

Joint Track & Field / Officials Committee

Wednesday 8th July

17.30

Discussion Points		Actions
Present	Rhiannon Linington-Payne (RLP); Joyce Tomala (JT); Sue Hooper (SH); Zoe Holloway (ZH); Lynne Brier (LB); Adrian Palmer (AP); Jeff Marsden (JM); Alan Currie (AC); Crispin Backshall (CB); Lynette Harries (LH); Geoff Wickens (GW); Chris Moss (CM); Dave Jessett (DJ); Bethan Akanbi-Mortimer (BAM)	
Apologies	Olive Dobson; Kath Elias	
WA Updates	<p>Competition Manager (RLP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited number of athletes now able to return to training with a few tracks opening • Looking at revised season plans – still dependent on updates to permitted gathering sizes • Pilot events during August (2nd or 3rd week of August) to test new H&S procedures for athletes and officials – still very limited numbers and will adopt an event-specific format • Potential for small licensed competitions after this subject to pilot events going well • Limited time available to us to deliver competition – WA will need to work closely with clubs/competition providers to deliver competition opportunities for a wide range of athletes • JT – EA are looking at all external competition providers to deliver competitions • RLP/DJ – officials will be contacted for availability prior to event; local officials to be sourced as a priority with no hotels available & minimise travel <p>Facilities (CM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with facility providers around potential reopening to get an idea of the appetite from facility owners to re-open – every facility is in a different place in the process at the moment. • Rhondda, Aberdare, Colwyn Bay currently open – another 4/5 tracks looking to come online in next few weeks • Some tracks as part of education establishments are governed by campus re-opening policies. • Survey due out to providers to get more information on their return to re-opening and a possible return to competition • JT – if the group know of any facilities that are looking to open up, please let CM/RLP know • DJ asked about stadium staffing availability with furlough scheme in place. CM – for clubs/competition providers to work closely with the stadium to ensure that needs of both parties are met. JT – facilities need to have a COVID Officer. CM – recommendation rather than mandatory in Wales. <p>UKA Officials Group (SH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus group with certain officials to look at returning to officiating – primarily focussed on domestic competition 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most concerns have already been discussed in Wales via committees & surveys. • Looking at number of officials willing to come back – concerns around demographic of the officials community. • Preference of shorter event-specific style meetings; limited number of athletes for an initial return. • Concerns around maintenance of stadia during lockdown etc. without staff there for maintenance. • No follow-up from meeting as of yet to those in attendance. <p>Officials' Survey (ZH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 130 responses – highest discipline to response was Field. Highest Level to respond was Level 1. A good proportion of officials willing to return to a regional/national level. • ZH to send summary to the group • Could SH send out a summary of what was discussed at the UKA Officials group to the Welsh Officials Committee/ <p>Athletes' Survey (RLP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey out to athletes to gauge appetite for competition. • Range of disciplines & levels represented • Just over a quarter of athletes would not look to return to competitions this summer – concerns predominantly around no facility access for so long, and people sticking to new rules in place • Level of competition preferred was local/event-specific open meetings • Athletes would like events that place emphasis on enjoying being back competing, rather than feeling under pressure to perform. 	<p>ZH</p> <p>SH</p>
Discussion	<p>Response to Health & Safety Documents (RLP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UKA producing overarching guidance document for competition guidance, and guidance for officiating (e.g. operating with reduced numbers; allocation of duties etc.) • WA Return to Competition & Officiating documents to be distributed to committees once ready for publication • JT asked to note that we have been incredibly proactive in terms of key decisions and guidance documents <p>T&F Championship Dates(s) (RLP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All in agreement that Championships should not take place on the track for any age groups in 2020. • Concerns around athlete readiness; concerns around permitted gathering sizes; concerns around officials welfare and numbers available • Recommendation to be made to Board of Directors and presented at joint Board & GC meeting following week <p>Date for review of Inter Regional Championships (JT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee agreed that we should hold the review meeting via Teams if necessary • Date TBC end August/beginning September – JT to confirm • LH still happy to act as independent chair for the meeting 	<p>RLP</p> <p>RLP</p> <p>JT</p>

Actions from previous meeting	<p>Officials Welfare (ZH/AP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-care series, Sport wales tips on coping with change, guidance around working from home/dealing with furlough; guidance from NSPPC for parents dealing with children – all topics included in Officials newsletter • TAG recommendations on officiating – competition organiser will be responsible for safety of officials and ensuring they have the appropriate PPE • ZH/RLP to circulate information from TAG when received • LB – concerns around late withdrawal of officials and not being able to replace them. Smaller number of officials being used for the event, so the pool of officials to choose from should be slightly larger than usual <p>Post Lockdown Rewards (ZH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ZH asked committee what they believe would be appreciated by the community given current restrictions etc. • Committee to feed back to ZH <p>Insurance & Liability (RLP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insurance provision stands from UKA as long as COVID risk assessment is done on top of normal risk assessment and the NGB guidance is adhered to. • Licensing information to be included in guidance e.g. levels, who to apply to <p>Officials Association (SH/ZH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SH looked into Associations – many charge a fee to be a part of and it was not thought that this would be appropriate and may act as a deterrent • WA can look at improving the online resources available to officials. • Satisfaction survey brought up an officials ‘library’ online and this can be done in-house. 	<p>ZH/RLP</p> <p>Committee</p>
Reports	<p>Regional Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North – still awaiting Welsh Gov instruction but COVID situation in North is still worse than South • East – CM updated on status of Newport; upgrades due for September completion 	
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing safeguarding issue being dealt with by relevant officers and committees • Announcement on Championships to be announced once alternative competitions can be communicated 	
Date of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 11th August, 6.00 pm – around when pilot competitions take place to involve committee in review processes • Continue with joint meeting at current time – potential for combining further into the future • Monthly meetings to continue during 2020 to manage current COVID situation leading into indoors – JT to start looking at potential dates 	<p>JT</p>