



**WELSH ATHLETICS MASTERS ADVISORY GROUP**  
***Minutes of Meeting Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021***

**1. Present:**

Jacqueline Brace; Bernie Jones; Simon Lewis; Lee Aherne; Ali Whitelaw; Helen-Marie Davies; Jo Donnelly; Rob Davies; James Williams (part meeting)

**2. Apologies:**

None

**3. Welcome by James Williams, Chief Executive of Welsh Athletics**

James welcomed everybody and outlined the purpose of the group and with a 20% increase in Master athletes and over 60% of Welsh registered athletes being of a master age, Welsh Athletics are keen to ensure that they have the views of master athletes and are able to better provide for them.

Given that we are now coming out of the pandemic, James asked the group to capture the views and confidence of master athletes returning to training and competition. It was agreed that we would use social media and the creation of this group to get an informal feedback from masters. BJ would prepare a piece for the Welsh Athletics website and other social media platforms to promote the group and encourage feedback from masters.

James confirmed that the Group would be empowered to make its own decisions and that it has the full support of Welsh Athletics. The focus initially should be on endurance running.

**4. Terms of Reference**

Rod Davies indicated from a factual perspective that it is no longer Welsh Masters Association but Welsh Masters Athletics Limited. It was agreed to amend the Terms of Reference. A copy of the amended Terms of Reference are attached to the minutes.

**5. Priorities for Group**

***(i). Voice of Masters Athletics in***

It was agreed that we would in due course send an e mail to all master athletes but initially we would promote the group and seek informal feedback from master athletes via social media

***(ii). Oversee allocation of Championships***

Jacque outlined how the existing 'senior' championships are allocated. She also indicated that often they do not have more than one nomination. As a Group we have to decide whether we want to have the 'Master' championships in the same race as the 'senior' championship.

As we are not sure of what races are currently on we can discuss at the next meeting. Jacquie could provide us with details of any 'senior' championships for the remainder of 2021 and 2022

***(iii) Oversee an international competition programme***

It was agreed that due to the pandemic and a likely slow return to competition over the next few months, the international competition programme would be from 2022. BJ to ascertain from England Athletics any plans for Master Road Internationals in 2022.

A discussion took place regarding the Masters International Cross Country in November and what role Welsh Athletics could play in that to ensure that we get the best possible teams out, particularly around the younger age group. BJ agreed to speak to Welsh Masters with Rod Davies and British Masters Athletic Federation to what is possible both short term and long term. BJ to contact Rod Davies asap and subsequently BMAF.

***(iv). Main point of contact for Welsh Masters/BMAF***

It was agreed that we should encourage all clubs to have a 'Masters Liaison Officer' who we could communicate with and ensure we get the views of masters on a regular basis.

**6. Any other business**

None

**7. Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 12th May at 7pm. Jacquie Brace to organise video link