



<https://www.eastwalesathletics.co.uk/>

**Meeting of East Wales Regional Athletics Council,
Wednesday 15th February 2023, via Microsoft Teams 6:30pm**

Present:

Joyce Tomala, (JT) Christine Vorres(CV), Charlotte Moran(CM), Paul Adams(PA), Lynette Harries(LH), Nicola Brunnock (NB) Dawn Gully (DG), Keiron Hearne (KH), Lorraine Clarke (LC), Derek Osborne (DO), Sandra Chipper (SC), Tom Meredith (TM), James Blore (JM), Darryn Mcatee (DM), Deb Howells (DH)

Discussion	Action Points
<p>1. Apologies Jeanette and Martyn Jenkins, Keith Matthews, Tom Coles, Peter Hitching.</p>	
<p>2. Conflict of Interest None declared</p>	
<p>3. Discussion Points:</p> <p>a) Kit Joyce advised the details of quotes that she has received from a new alternative kit supplier– with a better turn around time for orders. There was a discussion regarding items already held in stock and it was agreed that Darryn can take them to the next YDL meeting. Derek asked could new kit not say ‘Athletics’ as this implies not all disciplines included. This was not the general opinion of the other members present so the kit will stay the same as previous. All members agreed to the new kit supplier.</p> <p>b) Grants Tom has sent out details of grants – although some were no longer available – WA continue to update the information. Be Active grants are not being applied for – JT said that although regions are not eligible, she urged clubs to apply. The details are on the WA website.</p>	

<p>4. Actions from previous meetings</p> <p>a) Club Survey (CV)</p> <p>11 clubs responded to the question of how much the club pays towards coaching courses, and 100% said the club covers all costs.</p> <p>b) Cross Country Outstanding Payments (JT)</p> <p>There are still some clubs that have not paid their fees for athletes who took part in the inter-regional XC. Thanks to those who have, but the others need to pay up otherwise an alternative method of collecting fees will have to be found. CV advised of the changes to some clubs' officers that meant emails were not being received. Where the info has been updated fees have been paid. DO stated he didn't think that there should be any charge as unlike track and field events where facilities need to be hired, there are no costs to XC events. He asked what the fees are for. JT responded – medals need to be purchased, but that at a previous meeting, it was unanimously agreed that a £1 charge would be made and clubs would be invoiced for their athletes that took part. DM said that also there is a subsidy for the transport costs to XC events.</p>	<p>CV – send payment details to DH of RVAC</p>
<p>5. Reports</p> <p>i. Safeguarding (JT)</p> <p>JJ is in hospital and has sadly had to step down from her role as the welfare officer for the East Region. JT paid tribute to her work not only in this role but also assisting in setting up the Club Road Championships. The region thanks JJ for everything that she has done.</p> <p>ii. Finance Report (KM)</p> <p>JT proposed to reward volunteer team managers by purchasing kit for them. £20 per head cost for officials that attend at least 3 regional events, in any discipline. It also helps to create a team identity. There were no objections to this proposal. Year end is 31 March, JT thanked Keith for his work, and Darryn for organising transport.</p> <p>iii. Network Officers Update (TC)</p> <p>Tom not available – he had another meeting to attend.</p> <p>iv. WA General Council (LH)</p> <p>LH highlighted the following points from her report – Moving forward there is a drive for consistency between the regions, but there are concerns that there are no board meeting minutes available. She advised keeping an eye on staff changes and</p>	<p>CV & JT to make up a list of those officials and team managers eligible and put together an order.</p>

new appointments. Expenses for clubs are crucial to cover the costs of coaches and officials, grants are needed to help. JT thanked LH for her report.

v. Track & Field Report (JT)

JT ran through the dates and venues for the regional champs, and possible selection dates. She thanked Newport Harriers for offering to host an event. It is hoped to award medals on the nights of the events. Volunteers are needed to help at the events too. Newport now has track mark, Brecon is still ongoing and Aberdare is awaiting a report. In respect of the Indoor Review meeting, it was agreed that athletes who are good enough are deemed old enough to move up a category group. Guidance and parity is sought from Track & Field Officials' committee regarding standardising the number of athletes allowed in each race

JT asked what the members thoughts are on U15's running 3,000m indoors on a 4 lane track. Steve Mitchell is of the opinion that there is no need for this when they can run XC or run 3k outdoors. KH agreed, as did DM. There is consideration for the introduction of pools for field events at championship races.

vi. Cross Country/Road (DO/DM/JB)

Darryn told the meeting that at the XC Champs the ladies had punched well above their weight but that the turnout for the men had been a little disappointing. The bus share that Ian Morgan organised was a great success and DM offered a big shout out to Ian for this.

