

Meeting Notes {UNRATIFIED} of England Athletics South West Region Council Meeting held Wednesday 2nd June via Zoom at 19:00

In attendance:

Richard Llewellyn-Eaton (Chair), David Cooke, John Deaton, Paul D’Arcy, Keith Reed (Competitions group admin), Richard Ayling (EA) Fiona Edington (part time), Sonya Ellis, Dave Varney, Graham Berry, Dan Isherwood (EA)

1. Apologies:

Brian Baker. David Little, Keith Brackstone, Phil Lucker, Elliot Prince, Mike Hindle

Welcome

Richard welcomed everyone to the meeting especially Dan Isherwood.

2. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

3. SW Track and Field Champs progress for 18th July [DC]

A long discussion took place on the event scheduled for 18th July. The main issue is the restriction on numbers in the stadium which is limited to 400 at any one time. As entries for this event are likely to be over 500 the current timetable is unworkable. If we are to go ahead we need to find a solution.

Two options were explored. One was splitting the timetable by age group (e.g. U13/U15 in the morning and the U17/U20 and seniors in the afternoon with a clear gap in the middle of the day.

The other option is to run the event over two days which would add cost and put more pressure on the officials. There is also the issue with the clash on the Saturday with the YDL lower matches.

The consensus after discussions was to go for the first option.

It was agreed we would set up a Sub Group meeting on Thursday 10th June to discuss prior to opening entries.

Further discussions also took place on the lack of officials from some counties. This will need further conversations with the counties.

3. EA Update (including Officials Role on Council)

Dan Isherwood gave an abridged summary of the EA strategy document recently released to the sport. Dan gave an overview of the way the plan will be delivered and the key points that underpin the plan. A summary of the main slide is shown below.

Questions were asked about the delivery of the plan. Dan stated that working groups are already in progress. He also stated that Regional Councils would be key in the consultation and implementation phases.

A question was posed to Dan about Photographic policy at Track events by D Cooke. This relates to spectators having to sign in which is difficult to police and seems to go against the paperless system operating at meetings. Dan agreed to circulate the latest policy.

This did not apply to official photographers who had to be registered.

The proposed new Officials Liaison Roll on Regional Councils was discussed. Richard asked if a Co-opted member could fulfil this role. Dan confirmed that this was OK. Sonya asked about other formalisation of roles on the council as was previously done under the portfolio system.

This had not yet been looked at.

Richard thanked Dan for his attendance and for the insight into the plan.

How it all works together



5. Update on 5KM ROAD SERIES

Mike Down has been in communication and the overall series will be delayed until 2022. Bristol & West AC have held some races in Odd Down on a cycle circuit which has gone well. The outline plan for 2022 is to hold a number of races regionally with athletes needing to do at least two to qualify for final. Prize money has been donated by Mike. Possible Track 5000m races to be held at Taunton.

6 Road Running Championships

Tony Gale has been in consultation with counties about format for 2022. The consensus is to have two races which would be a 10K and a Half Marathon or 10 miler. Plans to be formulated

John Deaton to check on progress with the Cleeve Relays which will be the SW Road Relay Champs. This is for seniors only and is being held over the August Bank Holiday weekend.

7. Cross Country

Paul D'Arcy working on initial plans for event at Merryfield on January 2nd 2022.

8. AOB

John Deaton reminded everyone about the UKA Rule change deadline for any proposals. He also reminded everyone about the changes to no jump indicators coming in from November. John also raised the recent request for leagues to be affiliated to apply for licenses. Dan said his should always have been the case but had not been previously enforced. RA to assist Avon if possible.

Dave Varney asked about the difficulties some new officials are finding in enrolling in Level 1 officials courses. This is particularly difficult with new starter/assistants. Rich Ayling said he would talk to Dave after the meeting.

The question was asked about the London Mini Marathon. At this moment no-one has had anything confirmed but it could well prove difficult with travel and overnight stops.

Sonya expressed her views about inclusivity both in the meeting and in the sport in general. Richard Ayling to talk with her after the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Date of Next meeting - TBC

KR/RLE