

**Welsh Schools Athletics Association
Management Committee Meeting
Wednesday 31st May 2023
10.30am Start @ Sport Wales, CF11 9SW
Agenda**

1. Apologies for absence

Gerald Davies (Glamorgan Valleys & WSAA Immediate Past Chairman) & Gareth Oldham (Powys)

2. Present

Jo Warner (WSAA Chair & Glamorgan Valleys), Steve Jones (WSAA Vice Chair & Afan Nedd Tawe), Dai Williams (WSAA Treasurer & Cardiff & the Vale), Zane Maynard (WSAA International Secretary & Afan Nedd Tawe), Steve Jones (WSAA Vice Chair & Afan Nedd Tawe), Gwilym Williams (WSAA Life Member & Cardiff & the Vale), Hannah Pretty (WA Head of Development & Participation), Alex Donald (WA Head of Competitions), Andrew Jenkins (WSSA Young People & Schools Engagement Officer).

3. Minutes & Actions for matters arising from last management meeting 5th April 2023

The WSAA new constitution redraft is in hand with timelines and deadlines set for feedback from WSAA Districts, WSAA Officers and WA staff with a 26th June 2023 deadline to respond. An EGM should be held in July 2023, which would need to be called by three school districts.

Sponsorship – will be dealt with by Josie Postles with initial contacts and generated leads made by WSAA Officers for Josie to follow up on using her expertise and experience in. 1st July WSAA Championships program to include an article on sponsorship for WSAA activities.

WSAA Gift Aid – AT states WSAA are registered for gift aid but not yet activated on the HMRC website, it is more appropriate the WA finance department activate this.

WSAA Championships program will include an article on fundraising and sponsorship for AD to action.

WSAA Easyfundraising account awaiting set up for distribution and promotion.

We need a definite date and venue for SIAB 2024. AD we can agree today for Carmarthen as the only offer on the table for Saturday 20th July 2024. Officials and delegates to be housed in the Ivy Bush, plus a meeting room booked there too for annual SIAB meeting. Athletes to be housed at Trinity College Carmarthen, AD will make provisional bookings.

15th July 2023 SIAB staffing team composition for Grangemouth is in progress, it is proving more challenging this year to get current teaching staff released from school. Safeguarding policies for taking teams to away are on the WA website for staff to familiarise themselves with.

4. Feedback from HP regarding restructuring within WA

HP updated the new development and participation overall new team structure that is now in place. HP then elaborated on AJ who is taking a lead on Schools & Education as the new Schools & Young People Engagement Coordinator. AJ has a more streamlined focus on supporting WSAA, Teachers Education, School District sustainability & Physical Literacy for Wales nationally rather than his previous role as West Wales regional

development officer. Overall improving provision of athletics in schools, is the underlying strategic aim of 100% of schools participating in athletics and running activities in Wales.

SJ raised Combined Events planning for HP who will be performance department link/lead with WSAA as our next key event after SIAB, HP will follow up with Chris Type. Glasgow Emirates arena will be unavailable due to refurbishment usually held last weekend of November or first weekend of December, alternative dates and venues will need to be discussed.

5. 1st July WSAA Championships updates

AD invitation to districts and entry information currently being finalised with distribution later today or tomorrow, all other aspects of event organisation is in hand with the competitions department. Clarity is needed on additional entry standards eligibility, AD will amend as discussed that they must be power of 10 eligible.

Presentation of individual athletes awards at WSAA Championships can be rushed on the day when deciding the winners, and that the winning athletes have often departed the venue anyway. It is easier to decide athletes awards retrospectively after the championships have been completed and results scrutinised, by a WSAA panel to be nominated as occurred in 2022. A plan also needs to be refined on when and how awards will be distributed once recipients decided.

AD will search for the seven WSAA team awards ready for 1st July.

Kit – Bethan Davies will endeavour to be present for kit sizing for pupils potentially selected for WSAA at Grangemouth.

Selection Policy for SIAB will go out again with school district mailing.

6. SIAB 2023 – matters arising

6.1 Evening activity in Falkirk for bowling who have availability for all our athletes and if our buses are available, athletes will need to cover costs of approximately £10pp, which will be included in match fee in the selection letter £60pp = £25pppn + £10

6.2 The logistics timeline is being managed by Bethan Davies in WA performance department.

6.3 Additional updates, just to reinforce that we are finding it harder to get teaching staff released from school by senior leadership teams.

7. SIAB 2024 update

Covered in matters arising.

8. Update on teacher courses AJ

Update on a successful Cardiff Met PGCE Secondary course that should progress to annual booking for both secondary and primary, open virtual courses uptake not so high for this format of courses, however block bookings via Sports Development departments and Colleges/Universities are the most successful source of bookings at this point in time.

Promotion of courses are done via emails and the various school districts, WSAA and WA websites and social media platforms. In addition there will be promotion of the successful Cardiff Met PGCE course video by WA communications department interviewing lecturer Fiona Diffey.

9. AOB including date of next meeting

Colin Slater to create a shared drive/folder for WSAA officers to access documents such as SLA, Constitution, Meeting minutes, agendas, additional entry standards, selection policies etc.

Date of next meeting TBC depending on if new WSAA constitution is approved or not.