

**Meeting of East Wales Regional Athletics Council**  
**Wednesday 16 August via Teams**  
**6:30pm**

**Present:**

Joyce Tomala,(JT) Christine Vorrés,(CV) Charlotte Moran (CM), Paul Adams,(PA) Lorraine Clarke, (LC) Kieron Hearne (KH), Lynette Harries (LH), Sandy Chipper (SC), Emma Wookey (EW), James Blore (JB), Martyn Jenkins (MJ), Darryn Mcatee (DM), and Julian Guy.(JG)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Points
<b>1.Apologies:</b>	Keith Matthews, Deb Quirk, Nicola Brunnock	
<b>1. Conflict of Interest</b>	None stated	
<b>3. Actions from Previous Meeting</b>	CV has contacted clubs to ask for their concerns about WA. Only responses were mostly observations about funding and volunteers. PA sent a response concerning the shift of funding from WA and/or the region to athletes and clubs. CV – possible fundraising opportunities ongoing.	<b>CV JT to take comments to WA</b>
<b>1. Reports</b> <b>i. Safeguarding</b> <b>ii. Finance</b> <b>iii. WA Board &amp; General Council</b> <b>iv. Track &amp; Field</b> <b>v. Cross Country/Road</b> <b>vi. Trail and Mountain</b> <b>vii. East Wales Road Race Champs</b> <b>viii.Officials</b> <b>ix. Website</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. KH – No issues or reports</li> <li>ii. Keith Matthews sent his report. JT stated we had a healthy balance and thanked KM for his efforts.</li> <li>iii. LH – unable to report due to sound issues. JT told the meeting that the last GC meeting was essentially JW advising of changes to staffing and Coach/Officials training. CV stated all coaches and officials have to accept the new terms and conditions in their WA portal in order to remain licenced due to WA taking over responsibility from UKA</li> <li>iv. JT – Teams did very well in IR Champs, winning virtually all categories. 11 possible date for 2024 interregional but track venues are a challenge. Looking for a venue for the Long Throws. U15 Comp. 27/28 Jan, U13, U17, U20 champs 3 &amp; 4 Feb. No dates available yet for anything after March 2024. There are proposals to align T &amp; F age groups with World Athletics. U12, U14 and U16. The changes would have widespread implications when there is not much competition for under 18's. New dates Jan instead of Sept would conflict with School dates. WA have indicated that they will host webinars to explain proposals to clubs. Clubs will need to voice their opinions on this proposal. There is to be a review of regional competitions on 13 Sept. Please let JT know of any issues by 1<sup>st</sup> Sept.</li> </ul>	

	<p>Lack of Officials across all events, courses put on in Newport via Zoe Holloway (WA) – the region will support fees upon completion of all course materials.</p> <p>v. Last Junior league for east is in Aberdare on Saturday DM – Cross country season approaching. Senior/Masters selection race will be Pembrey 14 October, SC and JB will select team from this event, and based on form. This will allow the team managers more time to register team, get kit etc.</p> <p>Selection for the East Wales Inter regional team for Juniors will be on form and participation at the Cardiff XC. Need dates for Gwent League to be confirmed.</p> <p>Interregional XC on 18 Nov in Newtown, Mid Wales. Kit available to purchase online and JT will do an inventory of Kit in stock.</p> <p>No dates yet for CAU – possibly 9 March</p> <p>vi. TM – Senior and Junior champs went ahead, Snr at Coity and Jnrs at Llantony– both events licenced with WA. Feedback was positive. Development day for juniors was successful but not enough interest in Senior development day (for beginners to try fell running) A Welsh development day for Juniors was also held.</p> <p>Further development days will be planned and JT confirmed that there is funding for them.</p> <p>vii. PA – 3<sup>rd</sup> race in series is next Wednesday in Cwmcarn. Final event is in Rhayader on 25 November. Entries opened. Communication has gone out to clubs.</p> <p>viii. JT – Courses in Newport for Officials. Pole Vault and Long Throws need Level 2. CT – Officials need to move to level 2 before they can become Adjudicators (all road events need an adjudicator to be licenced) and to move from Level 2 to Level 3 needs a report from a Level 4 Official, and there are none in East Wales.</p> <p>ix. CV Advised the website continues to be updated regularly with documents, events and results.</p>	
<p><b>AOB</b></p>	<p>CV. Changes to Run Britain Event licensing. Run Britain is shutting down and WA will have to issue licensing. Some elements are already not functioning on Run Britain. Contact Jacqueline Brace if there are any issues when applying for an event licence.</p> <p>Communications from Kristopher Jones – re lack of regional events for U11's.</p> <p>JT - Responses to Points raised –  No <i>Regional</i> champs for U11's have ever been held  Welsh Leagues (T &amp; F) are club events, not regional events – similarly other events are hosted by clubs, not regions.  Joyce has documents from Chris Moss that will be of interest to the members as it covers the athlete pathways.  Many distances are not recommended for U11's.  Regarding hosting regional events</p>	<p>JT send documents from Chris Moss and Hannah Petty to members</p>

	<p>CV – Unfortunate that Kris is not here to discuss his issues. Although there are valid points and additional competition for U11’s would be nice to have, there is the need for willing volunteers to undertake putting them on.</p> <p>The members discussed various options that are available for the U11s. JT stated that the region has not held events specifically for this age group previously but asked if any members are able to host a regional competition for the U11’s? – No.</p> <p>Are U11’s events desirable? – No members voted Yes.</p> <p>A comment was made that a lot of clubs do not do any Junior track and field events.</p> <p>A response will be put together to send to Kristopher Jones.</p>	<p><b>CV compose a response to Kristopher</b></p>
<p><b>AOB</b></p>	<p><b>Julian Guy</b> Representing Caldicot Running Club.</p> <p>Caldicot are losing members due to the fact that they are locked out of the Gwent leisure Centre league. Is there anything that can be done to make the GLCL more inclusive?</p> <p>MJ – Responding by making it clear that the league is not managed by the East Wales Region. It was set up by a group of what happened to be all east Wales clubs. The reason Caldicot and a number of other clubs have not been allowed to participate is simply due to the number of participants in each event. Venues don’t exist that can cater for any larger numbers. Caldicot are not locked out, but are on a waiting list. Other clubs have been offered assistance to set up another league but have not taken up the offer.</p> <p>Julian Guy – Can anything be done regarding clashes of events? JT – meetings have been held to discuss calendars of events and WA have been asked to release dates earlier. CV advised that events outside of Welsh Athletics would not necessarily take league and cross country events into consideration when planning to host an event.</p> <p>Julian – the new portal – codes of conduct etc transferring to the new portal but it doesn’t seem to be ‘customisable’. Can there be clarification regarding the introduction of the new affiliation processing. CV stated that there are videos online to demonstrate how to use the portal – but that there will be webinars to discuss changes with clubs before any changes are implemented.</p> <p>Julian – U23 category events – transition from Juniors to Seniors is a large jump – could there be a U23 category? JT commented that in T &amp; F there are not many U23 athletes.</p> <p>JT – Asked members to look out for notices about the AGM and also for nominations for awards. JT thanked the members for their time.</p>	<p><b>CV- Forward this concern to WA along with others mentioned.</b></p>

**The meeting closed at 8.15pm Minutes written by Christine Vorrés 25/08/2023**

**Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 18 October at 6.30pm**

**Date of Future meeting 13 December.**