



East Wales Regional Athletic Council

Minutes of East Wales Regional Athletic Council, 13th June 2018, 7:10pm Newport Stadium.

Present:

Hilary Goodger (Vice Chair); Peter Hitchings (Newport Harriers); Mike Adams (Newport Harriers); Chris Vorres (Chair); Paul Day (Lliswerry); Joyce Tomala (Secretary); Robert Gale (Parc Bryn Bach); Bethan Akanbi-Mortimer (RVAC); Lyn Cushing (T& F Officials); Lou Summers; Andrew Summers; Dick Finch (Chepstow)

Apologies: Ryan Spencer-Jones (RSJ); Satu Haikala (SH); Lynette Harries (LH); Jeanette Jenkins (JJ); Martin Jenkins (MJ); Keith Matthews (KM); Peter Sowerby (PS); Richard Sheehy (RS); Gerry Ashton (GA); Ruth Powell (RP)

1. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST** (new declarations)
 - A. no new declarations were raised
2. **ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:**
 - A. EWRAC Mountain & Fell Representative
 - a. A representative for Mountain and Fell is required: Members agreed to take this back to clubs and seek expressions of interest for a new regional representative.
ACTION: expressions of interest sought from clubs.
 - B. Confirmation of webmaster and launch date
 - a. CV reported that there is a possibility of the regional website being satellite website to Welsh Athletics' Website. CV to check with KM if money has been received from Welsh Athletics development grant for the setting up of the regional website. details of webmaster to be discussed at next meeting.
ACTION: CV to update at next meeting
 - C. Change of structure to Endurance pilot
 - a. In the absence of MJ and JJ it was agreed to table this matter at the next meeting.
ACTION: agenda item next meeting
 - D. Dissemination of Code of conduct
 - a. Code of conduct forms should be disseminated to all coaches and official
ACTION: RSJ agreed to send code of conduct to clubs.
 - E. Information to be disseminated endurance referees and race organisers – see *General Council report.*
3. **DISCUSSION:**
 - A. Establishing East Regional Sub Groups
 - a. Members agreed that sub groups would be set up for each of the following disciplines Track and Field, Cross Country. The Endurance sub group would continue to meet. All sub groups to produce bullet points of meetings which will be presented as reports to the full committee. Format and composition of sub groups to be discussed at the next meeting.
ACTION: Format and composition of sub groups to be discussed at the next meeting.

B. Finance:

a. Regional Grants:

1. KM asked that £1000.00 regional grant money is used.

ACTION: RSJ to organise development days.

Further information at next meeting.

b. Role of Regional Treasurer:

1. In light of KM's decision to stand down as regional treasurer from October 2018, CV and JT have met with James Williams (WA) to discuss the possibility of Welsh Athletics holding East Wales finances. It was agreed that the region will have full control of all monies.
2. A Finance Coordinator would be appointed to countersign authorisation; along with Regional Chair; for any regional expenditure
3. A Regional business plan will be set up after consultation with JW.
4. This format would be trialled from October 2018 and reviewed at 2019 AGM.

ACTION: CV and JT to meet with JW in September.

C. Appointment of Team Managers & Selection process for all disciplines

a. Track & Field:

1. Team Managers for T & F
 - a. Joyce Tomala – Seniors & U20
 - b. Darryn Mactee – u17s
 - c. Bethan Akanbi-Mortimer – U15s

b. Endurance:

1. Darryn McAtee has agreed to continue as team manager for cross country, however for junior age group only. Other team managers are required.
2. DF wants to pass on the Adult Endurance team manager.
3. Members agreed that there must be a nominated person to arrange transport etc.
4. Members also agreed that a list should be drawn up to outline all duties of each role.

ACTION: seek expressions of interest for Team Managers for Endurance events.

4. REPORTS:

A. Network Officers' Reports.

- a. Ryan Spencer-Jones report disseminated to all clubs.

B. Officials.

a. T & F (LC)

1. LC will produce a full list for next meeting

C. Other reports.

a. WA General Council (JT)

1. Self – Evaluation of General Council –

Facilitated discussion led by the Sport and Recreation Alliance, Amanda Bennett.

