

## **WELSH ATHLETICS OFFICIALS COMMITTEE**

### **TRACK AND FIELD**

Minutes of meeting held on 23 May 2019 at Brecon Carreg Room, CISS

#### **1. PRESENT**

Sue Hooper (Secretary & Starter/Marksman Rep), Joyce Tomala (T&F Committee), Olive Dobson (Walking), Linda Cushing (East Wales Officials Secretary), Lynette Harries (co-opted), Alan Currie (Track Rep), Tom Marley (WA), Zoe Holloway (WA).

#### **2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Received on behalf of Jeff Marsden (PF), Dave Jessett (Field), Donald Melrose (West) and Denise Harris (North).

#### **3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (21 MARCH 2019) AND MATTERS ARISING**

3.1 (para 3.4) It was noted that there are two people in West Wales who are gaining experience in photo finish: Rebecca Wood and Lynne Brier.

It is sometimes more practical to use a courier service to transfer equipment, but agreed that it would be desirable to have a base in both East and West Wales with Cardiff and Swansea the most appropriate locations. North Wales has its own equipment.

3.2 (para4) COG meetings have been held for recent championships, without problems.

#### **3.3 Welsh Junior Championships on 15/16 June.**

A Clerk of Course is required from within the track team. With only 5 track officials at the meeting this will prove difficult.

The triple jump for U15 has been omitted from the programme. This will be remedied and date and time of these events will be confirmed.

Officials prefer an allowance for evening meals rather than a set meal at the hotel. These would be required for both Friday and Saturday evenings.

The Technical meeting will be held at the hotel on the Friday.

Zoe Holloway agreed to work in the call room.

Denise Harris is to be asked to approach North Wales officials, as there are not many making themselves available for this meeting, despite the fact that it is being held in Wrexham.

Confirmation is needed that the stadium in Wrexham has a full set of starting blocks.

#### **3.4 Welsh Senior Championships on 13/14 July.**

A Competition Director is required. There is also a shortage of field officials and in the call room. The provisional timetable has been revised so as to give a better track/field balance. There will be no 'B' finals.

The original proposal to hold the Saturday events from 3.00 to 7.00 pm was rejected and they will now run from 12.00 to 4.00 pm.

The Technical meeting will be held in the stadium on the Saturday morning.

More microphones are needed by the starting team. The limitations of the electronic start equipment were noted. A system of providing a flash facility close to the timekeepers is under consideration.

A nine-metre take off board will be available in the senior men's triple jump.

Number of trials in field events were agreed at 3 only for U13/U15 and 3 + 3 for U17 and above. In walking events a time limit will be set and a 30 second penalty will operate, requiring a penalty lane to be set aside.

In field events, results will be documented electronically, but It was considered desirable to have at least one hard copy field card on each field event.

The drop box system will operate for updates in timetable, etc.

Sprints and hurdles races will be held so as to take advantage of the prevailing wind. An early decision will be made, depending on the conditions on the day.

#### **4 MENTORING UPDATE**

Lynette Harries has drawn up a calendar for mentoring in track & field and endurance disciplines. Details are available on the WA website. The grading procedure is included in the Welcome Pack.

Zoe Holliday has contacted mentors and been given an update on progress made.

Mentor training is planned for all regions in the autumn. When conducting tutorials, tutors should direct candidates to the WA Website for information on Welcome Pack and other matters.

The lack of any training for non-technical officials should be addressed. There is also limited consideration given to walks officials.

Points of contact at WA are needed, indicating particular individuals, so as to ensure that correspondence is directed to the appropriate people.

#### **5. INDOOR DEBRIEFING UPDATE**

This matter was deferred to the next meeting.

#### **6 CORRESPONDENCE**

John Elward had written to say that he is standing down as the representative for South Wales. There is a view that the South, despite being the biggest and most populous region, is not as active as it should be in many areas, including the provision of officials.

The recent T&F Committee meeting had decided to withdraw the 1200m race from Welsh Junior League fixtures. Correspondence had been received, expressing a variety of views. This meeting endorsed the decision, on welfare grounds.

The Welsh Fixtures meeting should be a stand-alone, meeting and held separately from any other meetings. Matters such as regional/inter regional issues should be considered independently.

**7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Joyce Tomala confirmed the recent T & F committee had agreed that the Welsh Inter Regional Championships will be for age groups U17, U15 and U13 only. The senior and U20 age groups have been withdrawn. This decision will be reviewed at the end of the year. In view of the differing opinions expressed on this topic, she stressed the importance of full and accurate minutes being kept for all meetings.

Rob Hooper has been invited to act as starter at some future meetings in order to aid his development to L4. He has a number of positive reports but none as a starter. His progress is being mentored at UKA level.

Comments on the new WA website were not entirely positive. Much valuable information appears to have been left off such as minutes of meetings, historical information and a list of clubs by region. WA still has access to the previous website, so the information is not lost.

Tom Marley was asked for an update on the communication matrix, Tom replied that the document was not ready at this time.

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 19 September at 6.30. It is not clear at the moment whether the Brecon Carreg room will be available. Full details will be circulated later.