



North Wales
Regional Athletics Council

**NORTH WALES REGIONAL ATHLETICS COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 13th JUNE 2024**

This meeting was held as a video conference via Microsoft Teams.

Present: Paul Brooks (P.B.), Kay Hatton (K.H.), John Hatton (J.H.), Crispin Backshall (C.B.), Tracy Weetman (T.W.), James Rogers (J.R.) Amy Edwards (A.E.), Bernie Jones (B.J.), Kevin Clark (K.C.), Arwel Lewis (A.L.), David Peters (D.P.) and Mike Blake (M.B.)

Apologies for absence: Paul Povey.

Declaration Of Interest: none.

1.0: K.H., in her capacity as current Vice Chair, agreed to act as Chair for this meeting.

2.0: Election of Officers: P.B reported that eight ballot papers had been returned. It was therefore agreed by unanimous decision of those present that the following be elected: Kay Hatton was elected as Chair; Paul Brooks (Secretary) and Officials' Secretary (Endurance); and Tracy Weetman (Track and Field Officials' secretary). The following were also re-elected unopposed as representatives to W.A.: Track and field: Crispin Backshall; Road running/cross country: Martin Green; Fell/Mountain: Mike Blake; Trail and Ultra: Arwel Lewis. John Hatton and Kay Hatton will be the Region's representatives on the Welsh Athletics (W.A.) General Council; Safeguarding Officer: Paul Povey. John Hatton was elected unopposed as Treasurer; Richard Eccles will continue to oversee the accounts while J.H. goes through the security process with our bank. The role of Vice-Chair is now vacant, and it was agreed that Clubs not currently represented on the committee be approached for a volunteer for this position.

3.0: Chair's Address: K.H. commented (a) that it had been a successful year and thanked: P.B. for road championships and Inter County matches; C.B., T.W. and A.E. for track and field; Fell and mountain and trail, M.B. and A.L. B.J. for cross country League and Inter Region matches. (b) She noted that the trail championships had not been held in 2023, but were returning this year. (c) All our championship dates and venues for all disciplines are now on our website (d) the Regional banners have now been received and have been use at championships (e) She spoke on our reduced annual budgets from W.A. and the grants we had received for equipment from the National Body and Gwynt Y Mor (f) We are changing the design of our Regional medals from next year and may change suppliers. The design will remain the same for this year and the shortfall of gold medals has been ordered and paid for. (g) She congratulated C.B., Barry Edwards, Dafydd Ellis and D.P on their awards from W.A. (h) The late Peter Norman had been inducted into our Hall of Fame (i) she spoke on the loss to our sport by the passing of photographer Steve Jeffrey.

4.0: Previous Minutes: The minutes of the 2023 A.G.M. were agreed without amendment.

5.0 Discussion: A useful discussion took place on the recruitment and retention of volunteers. It was concluded that we need to set up a monitoring team offering support to new recruits and levels one and two officials.

6.0: Welsh Athletics Reps and Regional Reports:

6.1 Track and Field officials' secretary: T.W. reported that the North now had 74 active officials in track and field and endurance combined. She felt that the training and licensing had changed and it was now easier to attain level one. She spoke on the health and safety, and the safeguarding courses, and the progression from level one to two for endurance.

6.2 Treasurer's Report: in the absence of Richard Eccles, K.H. reported that (a) the draft annual accounts had been passed to Helen Blair to audit and it is hoped that they will be available for the next general meeting in August (b) she spoke on expenditure on a new stock of vests (b) equipment grants (c) track and field entry fees from the indoor and outdoor championships (d) expenditure for road running (e) our contribution to the C.A.U. Inter Counties cross country championships (f) expenditure on fell and mountain running, sports hall and our website (g) the annual grant from W.A. for 2024/5 was £1,500 plus an additional £1,000, the latter being a one-off payment to cover shortfalls. These had both been received. The annual grant for medals of £750 is still outstanding. (h) The contribution from 4 of our track and field Clubs towards wi-fi equipment (i) It was agreed to refund K.H. £217 she had personally paid for updates to our website.

6.3 Cross Country Report: B.J. had circulated a copy of the N.W.C.C.A./League A.G.M. minutes, with an annual report. He also spoke on their mentoring of officials which had seen 2 officials upgraded to level 3 from level 2.

6.4 Trail and Mountain: A.L. had circulated a comprehensive written report on events entered and championships attended over the year. He also reported on the various successes Tom Wood (Eryri) had achieved in championships and when representing Wales.

6.5: Secretary's Report: P.B. had nothing further.

6.6 Road Running: P.B. had circulated a written report covering the Regional championships and Inter County/Area matches attended.

6.7 Track and Field: (a) C.B. thanked K.H. and A.E. for their work over the year. (b) He reported that a £5,484 grant from W.A. and Gwynt Y Mor had enabled the purchase of E.D.M. equipment and other grants of £1,223 had been spent on wi-fi and a tablet (c) a new Photo finish camera is needed and we will be making an application for such. (d) A.E. reported that she had had a busy year with both the indoor and outdoor championships, where the latter had had a record number of entries; the Junior League matches, events at Treborth and an endurance meeting at Deeside; Regional branding; the Inter Region (I.R.) championships at Deeside, which the North had won; she hopes to bring the Welsh Junior championships to the North next year; level one courses for field judges on 8th and 20th July in Deeside and a level one course for timekeepers at Deeside on 10th July; an online course for race walking on 11th July and 11 race walking athletes have entered an upcoming open meeting. K.H. thanked T.W. for her work in finding officials for the I.R. championships and noted that work to repair the track at Eirias Park starts next week.

7.0: Schools: No report.

8.0: Safeguarding: No report.

9.0: Date and Venue of the next A.G.M.: June 2025. Date and venue t.b.c.