



<https://www.eastwalesathletics.co.uk/>

**Meeting of East Wales Regional Athletics Council
18th November 2020, via Microsoft Teams
6:30pm start**

Attending: Joyce Tomala (JT), Bethan Akanbi-Mortimer (BAM), Christine Vorres (CV), Jeanette Jenkins (JJ), Martyn Jenkins (MJ), Stuart Penny (SP), Randal Jones (RJ), Sue Hooper (SH), Ryan Spencer-Jones (RSJ), Dick Finch (DF), Steve Mitchell (SM), Tom Cole (TC).

1. Apologies – Lynnette Harries, Hillary Goodger
2. Conflict of Interest (new declarations)
3. Club Updates : JT suggested asking clubs to give updates on the impact of Covid at the next few meetings.
 - a. Newport Harriers:
 - i. Very frustrated at the length of time taken to install two new cages at Newport Stadium,
 - ii. It is hard to keep up with the changes imposed by the Welsh Government, and then get these rules accepted by Newport Live. This means regular changes to our risk assessment for acceptance by Newport Live.
 - iii. There is some confusion on the rules laid out by Welsh Government and the interpretation by our members. This is also having to be explained to members, however the numbers training are now increasing but some are still wary of returning to training
 - b. Lliswerry (RJ)
 - i. coping well and updating to changes, keeping members engaged through monthly challenges, people grateful for involvement.

- ii. Smaller group training sessions via an app – when they couldn't travel, sessions put on in local areas by local members.
 - iii. Saturday training replicates parkrun. Wednesday night, groups meet and then go off in different directions (some on track) some road intervals.
 - iv. Members book sessions via the app, members have to declare themselves covid free etc.
 - v. Running club via zoom meetings, coaching resources have been stretched due to smaller groups and new coaches recruited to avoid coaching fatigue.
 - vi. Trying to keep contact with member, AGM will be held via zoom also.
- c. Fairwater (JJ), Monmouth (SP) RVAC (BAM) and Chepstow (DF) happy to update at next two meetings. SP asked what app Lliswerry are using as Monmouth use 'Team app'. RJ agreed to confirm app they use at Lliswerry.

4. Welsh Athletics AGM (JT)

- a. This year the AGM was held in form of webinar and overall, all went well.
- b. Joyce was honoured to be made a Life Member of WA at the AGM and consequently has a vote in AGM. Therefore, someone is needed to become the member for EW and have the vote at the AGM. JT asked for nominations for this role.
- c. Sue and Rob Hooper – Award of Honour, Chris Price – Meritorious Award, Neil Horsefield – Athlete Achievement.

5. Endurance (SM)

- a. Difficult to organise events, conscious that we want to keep junior athletes in the sport and looking to provide a competition for the juniors. Aiming to hold event on 5th December and likely to be held in Pontypool Park, age group races. Time needed between races for athletes to leave and new to arrive. Volunteers will be needed, but they are allowed to have the same officials across all races. JT asked if the use of the same officials had been confirmed by Welsh Government as there had previously been issues with schools competition. Discussions

concerning if 'volunteers' acting as marshals were within the number of people allowed at an event. Will be held as a trial event, but details cannot be confirmed until Welsh Government have confirmed numbers possible.

- b. RSJ asked that any concerns to go through Rhiannon. JT to confirm the situation with RLP.

{PMN- JT spoke to RLP who is in correspondence WG however she is still waiting for clarification from Welsh Government on the exact requirements.}

- c. Regional Development Activities will be started back in December in Parc Bryn Bach.

JT thanked SM and others who had contributed for their support in getting this all set up.

6. Reports:

- a. Tom Cole –

- i. Fyn Corcoran is offering High Jump masterclass sessions at NIAC for groups of 5, limited to 90 minute sessions. (1 coach, 4 athletes) to give coaches the confidence to deliver. It is the session he had delivered as a webinar during lockdown that he is now delivering as a practical. Dates are as follows and booked on a first come first served basis:

Sun 22nd Nov – 12pm

Sun 29th Nov – 12pm

Sun 6th Dec – 12pm

Sun 20th Dec – 12pm

- ii. #supportyourclub series is available to catch up on the YouTube channel but the next session is 19/11/20 on Profiling/planning and programming for junior athletes
- iii. Non-perfect coach/parent series designed in conjunction with other NGB's aimed as an advice session for coaches and parents to assist in the development of junior athletes to help manage all aspects/challenges that can happen. Coaches session is on 25th Nov and the parents session is 3rd Dec. To book go to the following

link: <https://www.welshathletics.org/en/blog/post/non-perfect-parent-and-non-perfect-coach-series>

iv. WA 2020 awards nominations are open and close at midnight on the 29th Nov – link is here: <https://www.welshathletics.org/en/blog/post/live-the-2020-welsh-athletics-awards>

v. As mentioned the WA Clubs Conference this year will be virtual and we are taking suggestions for topics of delivery via the link below, please forward this to all of your members who may wish to attend as the greater feedback we receive the more relevant we can make the conference.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=1RDfO1nXUekdsPXx6hqNhZ2EmmteJ1FryP91aftvvRUQURMR1pOWFo0TDRFSEVCVzBTUTgxQkNZMC4u>

b. General Council (JT) – A calendar of WA meetings is in the process of being updated for 2021. As soon as the calendar is confirmed dates for East Wales meetings will be produced.

c. Track & Field (JT) – meetings have been held monthly through lockdown and now the group are on 6 weekly rota.

i. Still uncertainty around availability of NIAC.

ii. WA looking at adapting the guidance for indoors. It's been suggested that events could be taken outdoors.

iii. Combine events international was cancelled due to Emirtates Arena being closed, consequently WA combined events was also cancelled. Sue Maughan reported that Sport Wales are taking a cautious approach to return to sport, guidance in constantly being updated, viability of long term security of sport and safety key considerations.

iv. No dates for 2021 have been released by UKA.

v. Next track and field meeting Wednesday 25th November.

vi. The provision for Photofinish training is currently being looked at. An update will be available at the next T & F Meeting. SH reported that Scotland are holding a photofinish course in December, pilot track and field course will be held online

7. Any other Business

- a. RSJ to be added to agenda for throws update at next meeting.
- b. CV asked if there was any money involved to support the junior events – JT thought that this would be able to be supported through the development grant money. JT asked CV to ask for quotes to support the events.

Date of Next Meeting (Teams) – Wednesday 13th January at 6:30pm. –

link will be sent out by Rhiannon from WA.