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WELSH ATHLETICS
ATHLETAU CYMRU

WELSH ATHLETICS MOUNTAIN & TRAIL RUNNING COMMITTEE MEETING

7:45pm THURSDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2023 VIA TEAMS

- 1. MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dic Evans (DE) Colin Froley (CF) Neal Hockley (NH) Sharon Jones (SJ) Arwel Lewis (AL) Steve Mitchell (SM – WA Representative) Matthew Roberts (MR) Peter Ryder (PR) Owain Schiavone (OS) & Chris Type (CT)
- 2. APOLOGIES:** Mike Blake, Steve Livett & Tom Meredith
- 3. PERFORMANCE STRATEGY:** Chris Type (WA head of Performance) along with (SM) outlined the performance review, pathways, structures, investments, and the inconsistency across all disciplines. With funding being cut and streamlined, the difficult decision has been made to limit international opportunities across all disciplines with Mountain to lose the Trofeo Vanoni event. (AL) The Vanoni event is very cost effective with the hosts covering the costs of food, accommodation, and airport transfer. (D.E.) Debated whether our athletes could cover their own travel costs? (NH) Queried whether a sponsor could cover the travel costs? (MR) Queried whether we should drop one of the other senior events? (PR) It would be to the detriment of Welsh mountain runners not to be able to compete for Wales at the Vanoni event against world class international mountain runners in a foreign country. Overall, a self-supported pathway may be the way forward? Athletes would still have to earn a Welsh vest.
- 4. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** (AL) Has liaised with the Cilcain race organiser regarding incorporating the Welsh Athletics “Short” race championships including licensing via UKA/Welsh Athletics. (AL) Has yet to hear back from the Cader Race organiser regarding incorporating the Welsh Athletics selection race for the Y Wyddfa teams. (PR) to contact the Cader Race organisers to confirm. (AL) Has contacted the Coed-y-Brenin Trail Marathon Wales organiser (Matt Ward) regarding incorporating the Welsh Athletics Senior Long Trail Running Championships into his event and he is happy to do so.
- 5. INTERNATIONAL NATIONAL & REGIONAL CALENDAR UPDATES:** (AL) The British Mountain Running Championships will be incorporated into the Uphill only GB European Championships Trial Race at Dodds Wood, Keswick on Friday 19th April, the event is also our Welsh selection trial race for the Senior Home International which has been confirmed as being the Glas Tulaichan Uphill only race in Scotland on Saturday 11th May. Master age categories for over 40 runners will now be categorised in 5-year age groups up to 79 years of age in line with IAAF rules instead of the current 10-year age categories.
- 6. BUDGET:** Has been in the region of £7 to £9,000 in the recent past. 10% cuts?
- 7. WELSH ATHLETICS AGM:** The AGM minutes are on the Welsh Athletics website.
- 8. AOB:** (OS) confirmed that entries for the Red Kite Challenge event would be going live on 1st December and thanked (SJ) for the chip timing contact information. (NH) enquired if the same junior race routes would be utilised which were very good. (NH) Finalising dates for the development day/s Prior to the Red Kite event Date/s – TBC

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9. **Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 1st February 2024 at 7:45pm.**