

**Minutes of the meeting of the Executive of South Wales Regional Council
Tuesday 16th October 2018 6:30pm**

A meeting of the Executive of the South Wales Regional Council will be held on Tuesday 16th October 2018 at Bridgend Athletic Club starting at 6.30pm.

Each affiliated club is entitled to send two representatives and the two schools' districts – Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan and Glamorgan Valleys – are entitled to send one representative. Each local authority is entitled to send one representative from its sport development section.

Clubs who are not able to send a representative to the meeting are asked to forward a report of their club's activities to me, Jamie Clode.

It would be very helpful if individuals, who are providing a report, could bring a written copy for distribution at the meeting.

Time	Agenda Item	Person to Feedback
6:30pm	(1) Welcome & Apologies of Absence	Dai Williams
6:35pm	(2) Development Plan update	Dai Williams, Hannah
7:05pm	(3) Key officer updates – Any actions needed	All key representatives to provide a brief update on their areas (circa 2 minutes!)
7:30pm	(4) Welsh Athletics AGM – Attendance and items put forward	Dai Williams & Group
7:45pm	(5.1) Road Relays – WA results (5.2) Regional Champs – Team Managers (5.3) Indoor Champs Volunteers (5.4) Welsh Athletics Governance Proposals (5.5) Welsh Inter-regional Champs 2018 & 2019 (5.6) South Wales Regional Schools XC champs 2018 (5.7) AOB	Jamie Clode Dai Williams Dai Williams Dai Williams Pete Morris Pete Morris Dai Williams & Group
7:55pm	(6) Confirm dates of next meeting & close	Dai Williams

If you would like to add anything further to the agenda, please submit to me by midday Saturday 13th October 2018.

I look forward to meeting a representative of your club at the meeting.

Kind regards

Jamie Clode

Secretary, South Wales Region

Tel: 07834414466

Email: Jamie.clode@gmail.com



**Minutes of the meeting of the Executive of South Wales Regional Council
Tuesday 16th October 2018 6:30pm**

1 – Attendees – Ron Morris [RM] (San Dom), Chris Pratt [CP] (Ogmore PR), Georgina Fraser [GF] (Cornelly S), Louise Hogan [LH] (Cornelly S), Jamie Clode [JC] (Bridgend AC), Lucy Archer [LA] (Bridgend AC), Dai Williams [DW] (Bridgend AC), John Elward [JE] (Officials Secretary), Joanne Jenkins [JJ] (Pencoed P), Liz Davis [LD] (Ogmore PR), Pete Morris [PM] (Life Member), Fred Malkin [FM] (Barry & V), Phil Goffin [PG] (Barry & V), David Cottrell [DC] (Pencoed P), Brandon Jenkins [BJ] (Pencoed P), Hannah Pretty [HP] (Welsh Athletics).

Apologies – Graham Webb [GW], Lisa Cleary [LC], Darran Williams [DaW], Bernie Plain [BP], Jen Stone [JS]

As a number of new faces were present, introductions were undertaken around the room.

2 - Development plan update – HP circulated ideas from group task. Some big items came out of that and we should look to lead on smaller items and could be led by volunteers and key skills. People can nominate if they want to be involved in the development of these. DC asked for some examples of what was covered as not at previous meeting. HP relayed some examples and a copy of the outcome will be circulated to all members of this meeting.

DW – advert for General Council secretary has gone out and explanation around the key items for Welsh Athletics [WA] and how they work. HP advised the new WA website is very good.

3 – General council update from LA – There are concerns around links between WA and SIAB and both are working to improve relationships with the teachers. Main point is that officials and volunteers are at crisis level and this needs addressing. Louise Arthur League is the bottom tier and number of officials and volunteers are low. Without enough officials event does not go ahead. Talks are around how to revitalise it, but no further outcomes yet.

PM - Understood that the Welsh Schools' Support Officer, Steve Jones, had made a presentation outlining the challenges which the association is currently facing.

DW – All clubs are seeing that there are struggles with officials also at the region are also struggling. JE is familiar with this. Increasing all clubs exposure to this helps everyone.

DW - Explained that the Selection Policy is a challenge to put in place and has tried to cover off all areas in one document. Dan Bodman [DB] assisted in the development and DaW provided some correct eligibility criteria. The idea is to give support and openness for selection and help those team managers who are involved in selection. Idea is to be open and transparent.

Track & Field first past the post. Trail & Fell a bit more challenging to put in place and extra consideration should be shown to those athletes that support WA across the events should be considered.

PM advised he felt that criteria was too long and DW and LA both iterated that it's to cover off weak areas and a letter is also included in the policy to invite for team managers. There is a struggle to get athletes out for T&F and XC regionals and this should help with that.

FM – if/once agreed issuing in a pamphlet form. Share around all clubs.

