



# South Wales Regional Athletics Council

**Date:** Friday, 23 February 2024

**START:** 6pm

**END:** 8pm

**Venue:** Barry Fire Station, Port Road West, Barry, CF62 3AZ

**Chair:** Kyle Perry (Secretary)

## Minutes

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**Attendees:** Kyle Perry (**Secretary / Barry & Vale Harriers**), Fred Malkin (**Barry & Vale Harriers**), Pete Morris (**Life Member**), Graham Finlayson (**Cardiff Athletics / Welsh Athletics President**), John Griffin (**Les Croupier**), Danny Carter (**Barry & Vale Harriers**), Ron Morris (**San Domenico**)

**Apologies:** Rowland Williams (**Pontyclun Athletics**), Cathryn Alford (**Rhondda AC**), Angela Foster-Swailes (**Albany Road Runners**), Steph Iverson (**Ogmore Phoenix / Bridgend Athletics Rep**), Lee Hayward (**Rhondda Athletics**)

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### 1. Welcome, Apologies for Absence & Thank you's

- Condolences to the friends and family of Glyn Pugh.

#### Team Managers for Inter-Counties

- Steph Iverson (Ogmore Phoenix)
- Bryn Griffiths (Rhondda Athletics)
- Victoria Garvey (Barry & Vale Harriers)
- Matt Jacklin (Aberdare Athletics)
- Richard Edge (CDF Runners)

## 2. Chief Executive update

- Notes taken by SWRAC secretary from the meeting held between Welsh Athletics Chief Executive on the 1st Feb 2024 and all 4 regional secretaries and chairs were relayed and discussed by the committee.
- Contents covered:
- **Finance** - *Funding for this year is still available for this year but that next year it will be less and I also advised that there are further Welsh Athletics funding cuts to come.*
- **Medals** - *Looking to offer the responsibility for ordering medals to the regions to reduce the administrative time take up by Welsh Athletics staff.*
- **Region's purpose** - *Desire to see the regional council's as a sounding board for clubs only and for responsibility for competitions to reside with clubs.*

## 3. Regional Championships Updates

- Llanthony Junior Hill (**AUGUST**) race agreed to host Regional Champs but this is in the East and no races in the South will have Welsh Athletics licences so looks like the only option.
- Pentrych Hill (**APRIL**) have been contacted for Senior Hill race but still awaiting a reply.
- Rabbit Run (**JULY**) have agreed to host the Senior Trail Championships Junior Trails are available but it needs to be discussed if this is suitable mid summer with the T&F season in full swing.
- Regional championship races that have been agreed and some contacted but caveated any further decisions with the fact that we may need to cut back on medals being offered.

## 4. AOB

- There was some real disillusionment with decisions made and general feeling that there isn't enough accountability for decisions being made.
- There was further disillusionment with what the club and athlete affiliation fees were for. It was requested that we contact the CEO with the following request:
- **ACTION:** *Ask for the job descriptions of staff members so that the regions can hold staff to their responsibilities through the correct channels.*
- There was a lot of discussion about track & field competitions for athletes from U17 upwards and the pathways available for them to compete, feel valued and there was the feeling that without the support of Welsh Athletics in this area then these athletes will drop out of the sport and more importantly will not look to give anything back in the future.

- Promoting of the upcoming Junior Development League needs to begin.
- **ACTION:** Poster to be created this coming week and to be promoted on social media.
- It was suggested that if we are not able to get the league results onto Power of 10 due to lack of officials that we make this clear from the outset.
- It was raised that the demographics of the committee was aging with only myself and one other in attendance being of an age where we could be involved in 10 years time and I said that we have a few more who are missing but we are way too short on active committee members for things to get done in any meaningful way without burning out.
- **ACTION:** Put a request out asking for more support to help ensure the regions future.

## 5. Venue and Date of Next Meeting

- It was suggested that the next meeting be at the end of March early April to discuss the application cut off dates for the Inter-regionals.
- Bridgend
- TBC