

WELSH ATHLETICS LTD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Annual General Meeting held at the Mercure Cardiff North Hotel and online via Zoom at 11am on Saturday 23rd October 2021

Present:

Company Members of Welsh Athletics Ltd

Steve Perks	Board Member (Chair)
Bernie Plain	Board Member
Nick Everitt	Board Member
Sue Alvey	Board Member – Chair General Council
Tom Overton	Board Member
Helen Adams	Board Member
Dr Nicky Lewis	Board Member
Lorna Kerr	Board Member
Lynette Harries	Honorary President
Graham Finlayson	Honorary Vice-president
Ian Griffiths	Honorary Vice-president
Alun Currie	Life Member
Dai Williams	South Wales Regional Council
Christine Vorres	East Wales Regional Council
Geraint Jenkins	Amman Valley
Kyle Perry	Barry & Vale
Mark Gold	Cardiff Athletics
Stuart Penny	Chepstow Harriers
Steve Hames	Neath Harriers
Chris Pratt	Ogmore Phoenix
Jennifer Boyce	Pembrokeshire Harriers
Dimitri Vorres	Pont-y-Pwl & District Runners
Richard Marks	Sarn Helen
Tony Clements	Swansea Harriers
Martyn Birch	Ystrad Mynach RC
Gareth Oldham	Welsh Schools Athletic Association

Also present

James Williams	Chief Executive Officer
Robert Sage	Head of Corporate Services
Chris Jones	Welsh Athletics
Christopher Moss	Welsh Athletics
Jacqueline Brace	Welsh Athletics
Rhiannon Linnington-Payne	Welsh Athletics
Brenda Currie	
Peter Morris	

Bernie Jones	Chair, Masters Advisory Group
Phil Jones	
Lynne Brier	Secretary of Track & Field Committee
Sue Hooper	Officials Secretary
Jamie Clode	Secretary General Council

i President's welcome

The President (LH) welcomed everyone to the AGM of Welsh Athletics Ltd. As part of her welcome LH asked the room to respect a minute's silence to remember those members who have passed away over the past 12 months;

- Ivor Arnold, Kendrick H Bennett, Ian Dixon, Gwladys Eastaugh, George Holland, Cyril Knibbs, Cyril Leigh, Richard Llewelyn, Bob Maplestone, Peter Mason, Donald Melrose, Kenneth Ross, William George Pryce, Jon Star, George Williams, JJ Williams, Peter Williams, & Norman Wilson.

ii Apologies for absence

Joyce Tomala [East Wales Regional Council], John Penny [Life Member], Clive Williams [Life Member], Jonathon Ford [Board Member], Dic Evans, Arwel Lewis [Mountain & Trail Committee], Dr. Hedydd Davies [Life Member].

iii Minutes of the 2020 AGM

The minutes were unanimously accepted as an accurate record.

iv Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

ITEMS OF ORDINARY BUSINESS

1 Appointment of Scrutineers

- 1.1 Jacqui Brace, Rhiannon Linnington-Payne and Rob Sage [online], all non-vote holders, were appointed scrutineers

2 Report of the Board of Directors

- 2.1 The Chair welcomed everyone, stated his thanks to all for attending.
- 2.2 The Chair invited James Williams, CEO, to present his report on behalf of the Board. Chris Moss [Head of Development] & Chris Jones [Head of Performance] presented updates on their areas of work as part of this report.
- 2.3 The report of the Board of Directors was accepted unanimously.
- 2.4 The Chair assured the meeting that Welsh Athletics will aspire to publish the Annual Report three weeks in advance of next year's AGM.

3 Financial Report, Accounts and Audit Findings

- 3.1. Nick Everitt, Non-Executive Director – Finance, gave an overview of the annual accounts.
- 3.2. The annual accounts to March 2021 and a full audit report had been distributed ahead of the AGM. As had been agreed previously a full annual audit had been conducted and only one very minor, non-financial value finding had been identified which was highlighted as an incredible achievement.
- 3.3. James Williams provided a response to questions from the floor regarding investment into facilities and Welsh Schools expenditure – which is now included within Welsh Athletics accounts.
- 3.4. The financial report was accepted, and the accounts were approved

4 General Council Report

- 4.1 The report was included in the Annual Report. SA highlighted that virtual meetings had actually led to increased attendance and put everybody across Wales on an equal footing. Reports and information regarding COVID restrictions had been received, discussed, and passed on. An inter-regional competition handbook had been developed and approved and SA thanked Joyce Tomala for her work on this.
- 4.2 The General Council Report was accepted.