RM – retention area c should be corrected to a and b.

UKA and WA rule book does not match. UKA also covers schools and university students to be included.

DW pleased that above rule is only exception highlighted.

PM pointed out that the letter should include master not veteran.



**Minutes of the meeting of the Executive of South Wales Regional Council
Tuesday 16th October 2018 6:30pm**

Would be good to produce a pack maybe for distribution as PDF before.

Action – DW to confirm on UKA rule and use revised versions for distribution for upcoming inter-regionals

Nobody around the room has real interested in sitting on T&F meeting. Welfare officer is still unfilled. DW emailed Steve Jones and no response so far. HP to chase for update. DW explained process for any welfare issue should go club, region and then Welsh Athletics. Clubs are bypassing region and going to Welsh Athletics directly. Responsibilities of the officer need to be clear. Including extra training for the club welfare officers to upskill, including sharing experiences. A job description is really needed and a role profile. Was agreed at last meeting that we would get confirmation from Steve Jones. FM – UKA must have some info and process on how it work. Welfare policy is on the club portal. HP all welfare officers must do the 3hr face to face. All coaches have to do the online. All existing officers will need to do one when DBS expires. PM – advised that it would be a good idea of WA sent back via DW any issues so that he were aware. However with data confidentiality etc this can be difficult to share. Although would be great if a process should be shared. Steve Jones is one man trying to be welfare officer for Wales. DW and LA advised Ideally 1 male and 1 female officer is needed for the region. LA asked whether fair to have more than 1 per person per role. FM – advised this info should be coming from WA or UKA to advise what we should be doing.

JC – said it should go to AGM and this was corrected by PM to advise that it should go via GC (6th Nov) LH asked what other regions are doing in this area. DW advised he will raise there and see to share. Consistent information should be across all the regions.

Action – DW to raise questions around welfare at General Council and in order to have a clear and consistent guideline

DC asked that whether there was a presentation about what the region does, what does it mean and what can it do for clubs and vice versa. DW explained its about all clubs working together and sharing experiences and taking the sport forward for the best interests of all involved. Information should flow up and down as follows.

WA board > GC > Regional Council > Clubs and back up.

HP - advised club conference is happening on Nov 17th. HP has suggested to Chris Moss that welfare could be a good topic to cover, what does the room think? Most of the room in agreement that this is a good idea.

Multitude of Juniors/seniors and varying vulnerabilities

DC/JJ – both keen that we all learn more about this and even just personal relationship breakdown can affect situations. DW said be great if covered welfare at the region.

Various members in the room discussed how information is best shared. Advised coming to this meeting is a great way to learn about what is going on.

CP – Why when all emails go out are people not coming often the secretary gets all the info.

HP – key that those attendees are representing the club.

LA – when we join WA could something be added

JE – Club conferences item being welfare, would be good if clubs can come away with something. HP advised club portal holds info, JE also advised would be happy to contact trinity and see around holding key roles/skills.

DW advised previously asked if the region could have access to the portal and use this as mechanism, potential



**Minutes of the meeting of the Executive of South Wales Regional Council
Tuesday 16th October 2018 6:30pm**

JC – advised that twitter and facebook are great tools for content and also share your emails.

4 - DW asked have clubs received their information from WA. CP and PM advised date is not ideal for those doing Snowdonia marathon. Maybe weekend before that.

DW may need to vote by proxy and FM may also need to, anyone that can't attend needs to vote by proxy by end of the day 19th October.

PM - Ideally as many clubs as possible should attend the meeting.

DW – advised of the 90 clubs possible only 10 were in attendance. 3 were from the region. This is the time to shape future of athletics and they have moved the fixtures meeting from the meeting.

If we can produce a presentation of what the region does clubs can share and we can ask James to come along and talk to.

JC – issued mail from James to all contacts for SWRAC.

PM – Advised that a lot of the members in the room may not be familiar with what the key documents.

DW advised if everyone could go through them and JC will share around to those not seen.

Action – JC to reissue mail to all members in the room that have not seen.

PM – Major change around how director appointments are made and that, instead of being approved at the WA AGM, they would be appointed by the Board.

PM asked that DW draw attention to article 19 (tasks groups) DW read out the change. Does that imply that task groups are no longer present, the new groups will be board led and may not be those from athletics.

FM held to clarify that Run4Wales are separate from WA and that WA should benefit from.

DW asked that all clubs please send someone. Unable to put forward items in advance and make sure someone stands up to say change the date.

5.1 - JC noted that the road relay results were a disappointment to some clubs as they were not accurate on the day, though they were corrected early in the week. Barcode scanning will be used next year.

PM - The number of clubs which competed was also disappointing.'

5.2 – Volunteers for team managers are JC, DB, DW, FM, Helen Andrews, Diana Tudor likely to, Paul Edwards and LA.

