



South Wales

Regional Athletic Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of South Wales Regional Council
Held at 3 Fairway Court (Capgemini Office), Tonteg Road, Treforest Industrial Estate, Pontypridd, CF37 5UA
on Tuesday 25th June 2019 6:30pm

Present: Ronald Morris [RM] (San Dom), Pete Morris [PM] (Life Member), Rich Skyrme [RS] (CDF Runners), Bernie Plain [BP] (Cardiff Athletics), Steve Paskell [SP] (Pontyclun Road runners), Chris Pratt [CP] (Ogmore Phoenix Runners), Spiro Pezaros [SPE] (Heath Massive Run Club), Lucy Archer [LA] (President), Georgina Fraser [GeF] (Cornelly Striders), Melanie Westlake [MW] (Heath Massive Run Club), Jen Stone [JS] (Treasurer), Iwan Dowie [ID] (Cornelly Striders), Hannah Pretty [HP] (Welsh Athletics), Jamie Clode [JC] (Secretary)

Apologies: Graham Webb, Graham Finlayson, Dai Williams, Louise Hunt, Darran Williams.

1) Consideration of Reports from the current Officers

- a. A report from the chairman Dai Williams was read, please see appendix A.
- b. A report from the Trail and Mountain representative Dan Bodman was not available on the night, but is available now; please see appendix B

2) Consideration of the annual statement of accounts and the report of the Treasurer

- a. Report from Jen shared with the room. Talk through at a high level a will distribute detailed level at a later date. Not yet received our grant from the WA of 4k. We have the first year of a deficit. Just over 17k in the regional meetings. Jen has just ordered 5k worth of stock.

CP – is the 4k a definite amount. Development plan needs to be finalised, this needs to be prioritised.

BP – do the finances need to be submitted with the dev plan. Jamie advised not been stipulated.

PM advised that at the WA AGM last year it was advised that it would be 4k plus medals circa 1500.

PM asked if it was 4.3k for the EDM. Confirmed as yes.

PM pointed out that the school's events had created a surplus.

ACTION: BP will speak to board to see if any conditions on the grant, based on PM guidance in line above.

ACTION: JS to issue detailed statement of accounts.

3) The election of the Officers of the region

- a. President – Lucy Archer re-elected
- b. Chairman – Dai Williams re-elected
- c. Secretary – Jamie Clode re-elected
- d. Treasurer – Jen Stone re-elected
- e. Track and field Competitions Officer
- f. Cross Country Competitions Officer - Dan Bodman confirmed would like to continue
- g. Road running Competitions Officer – Dan Bodman confirmed would like to continue
- h. Hill and Mountain Competitions Officer - Dan Bodman confirmed would like to continue
- i. Trail running competitions officer
- j. Officials ‘ Administrator (track and field)
- k. Officials Administrator (endurance)
- l. Welfare Officer Male – Steve Paskell

**ACTION: Tor’s need to be created for all roles, this will help understanding when considering standing for a role.
BP to speak with Hannah to see what templates exist**

ACTION: JC to confirm with Dan Bodman he still wishes to stand.

ACTION: DW to send a formal thank you to Darran for all his work

4) The appointment of delegates to external bodies

- a. Two representatives to the General Council of Welsh Athletics Limited - Lucy Archer, Graham Webb, Dai Williams, Jamie Clode
- b. One individual to be the Region’s Member of Welsh Athletics Limited, and attend the Welsh Athletics Annual General Meeting - Dai Williams
- c. One representative to attend the Annual General Meeting of the UK Counties Athletic Union - As per agreement last year, no rep.
- d. One representative to attend meetings of the Welsh Athletics Track & Field Committee - Mark Gold.
- e. One representative to attend meetings of the Welsh Athletics Road & Cross-Country Committee – Graham Finlayson
- f. One representative to attend meetings of the Welsh Athletics Trail/Fell & Mountain Running Committee – Dan Bodman
- g. One representative to attend meetings of the Endurance section of the Welsh Athletics Officials’ Committee – Jamie Clode
- h. One representative to attend meetings of the Track & Field section of the Welsh Athletics Official’s Committee – John Elward

