



South Wales

Regional Athletic Council

Meeting of the Executive of South Wales Regional Council
Thursday 13th February 2020
6:30pm, Halo Bridgend Life Centre, Bridgend, CF31 4AH

1) Present: Jo Gwynne [JG] (Pontypridd Roadents), Fiona Campbell [FC] (Pontyprodd Roadents), Iwan Dowie [ID] (Cornelly Striders), Fleur Jones [FJ] (Cornelly Striders), Hannah Pretty [HP] (Network Officer), Fred Malkin [FM] (Barry & Vale Harriers), Pete Morris [PM] (Life Member), Glyn Pugh [GP] (Rhondda Athletic Club), Pauline Dobbs [PD] (Rhondda Athletic Club), Keely Jarvis [KJ] (Aberdare), Steve Paskell [SP] (Pontyclun Road Runners), Lucy Archer [LA] (President), Jamie Clode [JC] (Secretary), Spiro Pezaros [SpP] (Heath Massive Run Club)

Apologies: Ron Morris, Graham Webb, Rowland Williams, Dai Williams, Georgina Fraser, Fred Malkin, Jen Stone, Mel Westlake, Bernie Plain,

2) Actions from Previous meetings

- a) Role descriptions to be sorted by AGM – Ongoing
- b) Share slides presented by Liz Davies – Done, JC shared with previous minutes.
- c) Share revised RDP – RDP was to be updated during this meeting with additional items from the survey. Due to move of meeting venue, was not possible to review these. JC shared some of the survey feedback both negative and positive. JC highlighted that the region needs ideas brought forward on how to develop. SP asked about the guide running course, HP gave an update and advised that Chris Moss is working on this and it has been progressing. The course looks likely to be around 3hrs.
- d) HP to find out who the data controller is at Welsh athletics
Data controller is Andrew Thomas.
- e) Could Pentyrch be used as Regional selection race for Welsh inter regional race?
The date was confirmed as the 28th of April and all agreed that should be used as a selection race for the Welsh trail champs to be held in the Red Kite Challenge.

ACTION – Confirmation is needed on how selection will be made for those too young for the Pentyrch race.



- f) SP to draft email to all clubs about regional welfare role and process
Ongoing, SP gave an update about what his role is. There are roughly 31 regional clubs and trying to find correct person to contact has been challenging. All clubs have a secretary so will send an update to secretaries and make sure it's to relevant people.
HP – Confirmed there is no link between WA Website and portal, although this may be progressed in future.
JG suggested adding a line for regional welfare officers to make contact to SP, so to confirm who is receiving the message.
JC – we could have an evening with a coffee that SP speaks and welfare is discussed.

ACTION – SP to mail all contacts on role.

- g) JC to email JS about purchasing a flag. JC has emailed JS.
A discussion was had about how the region grows awareness of what it is and does.
Rhondda have a person who will be setup with a computer and will be supporting club activities and correspondence and will have new facilities.
SpP – be a good idea for region to visit clubs at their base or training.

RVR – Next Thursday is all the coaches meeting, happy for anyone to attend. Hannah to advise if JC needs to attend.

3) Development Plan Update

Update was shared in earlier. Survey responses to be added and included in plan. More ideas would be welcomed.

4) Key Officer Updates

- a) Welfare – Steve Paskell
No issues have been brought to SP attention. Both JC and SP reiterated process. PD to take Steves details.
JC asked if regional welfare officer details are included in the Welfare training, HP advised not as not run by WA.
FM it would be good if some links to who and roles were posted on Facebook, so that athletes are also made aware.
SP – Talked through the Safeguarding adults in Athletics guidance.

ACTION – SP to share link on Facebook.

PD – Rhondda have a liaison officer that children can go to that is not an adult and acts as an Intermediary, lots of information is shared with new starters.
HP – Anne Craft trust have a good document.

ACTION – HP to find details which can be shared with clubs.

- b) Finance Update – Jen Stone
JC shared update from Jen. Regional finances are doing ok and working with East to support a few ventures.



5) Discussion

a) Survey Feedback

JC gave some examples and grouped talked through how these are linked to messages already discussed. Communication is key and also talked through the elitism

FM – Spoke about team selections ensuring we always send and a team and discuss how we have to create opportunity.

b) Girls' Schools Cross Country

Aberdare will have a smaller test event. JC talked around the event and support from PM and Aberdare.

A big thank you to both was made as from room.

