

WELSH ATHLETICS ROAD/CROSS COUNTRY COMMITTEE

ACTION

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2019 AT J43 HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS SWANSEA

PRESENT: -

Alex Donald, Graham Finlayson, Martin Green, Nikki Haines, Chris Jones, Sharon Leech, Kevin Tobin

APOLOGIES: -

Steve Jones

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING (ref. 5th DECEMBER 2018)

- A 10K to be found in Spring – a suggestion is the Vitality 10K in Westminster Monday 27th May which doesn't seem to clash with another event. A team of 4 M & F seniors would be selected however a discussion ensued as some of those athletes may already be entered into the race by their agent and will be contracted to wear their sponsor kit. So do we stipulate that Welsh kit must be worn or do we support a Welsh team to run in the race but the athletes can choose to wear their sponsor kit. The suggestion is that the athletes can wear their sponsor kit if already contracted to do so, others will be given kit to wear. Athletes will be supported financially to travel to the race unless already supported by a third party
- Barcelona and Armagh selections highlighted the need for a bank of athletes to be compiled and emails sent to notify all of representative opportunities, so that all athletes are informed and can indicate which event(s) they are interested in. Some athletes queried why they were not in the Armagh team. Not all athletes are aware of the expression of interest system and so would benefit from a reminder email. (Barcelona team confirmed as Jenny Nesbitt, Clara Evans, Charlotte Arter and Sian Edwards res Alaw Beynon Thomas; Andy Davies, Josh Griffiths, Jon Hopkins, Rob Samuel res Dan Nash, TM NH, AD. Armagh senior team Guy Smith, James Hunt, Abed Teweldebrahn; Bronwen Owen, Beth Kidger, TM Carwyn Jones.) RLP suggested we put a list together as a Committee but KT suggested looking through Power of 10 and going by our standards of 3K 9.45/8.30, 5K 17/14.40, 10K 35/31, 10m 58/51, HM 77/67, M 2.40/ 2.25 as a guide to list a pool of senior athletes and CJ agreed this was a WA task. Once the list is compiled, athletes can then be informed of forthcoming representative opportunities. CJ confirmed that Liz Davies will soon be in post and will be responsible for doing this. MG confirmed that a similar system is used in the North region for selecting teams
- Inter-area update: JW suggested sending a team to one of the fixtures, along with Regional teams, with Regions to cover costs.

**CJ/Liz
Davies**

Leeds Abbey Dash on 27th October is the preferred option as most of the other races clash with domestic events. As this is a high quality event, it is unlikely that the race provider will offer free entry to the Regional teams as well as a Welsh team, so Regions would need to cover costs. CJ supported this as an elite event, as well as Regions sending teams, we are awaiting confirmation of what entry requirements are. Wales will also host a fixture – GF spoke with Cardiff 10K, however this too close to the Stirling fixture. GF then contacted the Whitchurch 5K, so this has been added to the fixture list. Rob confirmed that the only costs incurred would be free entries. The Committee suggest that Regions support athletes from each Region to also send a team to the Leeds Abbey Dash, expenses to be covered. Regional Reps to inform regions. SL to inform RC/JW

SL
Regional Reps

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- Great Ireland Run will no longer be organized by Great Run Company, but Dublin Harriers will take it over and it will be staged on 14 April 2019
- Adrian Palmer contacted SL following an invitation to the Inter-Celtic 10K in Rennes, Brittany 13th October. Race clashes with the Cardiff X and is just after the Cardiff Half, so following a discussion between AP/CJ and SL/JW it was decided to decline the invitation
- CJ sent SL an email about the Highgate 10K, 6th July 2019. Although a track event, T&F less likely to be involved as it's an endurance event, so CJ passing to our Committee to discuss. In order to raise the standard of 10K running in Wales, perhaps we could support a group of athletes to attend Highgate. We could cover travel costs for all athletes but also have a Welsh representation in the elite fields (races are based on time). Ireland did the same last year in the B race (European Cup in the A race). Committee agree this is an excellent experience for athletes, up to 6 athletes (M&F) to be supported. Athletes to be informed of this event opportunity. Standards set by race organizer so selection will be based around this. B race will be target as top athletes will be representing GB in the European Cup in the A race
- Email received from JB that Sophie Harris of Belgrave has now joined Swansea and through parentage is claiming Welsh nationality. Her 5K time is 16.34, 10K 34.35. SL emailed asking JB to invite her to the Welsh XC

CJ/ Liz Davies

2018/19 ROAD & CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITIONS PROGRAMME

Domestic fixtures:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh Cross Country Championships 23rd February 2019, Pembrey • Welsh 10K Champs 31st March 2019, Cardiff Bay • Welsh Marathon Champs 28th April 2019, London <p>Representative fixtures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIAB 23rd March 2019 Dublin • Anglo Celtic Plate 100K, 24th March 2019, North Inch Park Perth • Mini-Marathon London 28th April 2019 • Welsh 5K Champs 5th May 2019, Whitchurch (Inter-Area match) • Vitality Half Westminster 27th May 2019 • Highgate 10000m 6th July 2019 • Leeds Abbey Dash 10K 27th October 2019 <p>SCHOOLS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update as SJ not in attendance <p>TEAM SELECTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh 5K Champs to host a Welsh team for the Inter-Area match, representative team also selected for Vitality 10K. Teams to be selected in due course but athletes will need to be emailed to inform them of these opportunities ASAP <p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the date of the Cardiff Half is not ideal as it clashes with the Road Relays and is only a week before the Cardiff Cross. As it's a Welsh event the fixture date should be considered more carefully. Another idea is to move the Cardiff Cross to January to attract more athletes so that they are not running a week after the Half, however that is not a simple solution as there's another Cross Challenge event in January. Could the Cardiff Cross be switched with Milton Keynes? AD to investigate. Or the Cardiff Half in future be held in September? KT proposes MN attends a meeting to consider various options. As a committee we propose meeting with MN and JW to discuss fixture issues as this is a problem which arises each year. KT to email JW • David Martin-Jewell has asked (via GF) for the opportunity to apply to host the Welsh Half Marathon Champs within the Swansea Half. A conversation to have with MN. There should be no reason why it can't be as it won't deflect from Cardiff, that is now a big enough event in its own right 	<p>CJ/ Liz Davies</p> <p>AD</p> <p>KT</p>
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DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- Wed 27 March 2019, 7pm, Holiday Inn Express Swansea East SA10 6GZ