

Minutes of Track & Field Committee Meeting

Wednesday 11th October 2023



WELSH ATHLETICS
ATHLETAU CYMRU

Present

Alex Donald (AD), Darran Williams (DW), Lynette Harries (LYH), Joyce Tomala (JT), Lisa Champion (LC), Lee Haywood (LH), Dai Williams (DaiW), Alan Currie (AC), Crispin Backsall (CB).

1) Apologies

Sue Hooper

2) Declaration of Conflict of Interest

No declarations of conflict of interest expressed.

3) Welsh Athletics Updates

a. Competition Update

AD provided the committee with the following information for both indoor and outdoor track and field competitions:

i. Indoor dates 2023/2024

- November 5th 2023 - Welsh Athletics Combined Events Competition
- December 2nd 2023 - Combined Events International, replacing the event that usually takes place in Glasgow. To be organised by Cardiff Met.
- December 3rd 2023 – Junior Indoor Open Meeting
- December 17th Christmas Classic Open Meeting, incorporating the Welsh Athletics 3000m Championships.
- 7th January 2024 – Junior Indoor Open Meeting, incorporating the Welsh Athletics 1km Walk Championships
- 21st January 2024 – New Year Grand Prix, possibly hosting BMC races, if permission is granted.
- 27th and 28th January 2023 – Welsh Athletics Senior and Under 15 Championships, including walks.
- 3rd February and 4th February – Welsh Athletics Under 13, Under 17 and Under 20

ii. Outdoor dates 2024

1. Senior Championships

15th and 16th June 2024 -Senior and Under 15 Championships in Cardiff.

2. Junior Championships

10th and 11th August – Under 13, Under 17 and Under 20 Championships, possibly in Swansea.

3. Regional Championships

11th May and 12th May - Regional Championships:

JT added that East and South Wales would be combining and holding their regional championships event over two days in Aberdare.

LC added that West Wales Championships was to be held on 12th May and would confirm the venue with the committee.

DW said that North Wales usually held their championships on a Saturday.

Confirmation of this to follow.

4. U20 International

AD informed the committee that Wales possibly won't host next year, with the international rotating between the home countries and England offering to host.

The date is also likely to change as the current date is very late in the year, with holidays and causing further issues. The home countries will meet to discuss this further.

Action: AD to provide further updates in the next meeting in December.

AD reported that there had also been suggestions that an additional Under 17 international was needed, following the loss of the Celtic Games International.

iii. **Inter-Regional T & F Championships 2024**

JT confirmed that the date June 8th is still suitable to be held in Wrexham. Initially, there were concerns that this date clashed with YDL, but this clash no longer exists.

iv. **Event Specific Meetings**

- AD and DW have met with Chris Type to discuss these events. The following dates have been proposed:
- Two Run With The Wind events on Wednesday 8th May and Wednesday 5th June.
- Some potential endurance meetings in Aberdare with BMC status and one in North Wales. Dates for these meetings are yet to be confirmed.
- 22nd June has been proposed for 3k and 10k championships. Further details to follow.
- A potential steeplechase event is also being discussed.
- DW confirmed that updates for these events will be provided in the next meeting in December.

v. **Welsh Junior Competitions**

AD confirmed that all clubs would like to be involved and are happy with the proposals. This included the North Wales clubs who have previously experienced difficulties due to clashes with the Cheshire League. The dates initially suggested were as follows:

- 4th / 5th May
- 1st / 2nd June
- 13th / 14th July
- 31st August / 1st September

LH suggested that the middle of April would be a better option for Cardiff because they would find it difficult to host a match in May. Representatives from other clubs / regions agreed with this suggestion, based on the weather often being better in April and the timetable being less congested.

Action: AD agreed to look at five potential dates, from April to August to be discussed in the next meeting in December.

b. **WA Performance update**

Chris Type will be invited to share information in the next meeting.

c. **Welsh Athletics Event Licences**

DW said that there was not much information to share on new event licences. Licence meetings between the home countries had been cancelled on more than one occasion. More information will hopefully be shared with this committee in the next meeting.