5 Appointment of Accountants

- 5.1 It was agreed to appoint O'Brien and Partners as accountants, and HSJ Audit Ltd. as our financial auditors for the ensuing year and authorise the Board to fix their remuneration.

6 Appointment of Patrons

- 6.1. Lynn Davies CBE was re-appointed as Patron of the company.
- 6.2. The Chair again stated that discussions were ongoing in regard to the appointment of further patrons, and that he and the CEO would welcome suggestions from Members and the community of suitable individuals to be considered for the role.

7 To appoint the following positions

- 7.1 The extension by one year of the term of Lynette Harries as the Honorary President of Welsh Athletics was approved.

The decision to extend the term was made in light of the disruption to the sport resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic during which the sport was suspended for long periods. A new president will be elected in 2022.

7.2 The re-election of Graham Finlayson and Ian Griffiths were approved. Honorary Vice President of Welsh Athletics to serve for a two-year term. The President highlighted that herself and the Vice-Presidents were keen to continue to represent Welsh Athletics and be included in communications.

7.3 The following roles were approved en bloc:

7.3.1 The Secretary to the General Council – *approved Jamie Clode (re-election)*

7.3.2 The Secretary to the Track & Field committee - *approved Lynn Brier (re-election)*

7.3.3 The Secretary to the Road Running and Cross-Country Committee – *approved Sharon Leech (re-election)*

7.3.4 The Secretary to the Mountain & Trail running Committee - *approved Arwel Lewis (re-election)*

7.3.5 The Secretary to the Track & Field Officials Committee - *approved Sue Hooper (re-election)*

7.3.6 The Secretary to the Endurance Officials Committee - *approved Christine Vorres (re-election)*

8 Appointment of Delegates to organisations on which the Company is entitled to be represented

8.1 Delegate to the Commonwealth Games Council for Wales Executive Committee – Chris Jones

8.2 Delegates (3) to the Commonwealth Games Council - Steve Perks, James Williams, Chris Jones

8.3 Delegate to the Welsh Sports Association – James Williams

Approved en bloc

9 Determination of Annual Registration and Affiliation Fees (2021/2022)

9.1 JW informed the meeting that the planned increase in the Athlete and Club Registration Fee agreed at the 2019 AGM would take place in 2022 following the suspension in 2020 in light of the COVID situation.

10 Consideration of the Report of the Service Awards Panel

10.1 Bernie Plain and Alan Currie were nominated and elected to be members of the Service Awards panel to serve for a period of 3 years.

The contribution of John Penny was acknowledged by the meeting and thanks given by Bernie Plain before he read out the proposed recommendations for the awards.

10.2 To receive and accept the recommendations for the Meritorious Award. The following were externally nominated and/or recommended by members of the Panel:

Ros Alterman
Mark Boswell
John Davies.
Gwyneth Elward
Jane Goode
Denys Gumbley (Posthumous)
Roger Harrison-Jones
Nick Higman
Sally Higman
John Tanner

10.3 To receive and accept the recommendations for the Award of Honour. The following were externally nominated and/or recommended by members of the Panel:

Phil James
Sue Maughan
Derek Osborne
Ralph Siggery
Gwilym Williams MBE

10.4 To receive and accept the recommendations for the Athlete Achievement Award. The following were externally nominated and/or recommended by members of the Panel:

Justin Chaston
Liz Gill
Dewi Griffiths
Tony Harris
Jake Heyward
John Merriman (Posthumous)
Liz Parsons (Posthumous)
Christian Stephenson

All the above were approved.

Items of Special Business

11 Notices of Motion

11.1 Changes to the Articles of Associations

11.1.1 Article 5: Provision for online/virtual general meetings

11.1.2 Article 3: Increase in the number of life members from 10 to 15

It was noted that a number of lines within the articles require updating and that the Governance Sub-group will look at this ahead of next year's AGM.

All of the above motions were passed with unanimous vote

11.2 Amendments to the Byelaws of Welsh Athletics;

11.2.1 Board of Directors: Amendments to the Eligibility criteria, Byelaw 16

11.2.2 Awards Panel: Adoption of Withdrawal of Awards Policy, Byelaw 11

11.2.3 Board of Directors: Provision for virtual general meetings, Standing Order 18.6

11.2.4 Board of Directors: Various minor updates to the Byelaws

All of the above motions were passed with unanimous vote

12 Date and venue of 2022 General Meeting

22nd October 2022 was the provisional date. Feedback from attendees was requested in regard to the format for the meeting – a hybrid format of both face to face and online meeting is to be considered, but this to be confirmed by the Board

THE ABOVE MINUTES ARE PROVISIONAL AND SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION AT THE NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.