



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

**Meeting of East Wales Regional Athletics Council  
16<sup>th</sup> February 2022, via Microsoft Teams  
6:30pm start**

**Attendees:** Joyce Tomala, Bethan Akanbi-Mortimer, Tom Cole, Charlotte Moran, Derek Osbourne, Loraine Clarke, Randal Jones, Paul Adams, Jeanette Jenkins, Martyn Jenkins, Christine Vorres, Ruth Powell, Kieron Hearne, Mike Griffiths, Peter Hitchings, Darryn

**Apologies:** Helen Meredith, Nicola Brunnock

1. Conflict of Interest (new declarations)
2. Finance Report: (KM)

Going to end of the financial year, we have reserves of £5k, some of which is allocated. Cross Country transport to be paid for. Any questions to be sent to Chair who will pass to the Treasurer.

3. Safeguarding Update: (JJ)

Four regions to have meeting with Carl Williams (new WA SO) next week.

4. Club Updates – (Rhymney Valley (RP))

**Rhymney Valley AC** - Athletes returned and have been back at training over the winter. We have lost a couple of volunteers. Groups are coming together now. Couch to 5k programme started in November – 130 adults (men & women) have joined. £4500 from council to fund. Details captured using Microsoft Forms which is running well. Some Run Leaders have joined us. We are gently approaching them to help out with volunteer roles. This includes a walking group. Atmosphere has picked up. Working on a system for them to login through the website. Coach Coordinator (funded role through WA) has stood down. Free membership and new kit has been offered to our coaches and coaches children. Leadership programme will be supported by the council. Sported to support with our new business plan. We will re-look at our constitution and call an AGM. With competition season coming up we will need additional support. 26<sup>th</sup> March we have organised a fundraiser for St David's in memory of Lyn Cushing. Snagging issues at track still outstanding.

5. Club Development Manager Update: (TC)

See attached report from Tom Cole.

Highlights – clubs conference on 5<sup>th</sup> March (2 free spaces for affiliated clubs), regional development day – 6<sup>th</sup> March – Oakdale is the venue, Hammer session to be held in Neath (link online to register, endurance to be sent by Steve Mitchell, 12<sup>th</sup> March – race walking with Martin Bell.

New appointments – Carl Williams (Safeguarding), Josie Postles (Communications Manager)

Officials Regional Development Day – 20<sup>th</sup> March

Welsh Cross Country Champs – entries close at 11:59 on Sunday

Joyce asked if any members were aware of the South East Wales Schools Rep. Numbers of the u13/15; particularly boys- really low. Darryn McAtee is intending to follow up the attendees of the Gwent Regional Cross Country race and contact the schools. Kim Griffiths is the contact for the schools events, she has reported that some schools do not want to release athletes due to time missed from covid.

**Action: Darryn McAtee to contact Kim Griffiths and prompt her to reply to Tom Cole. Derek to forward details of any schools officers to invite to regional meetings.**

6. Officials Update: (SH)

Three officials from the East have been selected to attend the Commonwealth Games, Sue Hooper, Becky Gibbs, Amy Price – congratulations all!

7. Cross-Country /Road Report: (DO)

Cardiff Half will feature an international match between Wales and Scotland. Pembrey will be kept as 2023 Road venue. Welsh XC champs – 303 entries so far but expecting more. SIAB XC selection – six past the post on the weekend and an additional 4 athletes – policy available on the WA website. Warm weather camp was cancelled.

8. Cross -Country Championships review: (DM/SC)

East Wales Champs (Oct) – feedback was very good and no changes other than the size of the men’s team.

Competition for places for the Inter Counties in March is good – all places are full, if any drop out please let Darryn know. Bus costs are subsidised by the region. Joyce thanked Darryn for his hard work.

9. Track & Field report: (JT)

Expressions of interest for Welsh Athletics T&F Team Managers are being asked for.

Dates for Junior League are available – 30<sup>th</sup> April, 28<sup>th</sup> May, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 28<sup>th</sup> Aug – no other details available at present.

10. T & F Regional Championships indoors (JT)

Final indoor regional Champs is this weekend coming – thank you to the volunteers who attended to help out with the champs. JT reiterated the need for the clubs to provide support with volunteers otherwise the competitions cannot continue. Ruth Powell noted the high numbers of people with covid over the winter which has impacted on availability.

11. T & F Regional Championships Outdoors 2022 (JT)

Joint Champs with South Wales – 14<sup>th</sup> May at Aberdare, U15, 17, 20, seniors. Timetabling is difficult and we are considering weeknight dates for some events.

12. T & F Inter Regional Championships 2022 (JT)

This will be held in Newport. Equipment in place to fix the cage and it is hoped that this will be in place by March. Outside Cage floodlights to be installed. Other work being done on the long jump and shot put areas as well as the in field after the football has finished.

### 13. GC Report (JT)

Reminder that registrations are due 1<sup>st</sup> April for WA. Athletes need to be registered to compete.

### 14. Endurance Report: (SM)

Endurance Officials meeting was held last week. Queries received around how to progress from a level one-two. Zoe Holloway will follow this up. Looking at allocation of tasks at events to support with officials development.

### 15. Regional Development Plan:

See attached - Development Plan has been updated but there has been a lack of input from clubs about this. Any updates please let JT know tomorrow. Everything on there needs to be linked to WA strategy. This needs to be submitted on Friday.

### 16. Website:

CV updates website with information from Steve Mitchell. FB and Twitter are more active. CV to email clubs and ask for information about any events that they are hosting.

ACTION: Tom Cole to send CV login details for Twitter.

### 17. AOB:

#### a. Themes for future meetings

Any suggestions, please send to Bethan or Joyce.

JT to invite Rhys Williams as new Sprints Lead for WA

- b. *Date of next Meeting: 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 – Christine Vorres to take minutes as Bethan is not able to attend.*
- c. *Andrew Dickens still happy to support with trail and fell role – suggested that this role can be shared with Helen Meredith.*
- d. Martyn Jenkins – road racing championship dates have not been allocated this year due to covid restrictions. Martyn to support with this until April and Paul to continue.

Date of future meetings, All meetings start at 6:30pm.

- a. Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022
- b. Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022
- c. Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2022
- d. Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022
- e. Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022