ACTION: BP to confirm Mark Gold to continue

ACTION: JS to speak with John Elward about continuing in role

5) To consider tabled items of business including any notices of motion and amendments to the constitution

- a. Prior to the meeting PM shared a draft constitution. He gave some background on why a change was needed. 12 months ago, Dai and Hannah produced a draft version and Pete felt that structure was sound but needed a revision. Constitution was walked through, and a few amendments agreed.
LA thanked Pete for preparing a draft constitution, everyone appreciated the effort required.
PM explained how the constitution is laid out.
ID – Mission statement would be a good idea and not include on constitution
SPE – be good to recognise the welsh speakers in clubs
Steve Paskell appointed as welfare officer
Everyone thanked Pete for walking us through and how much effort he had put in.

ACTION: ID to Produce a draft Mission Statement for review.

ACTION: PM to revise after agreed amendments and circulate.

ACTION: JC to speak to Nick Everitt to see if he would undertake an independent review of accounts

ACTION: JC to review Power of 10 use for digital records

6) To consider the annual membership fee

- a. Agreed none required.

7) To consider the appointment of life members of the Council

- a. No submissions at this time.

8) To consider items to be tabled at the AGM of Welsh Athletics Limited, and any nomination for Meritorious Award or the Award of Honour

- a. WA Bye Law 7 - PM led discussion around this law, not the best structure layout and numbering is all out. Wording is exact and explicit to how the roles are. There is no mention of Finance or reference towards funding for grant and medals. Proposed is much more structured. Includes reference in 7.9 & 7.10 which are not currently covered. 7.11 clarifies regional eligibility. Room agrees that should go forward. Need to note that bye law 16.2 will need to be deleted. Once version finalised, will need to be sent to Matt Newman

ACTION: JC to review if Alan Kerr received Meritious Award

ACTION: DW to send congratulations to John Griffin for British Empire medal

9) To consider the competition programme for the remainder of 2019 into 2020

- a. Sub meeting needed to get the remainder of the program decided with Competitions officer. One item being that we need to confirm if the U17. U20 and seniors and mens/womens and masters. HP raised if schools should be included in Gwent League XC fixture 1. Room agreed, should be discussed.

ACTION: Sub meeting to be held to be arranged to discuss remainder of calendar

ACTION: Next meeting to be end of August, ID to identify date and room at USW

Appendix A

This year we have seen a recruitment of new faces and clubs within the regional council, many of which may never have attended a council meeting before. I give thanks to Jamie Clode for pushing the aims of the Council to the road running clubs and it is great to see these clubs attending and having their say within the sport.

The regional competition programme is continuing to grow with events in Pentyrch, Merthyr Mawr, Aberdare (Track and field), and the forthcoming 5km race within SSAFA 5km. What we are missing though is volunteers to assist with all of these competitions (particularly those on Track and Field)

Volunteers are the crux of the sport and we have recently seen that a small number of complaints regarding medals have been voiced. This can only be answered with more volunteers supporting the region. A number of parents are happy for their child to compete but are not willing to assist with voluntary roles (something which has been said since before I was chair!)

Facilities:

It is great to see that Athletics is back in Aberdare with the opening of the Ron Jones Stadium. This has been a long time coming, but now RCT council have further pledged to convert King George V Cinder Track (Rhondda) and are currently building in Beddau.

Competition from the region has been strong across all disciplines, with the addition of U13 to this years Track and Field championships, the moving of the date should make team selection simpler as more athletes will still be competing (Rather than the late August Date)

Indoor Junior Championships

The indoor championships were once again a success with many Junior athletes competing indoors for the first time. Thanks to Darran for organising this event, however successful the event is we are always wanting more volunteers. This event will need further support pending Darran's resignation as Track and Field Competitions Officer

UKCAU Inter-Regionals

Many athletes opted to travel independently for this championship, held once again in Loughbrough.

