of next WSAA Management meeting 10am Wednesday 10th September 2025.

Meeting closed at 11.10am