



WELSH ATHLETICS
ATHLETAU CYMRU

Minutes of the Welsh Trail Running Committee Meeting – Tuesday 11th
December 2018, Rhayader, Powys

Present: Matt Ward **MW** (Secretary), Arwel Lewis **AL** (Mountain/North), Dic Evans **DE** (Chairman, Cross Country/West Representative), Dan Bodman **DB** (Trail Running South)

Apologies: Steve Brace **SB** (Run4Wales),

- 1.0** **MW** expressed condolences and thanks to John Chidlow, who died in the summer of 2018. It was stated that John was a tremendous servant to athletics in Wales, and for 5 years had been ever-present on the Trail Committee, offering insight and scrutiny on all aspects, especially those that dealt with matters of stats and officialdom – he will be sorely missed.
- 2.0** In respect of the above the East region needs to provide a replacement. **MW** to contact Dick Finch to see what the possibilities are.
- 3.0** **MW** welcomed **Daniel Bodman (DB)** to the committee as the Trail Running rep for the South region and thanked Fred Malkin for his work over the last few years in this role.
- 4.0** The roles of **Chair** and **Secretary** were proposed for re-election at this last meeting of 2018. **MW** was proposed for the role of secretary by AL, DB seconded. **DE** was proposed for the role of Chair by MW, AL seconded. **MW and DE were therefore elected for the respective roles in 2019.**
- 5.0** The 2019 / 20 budget was discussed. The proposal is that expenditure will be split between the Celtic Challenge event (£1500) and Development Day (£1000) to be discussed and agreed with CJ. **MW** to email James Williams and copy in CJ to see what the position is on 2019 budgets, as it will now be the case that a £10k budget will be shared between Mountain and Trail 75 / 25.
- 6.0** A Welsh Trail Running Development Day had been agreed upon for 2018. The committee felt that this should be a focus and should be under the charge of the new WA Endurance Co-ordinator when that person is employed in 2019.
- 7.0** Regional Champs race for 2019 are proposed as. **WEST** - Red Kite Challenge on May 4th. **EAST** – TBD. **SOUTH** – Rabbit Run on 15th June **NORTH** – **AL** to report back as 2-3 events were proposed including the



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Anglesey Trail in June, Trail Betws in November. **NOTE:** *any events will need to be added to the WA website and communicated to all regions by the local rep.*

- 8.0** The committee proposed that WA Inter Region TRC takes place at the Welsh Trail Running Festival 10k in Builth Wells on 18th / 19th of May. The race will also host the Welsh Masters Trail Championships. **SB** to feedback.
- 9.0** In 2019 the Committee proposed that in future the Welsh Champs needs to have two specific distances 10k and 1/2 marathon. The WTR Festival should host the 10k and the 1/2 marathon was proposed to be the Red Kite Challenge in Devil's Bridge on 4th May, which will also contain Champs across the age categories.
- 10.0 DE** stated that the Celtic Trail Challenge takes place on the 8th of June 2019 and he would like to look at the possibilities of bringing the challenge to an event in Wales, along with inviting Brittany and Cornwall to take part. **DE** to report back at next meeting.
- 11.0** A discussion took place as to how the Committee saw the *development of Trail Running in Wales* over the coming year or two. **DB** would like to see more races and investment for juniors. **DC** agreed and would like to see WA reach out more to schools, with specific focus on trail running events in the Summer term. **MW** agreed would like to see trail running elevated in respect of funding at WA. With the huge growth in races and runners now taking part in off-road endurance events, there needs to be more recognition of this in terms of focus on the future of the sport – i.e juniors.

Date of next meeting – TBC February 2019 – Rhayader, Powys