Topics covered included:

- i. Governance Development in Welsh Sport.
- ii. Governance and Leadership Framework for Wales
- iii. Wider context – Sport and Society
- iv. Role of WA Board

- v. Delegates were asked to think about how General Council best serve:
 - o Members?
 - o Board?
- 2. **Club modernisation – portal update**
 - i. New club portal was launched at the end of April. Clubs would log on with their own unique ID. The portal has six key features:
 - a. Club affiliation
 - b. Club review software
 - c. Online training courses
 - d. Club documents
 - e. Club resource library
 - f. Webinar training
 - ii. the next stage is to get more clubs utilising the portal and accessing all the support and resources that are housed there.
- 3. **Regional Matters from East Wales:**
 - a. – **Accessibility to Referee reports via trinity for endurance**
 - i. JT has received a request from Gerry Ashton the new Endurance Officials Secretary saying he cannot access Referees reports.
 - ii. JW stated that he has looked into this on behalf of the East and WA will deal with this and contact will GA as the system is different for Endurance to T & F reports.
 - b. **Sharing good practice within regions. –**
 - i. JT stated that 2 members from South Region had asked if they could attend the East Regional Council Meeting. Both members stated that they were blown away by what the East Region are doing and were very impressed by the number of people attending from various disciplines and the fact that people were contributing to the meeting and we had presentations from members in the region.
 - ii. JT suggested that other regions need to be interacting and that the East are working on a new pilot agenda for the region. This has been used at one meeting and worked reasonably well. The East is not perfect by any stretch of the imagination but all the feedback we are getting is that a lot of our ideas are innovative and pro-active, so I think this is something as a Council that we need to take forward.
 - iii. SA thanked JT and stated that perhaps there would be an opportunity later in the year for the East to tell us what you do in your meetings as we are not all able to go to an East meeting on mass to see what they do. JT replied that there were quite a few members around the table who had attended East meetings in the past.
 - iv. LH suggested that it might progress some of the things that came out of the review that Dr Nicky Lewis did with regard to the regions because it was noted there would be some consistency in terms of agenda.
 - b. JW stated that the reason the East have made so much progress is that they may be the only region who have taken on board the recommendations of the Governance report.
 - c. Cross-Country/Road (PS)

1. A brief report as the region's rep on the endurance and cross-country committee.
2. The committee met every 8-10 weeks and I managed to attend about half the meetings.
3. The committee was concerned largely about selecting athletes to represent Wales and arranging team management for events such as the SIAB international. All valid business but not one which needed a specifically regional input.
4. Other business was about agreeing dates and venues for the various national championships for road and cross-country. Here I made the case for a venue in East Wales (Glanusk Park, near Crickhowell) to host the cross-country national but the consensus of the meeting was to go for Pembrey Park, largely because the county council was willing to financially support the event and they saw an opportunity to develop the course for international events.

d. Track & Field (JT)

1. WA Staff:
 - a. Communications & Media.
 - i. Rob Sage and Adam Bitchell
 - b. Competition Department:
 - i. Tom Marley Manager
 - ii. Rhiannon Linington-Payne T & F Delivery
 - iii. Alex Donald supporting Endurance delivery
 - iv. Darran Williams – Systems and Support
 - v. Derek Crowder - equipment
2. Selection:
 - a. The selection of Team Managers and teams were discussed – these matters to be revisited.
3. Club Representatives:
 - a. The current club representatives will remain in place until the WA AGM when a decision will be taken as to the whether or not these roles will continue.
4. Competition Review:
 - a. It was agreed that a meeting would be held at the end of the season to further investigate number of fixtures and length of the competition day.
5. UKA Rule Changes:
 - a. Transfers between clubs:
 - i. Athletes are now eligible to compete for 'new' clubs immediately after Eligibility Committee have agreed transfers. Deadline for applications 10th of each month.
 - b. T & F rule changes highlighted:
 - i. Change in rule relating to bona fide effort Rule 142
 - ii. Relay changes Rule 170

5. **Minutes of Last Meeting/ Matters Arising not already covered.** none

6. **Any Other Business.**

A. **Date of next meeting:** 5th September 2018 at Newport Stadium

B. **Future Meetings:** 14th November 2018

Members were thanked for their attendance.