A bus is provided however only a small amount travel, this is something we should look into as the support for a bus doesn't seem to be there from athletes.

Pentyrch Hill Race

Thanks to John Gough for allowing us to host the Regional Championship.

Jamie organised a new regional results spreadsheet allowing to confirm athlete eligibility on the day.

Dan Bodman won the men's race.

Competition is the bread and butter of athletics and we should look to provide an incentive for those who do compete regularly for the region. There are a number of athletes who compete across all disciplines and their support should be recognised.

Re-Election for 2019

The region continues to develop and as Chair since 2013 a lot has changed within the sport. A lot which will continue to change. As I've stated above I feel that athlete/volunteer recognition is the most important aspect for retaining people's involvement. This is something I would like to implement, firstly for those officials/Team managers who give their time to the region but also to athletes who are more than willing to turn out for an event (even on short notice)

I am putting myself forward for re-election as chair. I want to continue to push the region forward with the implementation of a new development plan and a supportive team of within the council.

As chair I would be a reserve for General Council attending when others are unavailable. And secondly attending the Welsh Athletics AGM as member for the region.

Appendix B

Trail Inter regional championships royal welsh trail 10k - Senior mens team took home team gold and dominated the event with 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place. Dan nash (Cardiff aac) narrowly beating young Joe reardon (aberdare) and john howells (pontypridd) making up the podium with oliver Williams (white rock) coming in as 4th scorer in 4th place

The womens team performed well;

Katie beecher (les croupiers) 2nd

Liz may (pontypridd) 7th

Aimee ferguson (aberdare) 8th

Finishing as second team however missing out because of a registration issues with an athlete.

Welsh selection

Daniel bodman and adam bull were both asked to compete for wales in the Celtic trail championship in brittany however declined due to other race commitments

Very good engagement with the trail running committee and very productive meetings discussing team selection and championship events, next year we will try to advertise these championships better to get more participants from south wales.

Looking at selection next year I would suggest that the regional championship is announce at least 6months in advance to advertise and can then look to use that race for selection and the race being before the inter regionals not after, it can make selection difficult and the regional championships not as attractive to those chasing selection.

Fell championship - longtown llantony

Senior mens team took the victory ahead of east Wales

Joe readon (aberdare) taking second place

Daniel bodman (aberdare) 4th

David Lawson (les croupiers)

Matt o'Keefe (mdc)

Vet mens team silver

Rhodri Evans (pontypridd)

Carl Edwards (pontypridd)

Mark dunscombe (aberdare)

Very difficult to pick teams for this as regional championships were two weeks later, couldnt find women to run however if championships had been before could have given out avalibility letters to first 5 finishers in each category to get full teams, having no ladies was extremely disappointing

Development day

Myself and peter Ryder hosted a development day for mountain and fell in south Wales and had around 20 attendees which was very good. Liz davies endurance co-ordinator welsh athletes attended and was very happy with the work.

Welsh selection

The first international selection for the senior age group is the snowdon 10 in july

Dan bodman selected for welsh team

Peter Ryder selected to team manage

Junior championships were held in the red kite challenge

U17s Joe readon (1st)

Rhys hardman (2nd)

U20 shaun pinch (1st)

There were other good performances on the day

The first selection race is on 27th july in in betws-y-coed

Training camp

Welsh Atheltics and northan island athletics are hosting a 4 day training camp in the weekend of the junior trial race 4 athletes from south wales have been selected to attend

Joe Reardon (aberdare)

James griffiths (neath)

Rhys hardman (archers)

Shaun pinch (aberdare)

Peter Ryder and Dan Bodman to attend as coaching

Very productive meetings and definitely a lot more consideration for south athletes in selection meetings so far this year so all looking good for future.