4) **DISCUSSION**

a) UKA proposed Rule Changes

All committee members were aware of the proposed rule changes to age groups throughout the home countries. DW confirmed that all four schools home nations committees would not currently be going along with the proposals.

Action: AD to share a document on the rule changes with the committee.

b) Update from Outdoor 2023 Review

Most of the discussion surrounded the Welsh International.

JT reported that chief officials had received no documentation about the Under 20 International. It was also reported that the atmosphere was poor in this international match. Those committee members who were present in the international agreed that the competition was poor and the following points were discussed:

- Selection was chaotic with some athletes being selected by Welsh Schools and Welsh Athletics;
- Late clarifications from other home nations who were not being specific enough about how many athletes they would be bringing and for which events. This made it difficult to plan for allowing guest athletes to participate;
- Throws events where two different weights were being thrown in the same competition;
- Too many withdrawals at a late stage because of athletes being switched from one team to another between Welsh Athletics and Welsh Schools;
- Clash of dates with England Championships;
- Many athletes were away on holiday due to school holidays and bank holiday weekend.

c) Update from Inter-Regional Championships Review

JT reported that the review was very productive. Timetables were devised and LC reported that West Wales had already discussed and were all in agreement with the proposed timetable.

d) Ratification of Records (including discussion around inclusion of Under 15 Triple Jump Records)

The committee agreed that Under 15 Triple Jump records would now be included in the Welsh Athletics list of records.

AC shared a comprehensive list of potential records with the committee and the following were ratified:

Name	Age Group	Event	Performance	Competition	Date
Jeremiah Azu (Cardiff)	Senior Men National / Under 23 Men	100m	10.08 (Wind +0.3)	UK Championships Manchester	08.07.23
Jeremiah Azu (Cardiff)	Senior National / Under 23	100m	10.04 (Wind +1.0)	European U23 Championships, Espoo, Finland	13.07.23
Joseph Berry (Newport)	Under 17 Men	100m	10.70 (Wind +1.0)	Run with the Wind, Cardiff	10.06.23

Luca Phillips (Cardiff Archers)	U17 & U18 Men	Long Jump	7.15 (Wind -0.7)	SIAB International, Grangemouth	15.07.23
Thomas Williams (Wrexham)	U17 & U18 Men	Hammer	64.50m	SIAB International, Grangemouth	15.07.23
Thomas Williams (Wrexham)	U17 & U18 Men	Hammer	66.32m	Templemore Throws Fest	05.08.23
Courtney-Bryant (Poole AC)	Senior Women National	1500m	3:58.01	Diamond League meeting, Chorzow, Poland	16.07.23
Courtney-Bryant (Poole AC)	Senior Women National	One Mile	4:16.38	Diamond League meeting, Monaco	21.07.23
Libby Hale (Swansea H)	Under 15 Girls	1500m	4:30.24	Watford Open Meeting	05.04.23
Libby Hale (Swansea H)	Under 15 Girls	1500m	4:26.75	Welsh Championships, Cardiff	24.06.23
Olivia Schrimshaw (Deeside)	Under 15 Girls	Long Jump	5.60m (Wind +1.3)	YDL Lower League, Ellesmere Port	07.05.23
Olivia Schrimshaw (Deeside)	Under 15 Girls	Long Jump	5.77m (Wind +1.5)	England Athletics Championships, Birmingham	27.08.23
Olivia Schrimshaw (Deeside)	Under 15 Girls	Long Jump	5.95m (Wind +1.2)	Stretford	10.09.23
Reese Robinson (Shaftesbury)	Under 23 Women	Triple Jump	12.43m (Wind +1.0)	Harvard/Yale v Oxford/Cambridge, Cambridge	08.04.23
Olivia Schrimshaw (Deeside)	Under 15 Girls	Triple Jump	12.12m (Wind +2.0)	SIAB International, Grangemouth	15.07.23
Amber Simpson (Wrexham)	Senior Women National	Hammer	67.08m	Joey Haines Invitational, Cape Girardeau	31.03.23
Amber Simpson (Wrexham)	Senior Women National	Hammer	67.11m	Crimson Tide Invitational.	21.04.23
Amber Simpson (Wrexham)	Senior Women National	Hammer	68.13m	Memphis Tiger Invitational	28.04.23

