

<b>WELSH ATHLETICS ROAD/CROSS COUNTRY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF VIRTUAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020</b>	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
<p><b>PRESENT: -</b> Alex Donald, Graham Finlayson, Steve Jones, Sharon Leech, Rhiannon Linnington-Payne, Kevin Tobin</p> <p><b>APOLOGIES : -</b> Martin Green, Nikki Haines, Peter Sowerby</p>	
<p><b>MATTERS ARISING (from previous meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JW gave his preference that the 10K series would remain solely for 10K distance races in 2021, Committee would still like to discuss further possibilities at a later date, when there is more clarification on races going ahead</li> <li>• Further to the discussion re Welsh Championship, it's been confirmed that hosts who would have hosted the 2020 races will now host in 2021, however the 2020 Championships become null and void (unlikely that any do go ahead in 2020). Confirmation needed about the Cardiff Half in 2021 as there are two races. AD confirmed that the elite race (IAAF standard) will be in October so needs to check with SB/JW that the Welsh Champs can also be staged within the October event (as opposed to in March as previously suggested to honour the Championship entries of those who entered the October 2020 event). AD waiting on MN/SB' decision</li> <li>• WA updated race organisers following guidelines issued by Run Britain on staging events, further to meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> July. RLP confirmed that there's been a further meeting since, however from a Welsh perspective, things are not changing much due to Government restrictions. England Athletics can follow more of the Run Britain guidelines. In Wales 30 participants 'on the field of play' are allowed, which includes officials at start and finish. It's taken that marshals are not included in this number nor are spectators, who may be in the area, as they will not be in the same place as all the athletes at any given time (unlike the officials in the start/finish area). All officials will be wearing PPE. In the forthcoming Cardiff Sunset 5K for example, there will be 8 officials and 22 athletes (all of whom will be gathered at the start area then coming through the finish). There will be 9 marshals out on the course and there's likely to be other park users or spectators (no restrictions on this). The guide number of 30 will be reviewed by the Government, following the various trial</li> </ul>	<p><b>ALL</b></p> <p><b>AD/SB</b></p>

events scheduled. There is a pilot triathlon event in Pembrey this weekend and the Cardiff Sunset 5K is also a pilot event

- London Marathon announced that the October event would be an elite only race
- Cross Challenge and Cross Country League competitions: in Wales, WA cross country guidelines are to be finalised this week, mountain and trail to follow. It is hoped that no unlicensed event will go ahead, as each event provider is encouraged to follow NGB guidelines and thus be licensed. The Cross Challenge is not to go ahead this year in Cardiff due to the 30 limit (in England there is no limit on numbers, they are licensing cross country events from 18<sup>th</sup> October – as long as the event takes place in a Covid secure environment and Covid guidelines are followed). UKA are hopeful that some of the Cross Challenge fixtures will go ahead, especially Liverpool and Belfast. WA hope to put on a few cross country pilot events, possibly in November, in three different regions, hopefully engaging the Leagues. It is hoped that by December there may be larger cross country events. WA are to meet with the Leagues next week, applications for licenses will be welcomed in October, to be granted from 26<sup>th</sup> October, although all is still dependent on Government guidelines . Some events may go ahead before the WA pilot events, as long as WA happy that guidelines have been met
- GF spoke with JW regarding their chat about events such as the Mo Run
- T&F pilot events have been staged. These have been successful and show that there is enthusiasm among athletes as places are filled immediately. KT and SJ both hoped to see more of these events to keep the athletes focused and hoped that more athletes could be allowed in any one race. There is concern that athletes are not having an opportunity to race and as such may lose interest, in particular the younger age groups
- CJ emailed SL (who shared with Committee) development plans from Performance team. One suggestion is that an update from Performance team is a set agenda item so that Committee are kept in the loop about athlete camps etc. The committee agreed that this would be a good way to move forward, updates to be sent from CJ following next performance meeting