DW and JC, explained around how the process works around team managers to the room. On the day it's handing out numbers, vests and collecting money, Champs will be barcoded. DW gets a list of athletes and can provide contact details to the team managers to make contact after making identifying their selection.

5.3 - Indoor champs – Volunteers are needed. It's open to everyone to volunteer. DW talked through some of the roles. JC and LA talked through how and motivating the day was and how it was great to be involved.

JE – Welsh Athletics have shut down their availability option so no new officials can offer availability. JS put together a great rota last time and allowed people to see their children running. Lots of different roles

LH advised duke of Edinburgh often need lots of volunteering experience so would that be of use for the these events? Each person's time just needs to be signed off by a person.



**Minutes of the meeting of the Executive of South Wales Regional Council
Tuesday 16th October 2018 6:30pm**

Action - LH will investigate involvement of Duke of Edinburgh volunteers and liaise with HP to see if there are potential people that may be interested.

5.5 – PM advised this year's competition is to be at Llandrindod and parking could be an issue. Would good organise a bus maybe.

PM had hoped that Graham Finlayson [GF] would be here to confirm that the regionals for this year for Inter regional, but that its believed 4 fields at Llandrindod and there is a major question mark over parking. Getting teams to the event could be challenging.

2019 – There are items bubbling away under the service.

In 2016 it was found that a new age group for masters was added to the inter-regional cross-country championships without consultation with the regions.

There is a suggestion that the Welsh Schools inter schools champs, which is intended for grassroots athletics in schools may be combined with the inter regional, which is for 15 'elite athletes from each region. This could be held on the Friday with the older age groups on Saturday. We should not be mixing the grass roots and the top 15 into one event.

Action - DW will discuss this information with GF.

5.6 - PM shared a hand out regarding South wales regional schools cross country. After the last meeting PM wanted to put things on paper to share out to people. There something 60/70 schools across the two districts, some are keen and active with XC others not so. The events have been organised by 2 keen and committed individuals. Terry Nottman was organiser for first 4/5 years and then PM continued. These are the only standalone champs. A small profit is made from these events. The format and awards structure has been in place for a long time with an ethos of bring as many as possible from schools. 23rd Cardiff for the boys and 24th bridgend for girls. The 21st year being the last year that PM will organise. Very soon regional exec will need to either find an organiser or group to either continue or use a gwent league. DW has sat with east wales a few times and confirmed to PM that numbers were not the same. West organise champs with low numbers. Ideally someone from the schools. There are no representatives for either region at this meeting. Correspondence from the schools district can be challenging.

JJ – It would be a shame if the schools are not taking this on, the numbers from the schools are a great numbers.

LH – Schools struggle for money to be able to let teachers out of school and a challenge for the PE teachers to take the burden.

PM – No longer able to use Trelai after an incident at the park, so schools moved.

LA, HP & Ryan all helped facilitate the event last year and PM is instrumental with organising the day and the results being ready prompt.

LD asked around if there was a limit. Advised not so.

FM – Asked if the clubs could help in some way, was this feasible.

DW advised help from the schools districts is needed, he can't always guarantee his availability. It's something that needs to be delivered.

Jo Jenkins talked of its importance for development of young talented and passionate athletes.

First point of call is to get a meeting with G&V and C&V schools to talk through.

Add to the agenda for the next meeting so that we can monitor. Key people in the room know of what is needed and we can list that to support who is identified. Teachers have to perform multiple roles to facilitate the event also.

Action – JC to add item to next meeting to discuss future organisation of the schools competition.



**Minutes of the meeting of the Executive of South Wales Regional Council
Tuesday 16th October 2018 6:30pm**

PM drew attention to the ongoing award structure and that it grew to match the growing numbers and give awards to more to reflect this. They wanted to provide more opportunities for recognition. Limited by 3 medals. So that's why it's done in an unusual format to what is familiar. This should be compared to T&F outdoor. There are numerous events where everyone who takes part gets a medal. PM finds this concerning. DW and HP responded that this is around the number of entrants and not everyone being rewarded. HP spoke around whether it is confusing that we issue medals to multiple places. WA are not happy to be issuing multiple medals across multiple positions it is found to be confusing. Same athletes are getting likely awarded at two regional competitions.

Action - HP and DW to review all medals held in boxes/cupboard and send message so these can be shared out for use.

5.7 - DW - Peter Ryder organisers Fan Fawr race, wants to hold a junior regional completion within this. This would provide a hill race for the juniors. Could Pete come to the next meeting and talk through the idea and we can look at numbers and see how it could work.

JC iterated that next Gwent league is 10th Nov at Pembrey.

6 - Late November for next meeting around volunteers for Junior indoor and schools update. Possibly Aberdare.

