

## Minutes of the meeting of the General Council (GC) Held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019

*Sport Wales National Centre, Cardiff, video linked\* to Plas Menai National Outdoor Centre, Caernarfon*

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<i>Present:</i>	Sue Alvey	(SA)	Chair of General Council.
	Joyce Tomala	(JT)	Regional Representative – East Wales.
	Graham Webb	(GW)	Vice Chair of General Council.
	John Hatton*	(JH)	Regional Representative – North Wales.
	Arwel Lewis*	(AL)	Trail & Mountain Committee.
	Jeff Marsden	(JM)	Officials Committee.
	Sharon Leech	(SL)	Road and Cross Country Committee.
	Lynette Harries	(LH)	President, Welsh Athletics
	Dai Williams	(DWSch)	Welsh Schools Representative.
	Steve Jones	(SJ)	WA Compliance Officer
	James Williams	(JW)	Head of Operations, Welsh Athletics.

### *Papers circulated in advance:*

Head of Operations Update Sept 2019	Item 5
Compliance Officer report	Item 3
East Wales Presentation	Item 4
Final Minutes General Council July 2019	Item 9

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### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Received from; Gerald Davies (Schools), Lucy Archer (South), Judith Gooding (Track & Field), Richard Sheehy (East), Tony Clements (West), Chris Moss (WA),

### **2. Declaration of Interest**

None declared

### **3. Compliance Officer (SJ)**

Steve Jones gave an overview of his role and the requirements for clubs in relation to his role as WA Compliance officer. Gave an overview of changes to UKA requirements – especially the requirements in relation to vulnerable adults. SJ provided an overview of the reporting process.

SJ also gave an overview of the role of the Club welfare officer and the required elements in relation to Club affiliation. A training plan for club welfare officers was presented and will be rolled out over the next 12 months.

SJ provided an update to the coach education and officials education requirement to complete safeguarding module as part of qualification and renewal process.

SJ gave an overview of a recent high profile safeguarding case and some of the lessons learnt in the way the process was handled.

#### **4. Regional Council Update – presentation from East Wales (JT)**

JT provided an overview of the work undertaken by the East Region in evolving its approach to the way the regional council meetings have operated. The new process has encouraged new clubs to engage with the regional councils, and has increased the number of officers and volunteers for the Region.

JT encouraged any region to visit a East Wales Regional meeting to observe a meeting.

#### **5. Head of Operations Report(JW)**

The report was circulated in advance of the meeting

JW also mentioned vacancies for the upcoming AGM – secretary for General Council, Secretary for Track and Field Committee and Secretary to the Endurance Officials Committee – members are encouraged to circulate the vacancies,

JT mentioned that she had not received the 90 day notice, JW mentioned that members had been notified electronically, but apologised if some members had not received the notification.

SA requested that the date of the officials committee be circulated to officials

JW also highlighted the proposed new Governance calendar – this was a direct response to feedback from GC members on ways to improve the communication and decision making process between GC and Regional Councils/Committee meetings. He asked Regions and Committee's to adopt the new meeting schedule.

Finally, JW also paid tribute to the sad passing of coach Jock Anderson and gave an update on the funeral details.

#### **6. Regional Matters**

JT requested an extension to the closing dates for award nominations so the Region could discuss it at their meeting next week. JW agreed to pass on the request to the Awards panel.

#### **7. Athletics Committees and Task Group Issues**

SL circulated a report in advance of the meeting. She also requested that Regions ensure they are aware of the opportunity to send teams to the Leeds Abbey Dash 10km race. JT mentioned that the East region were aware, JH commented that they had a meeting in a few days and expected it to be discussed.

#### **8. Correspondence**

None received.

#### **9. AOB**

## **Meeting of the Welsh Athletics General Council; Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019, Dydd Mawrth 3<sup>rd</sup> Medi 2019**

JW gave a brief overview of a proposal that will go to Board regarding future increases to both club affiliation and athlete affiliation fees. A discussion took place regarding the benefits of the fees, and how low the fees were in relation to other sports. All agreed that the proposal was sensible and would be supported.

SA mentioned that the proposal must go to Board first for proposal, but felt it important that GC members to have an input on the proposal.

### **11. Date of Next Meeting**

Joint meeting with the Board – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2019

Meeting concluded at 8pm.

