



**NORTH WALES REGIONAL ATHLETICS COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2020  
BY VIDEO CONFERENCE**

**Present:** P. Brooks (P.B.), K. Hatton (K.H.), C. Backshall (C.B.) E. Brewer (E.B.), D. Peters (D.P.), E. Geal (E.G.), K. Clark (K.C.), A. Hucks (A.H.), A. Lewis (A.L.), B. Edwards (B.E.), R. Mackey (R.M.) and C. Griffith (C.G.).

**Apologies for Absence:** J. Hatton and D. Davies.

**Minutes of the last meeting and Matters Arising:** (previous minutes in italics): Accepted as a true record.

**1.13.0** It was confirmed by D.P. that the cross country championships had access to Trinity, so the seven day closing date for entries to Regional championships would not apply; however, road and track and field would continue to apply a seven day closing date for such.

**1.25.0** The Regional road relays had been held as a virtual event but would revert to a real event in 2021.

**2.0 Chair's address:** K.H. reported (a) it has been a difficult year, but we had held 3 virtual road championships, with another (half marathon) this month (b) A virtual Inter County 10km road race had been held with Staffordshire (c) Bernie Jones and Russell Godwin had confirmed that the N.W.C.C.L. season for 2020/21 had been cancelled as have the Regional cross country championships for 2021 (d) it was agreed that the next meeting of N.W.R.A.C. should be on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (e) E.B. will circularise a survey of our Clubs to see if a change of day for our meetings would improve attendance (f) we have enough medals in stock to cover a 10 miles road championships next February, the next road championships following that are not until June; cross country will need none for the current season and track and field (t&f) will assess their requirements for next May.

**3.0 Junior National Athletes' Voice Panel:** K.H. welcomed Amelia Hucks and Chloe Griffith. They reported that (a) a planned questionnaire survey of young athletes, to be held within Clubs, had had to be cancelled due to the pandemic restrictions (b) they felt that too many t&f meetings and squad sessions were held in Cardiff, which made it difficult for the North's athletes to attend (c) there are 6 members on the Panel (d) too many coaches are training their athletes in specialised events at too young ages (e) they want to investigate the high drop-out rate of U/17 and U/20 athletes.

It was agreed to invite both Amelia and Chloe to our meetings in future and we welcome their input.

**4.0 Treasurer's report:** Dilwyn had sent a written report with details of income and expenditure. (a) K.H. reported that she was working on a much-reduced grant application to W.A., which included the overspend on Sportshall in the last financial year (b) We had received sponsorship of £200 from Spillane and Co, to cover the postage costs of our virtual races; the 5 miles, 5km and relay events had cost a total of £108.28p for padded envelopes and postage.

**5.0 Regional Reports:**

**5.1 Track and Field:** C.B. reported (a) that he was working on plans to hold Inter Club matches in 2021. These will be small affairs possibly held on Saturday mornings and aimed at younger age-groups (b) there has been a lack of maintenance work at Eirias Park; P.B. and A.L. reported that similar situations exist at the Queensway S.C. and Treborth. (c) there will be no indoor events in the North next year.

**5.1.1 Trail and Mountain/Fell:** A.L. presented a written report on (a) the lack of events this year, but some unlicensed races are taking place (b) the Blorenge trail race takes place tomorrow (c) a list of planned races, events and criteria both domestic and international in 2021.

**5.1.2. Cross Country:** No report.

**5.1.3. Road Running:** P.B. reported that (a) 6 men and 6 women competed for the Region in the virtual Stone 10km event. Both our men's and our women's teams had won, the latter on countback. (b) the real relay championships in 2021 must be sponsored if they are to be held; the virtual relay championships had 398 entrants with 12 Clubs competing (c) Denbigh Harriers are setting up a junior section (d) a virtual 10 miles championship in February, if the Rhyl race is cancelled, is under consideration.

**5.2 Development Officers:**

**5.2.1** Barry Edwards presented a written report on (a) he thanked P.B. for his work on the virtual events (b) schools' athletics (c) sportshall athletics (d) Be Active funding, the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage is now available (e) coach education (f) officials education (g) W.A. awards (h) extra mental health support for coaches and athletes (i) modernising and up-skilling (j) virtual relays (k) he is planning training sessions at N.W.I.A.C. with photo finish equipment available.



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**5.2.2** Eva Brewer presented a written report covering: (a) Run With the Wind (b) she is going to a meeting with Wrecsam C.C. with Megan Hunter (c) 22 of the 36 schools in Wales that took part in a virtual sportshall event were from the North, with the winners coming from Flintshire (d) a virtual cross country event on 18<sup>th</sup> December (e) W.A. and Run4Wales conferences are planned for March and April next year (f) an audit of officials is planned next year, assisted by Eban (g) Club development plans (h) Sport Wales funding (i) Run4Wales and run leaders.

**5.4 Secretary:** P.B. had nothing further to report.

**6.0 Officials Secretaries:**

**6.1** Endurance: the meeting set for 8<sup>th</sup> October had been cancelled.

**6.2** E.G. reported that he will be working on an audit of all officials in the North, in all disciplines, next year.

**7.0: A.O.B.:** C.B. reported that Sean McCormack is looking for a volunteer to take over holding the stock of Regional vests and ordering replacements. K.C. stated that Cybi Striders vests cost £9 each from Scimitar and R.M. that Buckley R.C are supplied by a company in Treuddyn. It was agreed to look into setting up a facility to order running vests on-line in the future.

**10.0: Dates and Venues of the next meetings:** The next meeting will be the be held at Eirias Park Leisure Centre on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February, and will commence at 7.00 p.m.