



Welsh Athletics Track and Field Committee.
Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 21st May 2018.

Venue: Welsh Institute of Sport Sophia Gardens with a video link.

Present.

Joyce Tomala (**JT**)(East); (WSAA); Judith Gooding (**JG**) (Secretary); Rhiannon Linington-Payne (**RL-P**); Ruth Powell (**RP**); Alan Currie (**AC**); Tom Marshall (**TM**) James Williams (**JW**)

1. **Apologies.**

Emma Wiltshire, Sue Hooper, Crispin Backshall; Kath Elias
Darran Williams, Jake Morgan, Lynne Brier (Chair)

2. **Records -**

AC gave an account of Welsh indoor record improvements for 2017/2018 and indoor championship best performances 2017/2018. All committee present were given a copy (also sent out with these minutes). All approved by committee.

RL-P questioned why non-welsh athletes competing in our open championships are not being recognised as having a “championship best performance”. **AC** explained that it would not be recognised as they are not part of the championship and that they were taking part in the “open” part of the competition and are; as such, guests. It was suggested that we look at past performances from previous championships. A recommendation was suggested to change best performances in the case of non welsh athletes from “championship best performances” to “meeting best performances”

JT stated, with agreement from the committee, that the problem we have is that welsh athletes are not competing and that we need to focus on that. **JG** questioned why our athletes don't compete in their championships, but are competing in open meetings and event specific competition.

3. **Rules of Competition**

JT brought up a couple of changes which had not been flagged up but have now been.

Page 82 – Rule 142 – Failure to participate.

If the rule is interpreted fully and for example someone does a 400mh just for a point and their own event is later in the day but they get disqualified, does that mean that they cannot compete in that event?

Clarification is needed for both track and field.

This will be taken to the next officials meeting for clarification.

This rule also needs to be stated in the notes for competitors, which is sent out for championships. **JL-P** to add this in.

AC informed the committee that the athlete transferring rule has changed and transfer will now be immediate from the date of which the eligibility committee approves it. In our case fees are paid and then **AC** receives the form for transfer. A list of approved athletes is sent out each month.

4. **Matters arising from previous meeting.**

- 3.1 The secretary has received the bullet points from Steve Jones re Welsh Schools committee meeting, which have been attached to these minutes.
- 3.2 At the time of the meeting the date of July's meeting had not been finalised due to the lack on venue.

JW lead on items 4, 5 and 6.

5. **New Structure of Welsh Athletics**

JW did a presentation on the operation structure of Welsh Athletics and the clarity of departments.

Communication and competition have been highlighted as areas needing improvement and further development.

- Rob Sage (New website) and Adam Bitchell (Day to day management) have been taken on in the newly formed Communication Department.
- Tom Marshall is National Competition and Events Manager.(operational and strategy)

JW stated that with the improvements –

- We can be more athlete centred.
- As we are lacking in regional representatives attending the committee; Tom will be more involved in contacting the regions, involving them and reinforcing how important it is for them to have representation.
- The track and field committee can again be involved in the selection of team managers and selectors.
- The committee to be a support for Tom, Rhiannon and Darren.

JW is to send out the slides of his presentation and also send correspondence to all regions regarding attendance at committee meetings.

6. Club Representatives

JW stated that when he started in his role. It was identified that there was a need for club representatives. Will look to develop the role but not until later in the year, when it be re-evaluated, led by Tom.

7. Competition

It was stated that as there are key challenges with the length of the competition day etc we still need to look at the concerns with lack of officials etc. We are a victim of our own success and have quite large numbers in junior competition.

JT asked if the Competition subgroup should be active and possibly expanded. Based on feedback from the general council and the track and field committee.

8. Rules of Competition

The rules are in place for the next two years. We need to put proposals for any changes in place for next rule book and ensure that the feedback time given to question any changes is used. Any such questions should come through the track and field committee.

Re domestic competition - **JW** also mentioned that Welsh Athletics are continuing to speak to UKA. They don't have any responsibility for the leagues. The question on who does have responsibility is ongoing.

9. AOB

- Competition Group:

TM suggests that we look at the possibility of revising this at the end of the year. To look at possible members on that committee, from various areas. **TM** and **JT** to meet up at some point and people will be approached well in advance.

Date and Venue of next meeting.

To be held on Tuesday 31st July 2018 at 18:30 at Welsh Institute of Sport Sophia Gardens, Cardiff.

Agenda items for next meeting

To be received by the secretary for collation and distribution. AOB to be presented in the meeting.

The meeting finished at 7.50pm