CJ

#### **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- JW emailed SL regarding minutes of last meeting, KT/GF/SL replied
- JW wanted more information on concerns raised about Clwb Run Wales, SL emailed in more detail about Committee discussion
- RLP sent Committee an update on Run Britain meeting (20-07-20)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whitchurch 5K postponed to 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021</li> <li>RLP sent SL an email re ACP being postponed, SL shared with Committee. Wales due to host in 2021, <b>need to confirm if the Boddington venue will roll over to 2021 instead</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>AD/RLP</b></p>
<p><b>2020 ROAD &amp; CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITIONS PROGRAMME (*all subject to change based on COVID-19 government guidelines)</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Cardiff Sunset 5K Pilot Event, Bute Park September 18<sup>th</sup> 2020</u> (entries via expressions of interest based on times, not exclusively a Welsh event, however Welsh athletes will be prioritised. High standard hoped for in field). GF suggested that to keep competition high in women's event, 16min men could also be included, AD/RLP/GF to discuss. KT glad to see this event going ahead and would also like to see a similar event being held for younger athletes, e.g. a 3K at Pembrey circuit. AD confirmed that they are looking to also hold an event in North Wales, before cross country starts in November. AD/RLP are looking to put on what they can, whilst staying within the rules. The rules state that officials are not to be in contact with many groups of athletes, so having an event with many waves is not possible, perhaps a limit may be three races. If the numbers set by the Government guidelines are increased by October, then more will be able to compete. KT would like to see an event in September, AD agreed that the aim was to host one, more detail to follow. RLP keen not to overlap on pilot road and cross country events, hopefully road will happen first, then cross events</li> <li><u>Virtual Welsh Road Relays, September 12<sup>th</sup> 2020</u>. RLP is to set up event over next few days, but it won't be a Championship event as originally planned, instead it will be a team/ family event and it will be a 3K distance for all age-groups</li> <li><u>London Marathon 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020</u> will no longer be a Welsh Championship event. The decision about 2020 Championships being null and void needs to be shared with the members</li> <li><u>Welsh 10K Champs, Cardiff Bay November 15<sup>th</sup> 2020</u> – it is unlikely to go ahead, but is yet to be confirmed</li> <li><u>Welsh Inter-Regional/Inter-Schools Cross Country, December 2020</u> – it could possibly be staged in some format, dependent on the numbers allowed and how the pilot events have gone. Decision to be made closer to the time</li> <li>RLP queried about international events – what is the process in determining which events are offered to athletes (question from AP as budgets need to be aligned to this in coming year). Difficult to say exactly given situation however KT/GF/SL suggested that AP looks at previous years – it would be hoped that athletes could compete at similar fixtures in this coming season, if the races go ahead and travel restrictions allow. AP can then discuss</li> </ul>	<p><b>AD/RLP/GF</b></p>
	<p><b>WA</b></p>
	<p><b>AP/CJ</b></p>

<p>with CJ before one of them attends our next road/cross meeting. With International fixtures in mind, GF asked about the Celtics – as it’s a Cross Challenge event it is likely to go ahead and also as NI are ahead of the other Home Nations in staging events and it’s in Belfast, then again that gives it a better chance of being on. Hopefully confirmation will follow in the coming weeks</p> <p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SJ stated that LD had sent a memo to all athletes to confirm that there will be no mini marathon for athletes this year. AD also confirmed that there will be no spectators at the elite marathon event, (apart from the Royal Family from their balcony)</li> <li>• KT nominated as Chair and SL as secretary. SL to inform JB as this needs to be discussed/ passed at the AGM</li> </ul> <p><b>DATE &amp; TIME OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wed 7<sup>th</sup> October 2020, <u>5.30pm</u>. RLP to send out a Microsoft Teams invite to members for another virtual meeting</li> </ul>	<p></p> <p><b>SL</b></p> <p><b>RLP</b></p>
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