It was agreed it would not to reschedule the postponed event and look to focus on efforts to ensure this years event will proceed as planned.

Pending a successful test event at Aberdare, the girls XC will be held there this year.

PM discussed options around management of payments received. Room agreed that all cheques received should be cashed and balance held to be deducted next year. Once cashed notify each school of the balance held.

ACTION – PM to share details of balances with JS for ease of reconciliation

c) Regional Championship events 2020

All event names agreed, dates to be confirmed and shared.

ACTION – JC to look at south region half marathon next year, maybe combined with another region. Maybe look at how south could host interregional.

d) Officials Development day March 28th

HP talked through the day. Combined with the east.

HP – Any ideas for better names? Aberdare/RVR about getting the officials.

Are we happy to half fund the event? Yes agreed.

HP is running an assistant officials' course, 12th march, open to all.

e) Inter-Regional Track & Field meeting Feb 16th

JC gave overview of the meeting to be held.

PM has prepared a comments paper. It would be good if the regions met more frequent.

JC advised that Joyce is chairing meeting.

PM talked through points in paper. Those present agreed suggestions should be taken to meeting.

JC to send PM paper to Joyce Tomala

GP discussed Rhondda having a new track and has been suggested getting In touch local community and doing a multi event on track and run. Although maybe challenges as there a road crossing. Could the region support an event? GP agreed to review what is needed and come back for further discussion with region.

FM advised discussions with local police can help

ACTION – No board minutes for last meeting, JC to follow up

ACTION – April minutes to be sorted by our next meeting, JC to finalise

ACTION – JC to find out more info about Regional T&F and share with group

ACTION – formal request for Inter-Regional Forum to General Council



- f) UKCAU
JC gave an overview of teams and challenges that had been faced for selections. It was noted all team managers had difficulty filling spaces. Discussion was had around timing of the event to selection, difficult to predict form when a few months between selection and event.

ACTION – JC to provide PM with a copy of the teams. Link to entries to be provided.

- g) Welsh Athletics AGM
JC gave update from AGM with support from PM. Main highlights were pricing proposals; Motions couldn't be discussed due to representatives not present and date of AGM.
- h) Aberdare Throws event
HP - Ryan will be putting on a throwing event in Aberdare with Rhondda also included. Are people interested? Room agreed this was a good event and region will support as required.
FM – be good if there were more focused regional only events. Some events have limited numbers, therefore athletes local to event miss out.
- i) Competition Proposals
KJ – massive increase in U17 athletes, retaining them. A league was more appealing, and the type of competition is not as good. Athletes losing focus “What am I training for”.
GP – Athletes are coming through and now have no where to go.
FM – feels like Welsh Athletics are forgetting the normal athlete and focusing on elite. Lots of different events adds extra travel for parents.
JC – Talked around how Welsh Athletics will put on support and funding for events, if clubs wanted to hold themselves.
KJ – what if the league was split into half or each age group?
HP – Seniors leagues weren't very popular. Feedback from Junior Athlete Voice is that they want shorter more specific events. Aberdare throws event is to try and allow for more at wider ability. Something needs to be tried.
GP – At Rhondda they encourage young athletes to do every event until U15. A lot of these challenges started when the senior league started reducing to two events.
FM – As a region on U17 & u20 we could do more.
HP – Communication to be better and hopefully will be another communication.
As quite a few views on this, agreed that KJ, GP & FM to send views to JC for collation. Review to be held and then submit to Welsh Athletics

ACTION – KJ, FM & GP to provide views to JC so that region can collate a response.

6) AOB

- a) Date and location of next meetings, all 2020 meeting dates.
April 15th – Wednesday – Aberdare
June 9th – Tuesday – Treforest Capgemini office – AGM
August 10th – Monday – tbc
October 15th – Thursday – Heath Massive to host
December 9th – Wednesday – tbc
- b) JG – At the national running show, English athletics present and Wales not. HP advised was very expensive.



Run Wales should have been there. Welsh Athletics has a limited budget and not is small in staff count in comparison.

CP – Although great to see at these events, we need to be mindful for a return on the investment.

- c) HP Updated - Female athlete health workshop to be held at the Welsh Cross Country Champs. Mentoring workshop on the 29th March at sport wales, for anyone in a club that may be mentoring someone or be a mentee. Modernisation grant, deadline Monday. XC champs are Feb 22nd and will hold social relays at that event. 15th March officials conference at NIAC.

