

**WEST WALES REGIONAL ATHLETICS COUNCIL**

**Hon Sec: Nathan Jones**

**Tel: 07779 150916 email: nathanjones1995@live.co.uk**

Chairman: Dr DH Davies, MBE

Treasurer: Louisa Davies

**Meeting of the West Wales Regional Athletics Council  
Held at Carmarthen Leisure Centre, Monday 24th September 2018.**

**PRESENT:** Hedydd Davies, Nathan Jones, Andrew Jenkins, Andrew Lloyd-Hughes, Donald Melrose, Sue Alvey, Dic Evans, Jake Morgan

**Four clubs were represented.**

**01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received on behalf of Louisa Davies, Tony Clements, Kevin Tobin and Rob Campion.

**02. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> February were checked for accuracy. The minutes were accepted as a true record.

**03 MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING ON 21ST FEBRUARY**

3.1 No Photofinish plans for the foreseeable future at Swansea University. There are a number of factors to be considered. The Carmarthen track is planned to be re-laid with the hope that photofinish could be put in at that time.

3.2 Results are available from the consultation forum evenings arranged by Welsh Athletics across Wales at the end of last year. These will be incorporated into the 5 year strategic plan.

3.3 There has been a verbal request on make West Wales 200m, 300m, 800m, 1500m West Wales Championships at meetings in Cardiff. Nothing has been confirmed as of yet.

3.4 After no equipment for two years, Pembrokeshire Harriers' new throwing cage is fixed and back up and running. It caused problems with the NASUWT Final which had to be moved to Carmarthen.

3.5 It was agreed that West Wales would continue to support the UK Inter Counties but was clear that this year, it was an issue with no team manager present to pick up numbers. The region will continue to pay the £25 travel expenses for athletes attending with a team manager needed to be appointed for the event in March.

3.6 The West Wales Outdoor Track & Field Championships was a great success in Neath. The club were thanked for their hard work leading up to the day with online systems done for the first time. This will return next year when it goes to Swansea.

**04 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE AGM ON 18TH JUNE**

3.1 Ben Thomas was presented with the Gerry Batty Award U20 at the Carmarthen Athletics Track in mid-July by Hedydd Davies.

3.2 Hedydd confirmed that he would continue to stand as Chairman until the Annual General Meeting in June.

3.3 Provisional Dates: West Wales Indoor Athletics Championships on 12/13 January; Welsh Cross Country Championships 23 February; Welsh Trail Running Championships 4 May; West Wales Outdoor Athletics Championships in Swansea with date to be confirmed.

**05 TREASURER'S REPORT**

5.1 Louisa Davies circulated by e-mail the latest Treasurer's report up to the 19th of September. At the end of that period, the balance in the current account was £3,762.11 and the saver account at £15,428.37. A big expenditure cost came from the hire of buses to events. The region currently has a healthy balance.

However, discussion took place on how the money could be used wisely to support development and activities of the region. Clubs bidding to use for projects was one way suggested and a sum of to £4,500 will be made available. Application form would be prepared and applications considered at the next meeting.

**06 REPORTS****6.1 a) General Council**

Sue reported on the recent meeting from presentations that she had received. There were presentations made at the last General Council by Rob Sage on Communications and Steve Jones on school athletics and the issues that it faces.

**6.2 b) Track and Field Committee**

No report was available.

**6.3 c) Officials Committee**

One big problem Donald reported includes the number of officials at Louise Arthur League over the summer. Four completed the starter's course but low numbers on the track and time courses. An official's review meeting will be coming up in Swansea during October to address the issue in more detail. A meeting is due to take place on Thursday this week with the cup and plate finals, another event to be discussed in terms of combining both.

**6.4 d) Endurance and Road Running Committee**

Kevin sent the recent minutes from the Road Running Committee by e-mail. One subject to note was the Welsh Inter-Regional Cross Country Championships this December. Provisionally, it will be held in Llandrindod on Saturday 8th December.

**6.6 e) Fell & Mountain Running Committee**

Dic reported on the latest Fell & Mountain events. The Red Kite Challenge went well again this year with athletes from across Wales having attended. Number of the region athletes selected for the International match was down on previous years.

### 6.7 f) Welfare Officer

Sue confirmed that a programme of safeguarding course will take place in due course.

## 07 CLUB NETWORK OFFICER

7.1 Andrew Jenkins reported on his latest visits and future plans. It's been a busy few weeks and months at primary and secondary schools and club events. Three attended the Assistant Officials Course, eight on field and two track judging since the last meeting. The ADC Run Jump Throws sessions starts back in Swansea soon whilst the StarTrack was held over half term but did not sell out this year.

A parent induction is coming up at Swansea and a great way of getting new volunteers through. The Afan Nedd Tawe Schools' Cross Country programme starts with the Development Races in Pontarddulais on Tuesday and followed by West Glamorgan Primary Schools events split into six groups. Also planned is a sports scholarship meeting with Gower College.

7.2 Andrew Lloyd-Hughes also reported on his latest visits and future plans. He's worked in partnership with the three counties in Dyfed – Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire. The local authority, club, school and Welsh Athletics were all involved in moving forward with the cage at Haverfordwest which was completed during the summer. In Ceredigion, the NAS match went to Tregaron but Andrew reported that the state of equipment was poor. Aberystwyth hope to promote informal running by putting prom mile marker on the promenade with the University keen to develop. In particular Ceredigion, there are a number of gaps and athletes are not involved in athletics clubs due to the facilities.

Also, on the schools' front, Andrew stated that the situation in West Wales needs to be looked at and the way forward. At the moment in gaps, Pembrokeshire don't have a sportshall event and no junior cross country in Ceredigion. It is possible that clubs could contribute to fund a position to deliver schools athletics in Dyfed as part of the WA modernisation programme.

Andrew Jenkins & Andrew Lloyd-Hughes confirmed that workshops will be held on anti-doping and nutrition.

## 08,09 REGIONAL & INTER REGIONAL MATTERS

- West Wales Championships at Pembrey Country Park (John H Collins Gwent League) on Saturday 10th November.
- Welsh Inter-Regional Cross Country Championships provisionally at Llandrindod on Saturday 8th December.
- Welsh Schools Cross Country Championships provisionally on Wednesday 13th February.
- The Welsh Inter-Regional Athletics Championships at Brecon on 25th August was a great success with the region picking up seven trophies. The venue was a concern on the day with toilets, first aid and refreshments some of the issues.

- The committee agreed that the Gerry Batty Award criteria will change from its previous way to the dates between 1st October and 30th September in that year. This year's award will be from 30th September 2017 to 1st October 2018.
- West Wales' Road Running Championships at the Ammanford 10K was hailed as a great success, 285 finished on the day in very warm conditions with medal presentations gone smoothly. The event will hopefully host the championships again in 2019.
- At the present time, the region currently has vacancies for all the following various committees: Track & Field Representative, Endurance Committee Secretary / Representative, General Council Representative and Chairman (June 2019)

## **10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Dic was interested to see Pembrokeshire hosting a 5K / Half Marathon Championship. He will look into it and liaise with Laurence Worth (Pembrokeshire Harriers) for the possibility of a championship event.
- Pembrey Country Park saw the Welsh Athletics Road Relay Championships return over the weekend with its largest fields to date. The event was a wet one but medal presentations were done in good time and the County Council / Pembrey Country Park / Welsh Athletics / Carmarthen Harriers volunteers and staff were thanked for their contributions.

## **11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 28th November 2018 at Carmarthen Leisure Centre at 7.00pm.

**Nathan Jones**  
**Hon Secretary**