

2024 AGM Notice of Motion: Club Affiliation Fees

Welsh Athletics Club affiliation fees structure to change from April 2025 onwards

Background: At the 2023 AGM an initial notice of motion was submitted proposing the changing of club affiliation fees related to all clubs. This proposal was related to the increase in safeguarding costs, costs required by UK Athletics in order to carry out these functions – for more information and the original text, please see below.**

This initial proposal outlined and increase in club affiliation fees each year up to and including the 2026/27 affiliation year. These increases would have meant that regular club affiliation would reach the following level for all clubs:

Fee	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
Club Formation	£200	£200	£200
Club Affiliation	£150	£175	£200

Note: Club Formation fee applies to newly formed clubs in their first year of affiliation only.

Whilst this was agreed in principle, there was an agreement and commitment that, following the 2024/25 increase, a working group would be formed to look at alternative options with a view of formulating a proposal for the 2024 AGM.

As agreed, in early 2024 a working group was formed to explore potential approaches to club affiliation fees from 2025/26 onwards. The summary of the discussions and conclusions of the working group highlighted;

- There are a number of system / ways that that club affiliation could be facilitated (including; the status quo, a tiered approach or a proportionate system.
- It was concluded that there was a need for a more fair and equitable approach and to take in the needs of clubs of all sizes.
- A proportionate system, based on a club's size considered the needs of the club and achieves far greater parity and 'fairness' for all clubs.

This proposal is for:

- The basic club affiliation fee to be reduced (and subsequently maintained) from the current level and revert back to the original fee of £100.
- An addition club affiliation charge of £1 per registered member, this would be payable by clubs.

This proposal would allow the organisation to achieve an additional income required to the cover the safeguarding costs and contributions to UK Athletics. In addition, should there be any surplus income generated through this proposal, there is a commitment that this income would be ring-fenced to establish a centralised 'club fund', accessible to all affiliated clubs, to support bespoke club development activities / initiatives.

***Welsh Athletics continues to invest into safeguarding work to protect and strengthen the sport of Athletics in all areas. An experienced and dedicated member of staff leads in this area working with clubs to upskill and support club welfare officers to deliver a safe sport for all.*

Starting in 2023/24, Welsh Athletics will begin making annual financial contributions to UK Athletics representing a pro-rata of costs for central safeguarding work including processing of individual vetting checks (DBS) and higher level case work support. (2023/24 = £10k contribution requested)

This proposed increase in Club Affiliation fees is intended to cover those new UKA safeguarding costs alone and is not anticipated to generate material surplus income for reinvestment into other areas.