Eden Robinson (North Devon)	Under 17 Women	Heptathlon	4823	English Schools South West Combined Events Championships	25.06.23
Eden Robinson (North Devon)	Under 17 Women	Heptathlon	4834	English Athletics Combined Events Championships, Sportcity, Manchester	06.08.23
Eden Robinson (North Devon)	Under 17 Women	Heptathlon	5213	English Schools Combined Events Championships, Bedford	17.09.23
Clara Evans (Ponty Rodents)	Senior Women National	Marathon	2:29:24	Seville, Spain	19.02.23

The following Championship Best Performances were also ratified for 2023:

Name	Age Group	Event	Performance	Competition	Date
Benjamin Parker (Aberdare)	Under 17 Men	Long Jump	6.95m	Newport	12.08.23
Thomas Williams (Wrexham)	Under 17 Men	Hammer	65.57m	Newport	12.08.23
Elliot Rowe (Deeside)	Under 13 Boys	1500m	4:39:91	Newport	12.08.23
Libby Hale (Swansea H)	Under 15 Girls	800m	2:11:33	Cardiff	25.06.23
Libby Hale (Swansea H)	Under 15 Girls	1500m	4:26:75	Cardiff	25.06.23
Olivia Schrimshaw (Deeside)	Under 15 Girls	Long Jump	5.81 (wind assisted)	Cardiff	25.06.23
Olivia Schrimshaw (Deeside)	Under 15 Girls	Triple Jump	11.77	Cardiff	25.06.23
Evie Cooper (Neath H)	Under 15 Girls	Hammer	50.81	Cardiff	25.06.23

A long discussion took place about the 1200m performance listed below and it was decided that this distance would currently not be included in the list of Welsh records. However, they will be included in the YDL records. Depending on feedback from clubs, this can be further discussed in the December meeting.

Macsen Watts (Blaenau Gwent)	Under 13 Boys	1200m	3:40.09	YDL Lower League, Yate	03.06.23
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e) **ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

LB reported back to the committee that information about the rankings for para athletes is mainly on Power of 10, with more elite performances and rankings being recorded on European and World Athletics websites / Para Olympics websites.

5) **REPORTS:**

a) **Welsh Schools Report**

LB read out a report from Andrew Jenkins. The main points included:

- Combined events indoors 5th November with the entry link shared all schools in the hope that young people currently not involved in athletics could be included.
- Combined events championships and international in Cardiff.
- 2023 SIAB results and performances.
- 2014 initial SIAB arrangements in Carmarthen (dates and details to be finalised).
- A record amendment for Under 15 High Jump

b) **Regional Issues**

West Wales

LC reported that indoor championship dates have been confirmed as Saturday 13th January for sprints and shotput 20th January for jumps events.

North Wales

CB reported that Deeside is being refurbished and is hopefully almost complete.

Inter-Regional Championships will be held in Wrexham

Open Meeting indoors in Deeside in December will not go ahead

Indoor Championships possibly in jeopardy

East Wales

Nothing to report from East Wales. Their meeting is imminent and information will be shared in the next Track and Field Committee meeting in December.

South Wales

Nothing to report from South Wales. They will be meeting soon and information will be shared in the next Track and Field Committee meeting in December.

c) **Officials Committee**

There was nothing to report from the officials committee.

6) **Any Other Business**

a. **Date of Next Meeting:**

Wednesday December 6th, 2023.

b. **Dates of Future Meetings:**

To be discussed and confirmed after the AGM.