

Welsh Athletics General Council Meeting Held on the Wednesday 18 September 2024

Meeting held remotely via video link and in person at Sport Wales.

Present:

Lynne Brier (Chair)
Joyce Tomala (Chair East Wales)
Lynette Harries (East Wales)
Rob Champion (West Wales)
Sharon Leech (Road / Cross Country)
Kay Hatton (Chair – North Wales)
John Hatton (North Wales)
Fred Melkin (South Wales)
Arwel Lewis (Mountain Trail Fell)

1. Apologies

Graham Finlayson
Chris Pratt (Chair South Wales)
Gerald Davies (Welsh Schools)

2. Declaration of Interest

None

Before the meeting moved on Lynne asked the members to clarify with her who should remain on the contact list of GC members. Lee Hayward and Kyle Perry need to be removed.

Item Number	Actions	Person Responsible
4	Invite James Williams to attend the next meeting to discuss Irun Wales affiliation Take issues raised concerning IrunWales to the board	Lynne

3. Actions from previous meeting:

3.1 Affiliating via Stripe – Ongoing between Lynne and Jacqueline Brace

3.2 Inter-Regional Champs

2025 Inter-Regional Champs – will be held within the Caerphilly 10k, no event this year. Regions will be asked to put forward their teams, 6 runners, 4 to count.

Notification needs to be sent out so that runners do not enter themselves. Rob will let

Alex at WA know so that it can be announced on the WA website. Graham Finlayson will be asked if a discount may be given to team entries.

3.3 WA Board members

Lynne has communicated with Eleanor at WA and she has asked board members to supply a picture and a small paragraph to go onto the website.

4. North Wales Matters for GC

Irun Wales – Kay advised that online affiliation through virtual club IRunWales is causing concern amongst affiliated clubs. Runners are being encouraged to affiliate without joining an affiliated club. Kay wrote to James Williams with her concerns and he has responded asking for more details. The council members discussed their experiences of Irun Wales and the effect on club membership, and their concerns, insurance etc. It was decided to ask James Williams to come along to the next meeting to discuss the issues raised, and to the council will refer the matter to the board.

5. Reports Submitted:

Sharon Leech

- Podium 5K Aug'24 results: Dan Nash 15th (1st Welsh male), Beth Kidger 3rd (1st Welsh female)
- Welsh Road Relays Sept'24 results: Swansea winners of both men's and women's teams, however due to wording of selection policy (seniors), Pontypridd and Meirionydd will go through to National Road Relays
- Welsh 10K Champs Swansea Sept'24 results: Dewi Griffiths men's champion (Josh Griffiths and Jon Butler 2nd/3rd), Lauren Cooper female champion (Donna Morris and Megan Carter Davies 2nd/3rd)

Sharon advised the meeting that although Swansea won the relays, they weren't selected to run in the National Road Relays because the selection criteria stated that the teams for eligibility had to be declared as Seniors, and an oversight meant Swansea entered some of their faster runners in Vets teams. The suggestion was made that it should be the fastest runners for selection and not base the selection on an age category. It will be revisited for 2025.

6. AOB

Kay Hatton – how has the clash of dates with the Inter-Regional XC and the International Masters XC happened – who decides the dates of the meetings? Joyce thought maybe it was UKA but she wasn't sure.

Next meeting:

6 November

New dates are decided after the AGM in November

Suggestions for inviting to future meetings:

Christine suggested Jacqueline Brace to update everyone on the upgrades to the WA licencing and affiliation portals for clubs.

Joyce suggested Chris Type from the WA Performance team

The meeting ended at 7pm.