

Joint Track & Field / Officials Committee

Tuesday 2nd June

17.30

Discussion Points		Actions
Present	Rhiannon Linington-Payne (RLP); Joyce Tomala (JT); Sue Hooper (SH); Zoe Holloway (ZH); Lynne Brier (LB); Adrian Palmer (AP); Jeff Marsden (JM); Alan Currie (AC); Kath Elias (KE); Crispin Backshall (CB); Lynette Harries (LH); Geoff Wickens (GW)	
Apologies	Olive Dobson; Dave Jessett	
Update from RLP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on current timelines regarding COVID suspensions and work being done by WA to prepare for a return to sport • Roadmap for competition & officiating in line with Welsh Government traffic light system • During amber phase, competition likely to be informal and within small club groups as travel still likely to be limited • Possible event formats once green phase is reached – local, event specific; limited entry numbers • Concerns around Health & safety of horizontal & vertical jumps – currently no way to ensure sanitization of landing areas • Concerns around hurdles – cleaning and secure, sterile storage of equipment • H&S for officials – PPE; alternative officials room arrangements; retention of duties where equipment has to be handled; possibility of operating with reduced numbers; used of technology to make events safe e.g. online results platform replacing paper field cards • Event logistics – one-way system at venues; athletes to be separated from coaches & spectators; allocated arrival & departure times; no use of stadium blocks & no sharing personal equipment; unlikely that traditional competition formats will be possible in the short-term with restrictions in place at the moment • Planning for various scenarios of competition – different formats; different start points throughout the year (track & field/off-track) • Green phase will not represent a return to pre-COVID normality (Welsh Gov restrictions likely to still be in place) • Guidance to be produced to help clubs/providers make competition safe during that time 	
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh Championships – recommend to Board that Welsh champs are not formally staged this year – unlikely to be possible with limitations on travel & need to restrict entry numbers & not enough time for athletes to prepare for a Champs. <i>Cut off date of July 1st</i> 	RLP to discuss with JW
Regional Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East – no facilities open at the moment; was previously a hotspot for COVID; priority is getting athletes back in a coaching environment • North – all venues closed at the moment; Conwy currently hotspot for COVID; concern around different restrictions 	

	moving forward for different regions; many leisure facilities being used for field hospitals at the moment	
Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Moss (CM) regularly in touch with facility providers; meeting coming up with facilities & health & safety advisor to establish what needs to be in place to open safely when allowed to do so; date TBC 	RLP to confirm date
Officials Welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many officials concerned about current environment & unsure if they would return Space in PF rooms a concern Can timekeepers socially distance? Age profile of officials – some may decide not to come back at all because of health worries CB also raised that this could affect the coaching community in the same way ZH analysed numbers of officials under 70 in each region per discipline (doesn't take into account any underlying health concerns) – numbers are not high. Further analysis of UKA officials survey once results are sent out Plan for moving forward - virtual learning options to get more people coming through the sport, but adjustments needed to effectively deliver Self-care series starting from Sport Wales – open to everyone GW - A number of Welsh timekeepers have confirmed that they do not want to continue SH – start team are able to socially distance easier than some other groups JT – concerns around mental health of officials; LB asked whether welfare support would be available by trained professionals for officials/coaches – ZH suggested raising specific concerns with Steve Jones & if there is COVID-specific welfare information that can go out to club welfare officers. AP will enquire about professional support. JT suggested that it is a topic in a webinar – Q&A with practitioner? RLP drafting survey to go out to athletes (all disciplines) to understand their competition needs RLP to distribute document to Officials Committee to ask discipline reps to feed in health & safety considerations 	<p>AP/ZH</p> <p>RLP</p> <p>RLP</p>
Officials Newsletter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Response has been very positive Officials Committee asked for their input on content – send through to ZH/RLP Many emails going into spam – may be an issue with the platform. ZH to investigate. This week's content include self-care tips & update on roadmap published 	<p>Committee</p> <p>ZH</p>
Rewards post lockdown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incentive for officials to return post-COVID? Welcome them/thank them for coming back RLP/ZH to investigate Committee ideas welcomed 	RLP/ZH

AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CB – questions around insurance if there is an outbreak of COVID in club environment • GW – thanks to the WA team for all work during this period; echoed by committee • LH – find ways to engage & retain officials – through an Officials Association? RLP/ZH/SH to investigate • RLP to distribute document to T&F committee with considerations for event formats moving forward • JT – signage at events & markers; number of marshals; learn from shops that have opened; joint call is valuable at current time as many issues overlap • CB – virtual meeting format is much better & more accessible • SH – not joint meetings for selections • Next meeting Wednesday July 8th – 17:30 start • RLP to type notes 	<p>RLP to ask JW</p> <p>RLP/ZH/SH</p> <p>RLP</p> <p>RLP to setup</p>
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