JB thanked Darryn and Sandra for their work pulling together the teams and stated that the East were the only region to field a team. He stated that it was hard to get men to Loughborough, of the original team of 8 most dropped out. As the inter-counties event is of such a high standard he didn't think it wise to open up the event to everyone. Usually injury is the reason for drop-offs. It would be interesting to know how the other regions are doing.

SC – Sandra thanked Darryn and James. She added that as teams are selected so far in advance this could be a reason for the drop off rate. Teams are selected by 31 January. It may also be that as its an all-day event, runners may experience problems with child care provision

DO – Derek highlighted from his report, especially that the standard of athletes is not that good.

vii. Trail and Mountain (TM)

Tom told the meeting of dates for selection races and inter counties events.

27 May there will be a development session taken by Andy Creber. This will be for everyone who wishes to try fell running.

WA are also hosting a mountain trail running session in Cwmcarn and of the 16 athletes already signed up 9 are from the East Region. (credit to CV for promoting to East Athletes) TM said he is still working on Championship events for Juniors and

JT/LH Ask at General Council if other regions are finding it hard to field teams.

Seniors, he needs to organise first aid cover, and licences. The Red Kite event is a selection race for the Welsh Team, but it is not very well advertised. JT said 'Well done' to Tom, and thanked Steve Mitchell for his support too.

viii. East Wales Road Race Championships update (PA)

Paul told the meeting that the first race was the Newport Half in March, and the results have already been sent out. The 2nd event is on Sunday – the Kymin Dash, to be followed with the Scenic Seven in August. JT thanked PA for all his hard work.

ix. Officials (BG)

Becky not present

x. Website (CV)

CV – All ticking along nicely – events and meetings updated. Christine told the members that as WA have now introduced Stripe accounts for taking club subscriptions she has asked James Williams if it would be possible for Regions to also have an account and therefore be able to take event payments via their websites. James is looking into this. JT said to keep chasing as this would be very useful – and also that the minutes of the East meetings were available via the WA website. JT thanked CV for her work on the website.

6. Any Other Business.

i. Welfare Officer Vacancy

JT told the meeting that we need to appoint an interim Officer until one is appointed at the AGM in June. She has emailed Carl Williams at Welsh Athletics and he is aware of the situation. Joyce asked if anyone present would be able to cover the position, and is qualified to do so for the next few months. CV said she is qualified and would cover if necessary, but cannot undertake the role permanently due to other commitments. Also – if all clubs now need 2 officers there must be many other officers who could pick up the role. KH also volunteered to cover as he is qualified. JT accepted Keiron's offer and will contact Carl Williams to let him know. All the members were asked to canvas their members for support for this vital role within the region.

ii. Draft Constitution (JT)

James Williams from WA has sent JT a template Constitution for the regions. Page 2 items vi and vii are to be deleted as not a regional role, next change is number 7 – the number sequence has to be corrected, and finally page 4, Disciplines, policies and procedures, codes of conduct to be added.

CV – chase James for regional Stripe Accounts

JT – Contact KW at WA with KH's details.

<p>Kays paper will be added as an appendix. JT asked if members agreed to accept this constitution once these changes were made – it may then be presented at the AGM to be formally adopted. All the members were in agreement.</p> <p>LH – fully accepted the draft constitution but asked if we should approach the Governance Group for advice? JT agreed to check with James. JT explained that the constitution has to be pertinent to our region, and once amended it will be put forward at the AGM.</p> <p>7. Dates</p> <p>JT informed the members that the date for the AGM has been moved to avoid a clash with Caerleon Runners’ 20th anniversary race and event. She wished them luck with the event. The new date for the AGM is 21st June – and JT advised this is formal notice of the AGM.</p> <p>AOB</p> <p>DO – Asked for update on local competitions – Rhiannon is leaving WA but is still leading on this. JT will update everyone when she hears from Rhiannon.</p> <p>KH – Stated he has seen an email coming through this evening asking for hosts for a localised Junior league event. Brecon and Blaina Gwent are not able to host at the moment. DH informed the meeting that she has spoken with Rhiannon and RVAC have offered to host a meeting. Keiron is the contact for lower age group YDL and JT is contact for upper age group.</p> <p>JB – Asked if a map could be devised showing the areas that make up the East Wales Region. JT has already mentioned this to James Williams at WA – but in the past there have been issues due to Caerphilly being partly in East Wales, and partly in Glamorgan. JT will go back to James and ask again.</p>	<p>JT – ask James if the region should seek guidance from the Governance Group about the Constitution.</p> <p>JT – Ask James Williams if a map can be produced</p>
<p>The meeting finished at 8 pm</p>	
<p>Dates of Future meetings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wednesday 21th June 2023 (AGM) 2. Wednesday 16th August 2023 3. Wednesday 18th October 2023 4. Wednesday 13th December 2023 	

Minutes written by Christine Vorres 24/04/2023