

Minutes of Track & Field Committee Meeting

Wednesday 7th December 2022 via Teams Conference Call



WELSH ATHLETICS
ATHLETAU CYMRU

Present

Lynne Brier, Joyce Tomala, Lee Hayward, Rhiannon Hawker, Alan Currie, Darran Williams, Adrian Palmer, Dai Williams (Welsh Schools), John Elward

1. Apologies

Sue Hooper, Crispin Backsall,

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

No declarations of conflict of interest.

3. Appointment of Chairperson

JT was re-elected as chairperson of this committee.

4. Welsh Athletics Updates

Competition Update (RH)

1. Indoor Championships

RH shared the following information:

The Welsh Senior and Under 15 Championships will be held on 28th and 29th January, with the Senior 3000m competition being held as part of the Grand Prix match as usual.

The Welsh Junior Championships will be held on 4th and 5th February.

It was agreed that JT will attend the organisation meetings for these competitions on behalf of this committee.

2. Welsh Junior Competitions

RH reported to the committee that following a consultation process of two meetings took place with clubs during November to discuss junior competitions moving forward, reflecting the Welsh Athletics track and field strategy dating back to 2019 which underpins the need for young athletes to experience different disciplines and develop all fundamental movement skills as developing athletes, whilst retaining the fun and social element of athletics.

It was agreed in these meetings that there would continue to be four regional groupings for competitions with a four-hour maximum timetable at each fixture, consisting of a different combination of events for each age group. The format will also extend to the Under 15 age group. These dates do not clash with any other competitions or leagues, such as YDL etc. There will also be flexibility surrounding these dates so that clubs that have already committed to leagues outside Wales will not be compromised.

There will be no limit to the number of athletes who can compete in individual events.

The proposed dates are:

20th and 21st May

17th and 18th June

19th and 20th August

There is flexibility around these dates as long as new dates do not clash or impact on official's commitments.

Bonus points will be awarded to clubs for individual athletes who conform to the run, jump, throw approach or the two jump, one throw / one jump, two throw approach etc. These approaches will not be mandatory. Bonus points will also be awarded to clubs who provide officials to ensure that the event conforms to a Level 1 licenced competition. Plans are also in place to develop a Level 0 or interim licence to facilitate these events and ensure that the athletes are provided with competitive opportunities, bearing in mind that many clubs do not have enough Level 1 officials within their infrastructure.

RH went on to say that for Under 15 athletes who have already decided to specialise, event specific competitions would be in future accommodate this age group.

The committee approved these plans so that discussions could move forward with the clubs with regard to hosting these competitions.

3. **Outdoor Dates 2023**

RH shared the following Welsh Athletics fixture dates, along with potential dates for event specific events, protected junior matches, Rhondda throws fixtures and a BMC match:

Senior / Under 15 Welsh Championships – 24th and 25th June

Under 13 / Under 17 / Under 20 Welsh Championships – 12th and 13th August

Welsh International – 26th August

Welsh Schools Championships – July 1st

Regional Championships – 13th / 14th May

NASUWT Cup and Plate meetings – 12th July

Inter-Regional Championships - 16th July

The full and finalised timetable will be published on the Welsh Athletics website once plans and costs have been finalised.

4. **Inter-Regional Track and Field Championships 2023**

South region is due to host the event this year.

5. **National Talent Development Coordinators - Welsh Vests**

The Welsh vest document that was shared by Rhys Williams was approved by the committee. The document includes fixtures and dates that provide opportunities for athletes to represent Wales.

6. **Discussion**

a. Co-opted Members

The committee are allowed to co-opt up to two members onto this committee. It was agreed that Lynette Harries would continue as a co-opted member.

Action – RH and AP to discuss the possibility of drafting an athlete in as the additional co-opted member and think about an athlete who maybe interested in this role.

b. Actions from Previous Meeting – not already covered

Triple Jump Amendments

AC will ensure that the decisions from the previous meeting surrounding triple jump amendments would be shared with the officials in the next officials committee meeting.

Reports

a. Regional Issues

No issues reported from any of the regional representatives.

b. Officials Committee

Nothing to report from the officials committee.

a. Any Other Business

RH said that Welsh Athletics will be supporting the facilities that need to achieve the relevant licences to hold competitions at Level 1 and championships at Level 2.

AC has further investigated the girls long jump performances at the SIAB competition held in Ireland. There were no wind readings for the female long jump, although he was provided with wind readings for the male long jump competition. The committee decided that the performance that was discussed in the previous meeting will be listed in the Welsh Athletics records with a note added that no wind readings were provided. AP pointed out that the male long jump readings are not on Power of 10.

Action - AC agreed to send the information on to the relevant people so that the results can be included on Power of 10.

AC requested that an agenda item is added to the April and October meetings for him to present indoor and outdoor records to the committee.

AC shared some potential walks records that had been provided to him by Martin Bell. They were all accepted by the committee and will be added to the list of Welsh records.

AC requested that the Welsh Under 17 4 x 100m relay record that was broken in the 2021 SIAB international in Derby be added to the list of Welsh records. This was accepted by the committee.

DW requested that indoor records are all ready, correct and up-to-date for indoor competitions in 2023.

Action – AC will go through the records and inform DW accordingly.

JE said that the West region would be looking to hold two development meetings, following the success of last year's development meeting.

JT asked that the committee consider items for discussions in future meetings, as well as individuals who could be invited to contribute to future meetings. JT suggested that one of the directors be invited to future committees.

LB suggested that safeguarding becomes an agenda item for every other month.

JT mentioned that athletes in a recent meeting expressed their dislike of the colour of the new gold medals. It was agreed that Welsh Athletics would request shiny gold medals in their next order instead of the antique gold meetings.

The meeting ended at 7:15pm.

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 7th February 2023 at 6pm.

Dates of Future Meetings

Wednesday April 12th 2023

Wednesday June 7th 2023

Wednesday August 9th 2023

Wednesday October 11th 2023

Wednesday December 6th 2023

All meetings will commence at 6pm.