

**Meeting Notes of England Athletics South West Region Council Meeting held on Wednesday 26th January via Zoom at 19.00**

**In attendance:**

**Richard Llewellyn-Eaton (Chair), John Deaton, Paul D’Arcy, Keith Reed (Competitions group admin), Richard Ayling (EA) Phil Lucker, David Cooke**

**1. Apologies:**

**David Little, Mike Hindle, Dave Varney, Brian Baker, Sonya Ellis; Elliot Prince, Fiona Edington**

**Welcome**

Richard welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Matters Arising**

None

**3. Cross Country**

We held a very successful event at RNAS Merryfield, thanks to the efforts of Paul D’Arcy, Brian Baler and Richard Llewellyn-Eaton. Although there was a significant ‘no show’ rate the races were still of a high quality. In general the shorter Senior Men’s race was welcomed although we will canvass opinions before next year. We hope to be able to use the venue again in 2023. We have made a surplus and we will look at how best to use this. We intend to get quotes for an Electronic starting system which can be used by all SW venues. We also will try and support SW representative teams especially for cross country.

**4. SW Road Events**

The SW Inter County Road events for 2021 were cancelled due to lack of support from counties). Tony Gale has been in contact with all counties. We need everyone to be involved to make this type of event viable. Keith Reed to contact Tony to find out current situation.

It is hoped to put the 2022 Road Relays in with the Cleeve Relays in August.

**5. SW Indoor Championships**

Welsh Athletics hosted the first date is on December 5<sup>th</sup> in Cardiff. Medals were presented by John Deaton. Unfortunately due to COVID restrictions the second proposed date was postponed until 20<sup>th</sup> February. The event due to take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> January was held but in a very restricted way. It was felt that we could not use this as a Championships for U20/Seniors.

**6. EA update (and National Council)**

Richard Ayling gave an update on Club standards and the creation of the Club Hub

<https://www.englandathletics.org/clubhub/>

This has been created to offer clubs an easy access to resources including Webinars, Templates and other guidance.

The intention is to help clubs introduce the standards in a way that is not over demanding on time. There would be no sanctions against clubs who did not comply. It was agreed that it would be challenging and some clubs may not be happy. The details have been copied to all council members and comments are welcomed.

It is important that clubs are aware of the difference between Athletics Hub which is the place where people can book on coaching or officials courses. Richard Llewellyn –Eaton asked for a list of current courses. The Level 1 officials are still being done online. A first aid online module will be added as a requirement for all coaching courses.

Richard Ayling is also taking on a additional job role looking after Volunteer Development including the annual awards. He has also been taking the lead on Run Leader development.

EA are creating Regional Club/Coach leaders who will drive increased participation especially in the U17 age group. They are also recruiting a Technical Officials Managers role.

Richard L-E explained the invitation to informal drop in meetings which councillors had received. These meetings are held bi-monthly.

John Deaton pointed out that the SW were unsuccessful in getting any National nominations for Volunteer awards for the second year in a row.

## **7 SW Track and Field**

The 2022 Track & Field event is scheduled for 17<sup>th</sup> July. David Cooke will not be able to act as Meeting Manger due to being away at the European Masters. Discussions were held about format and possible results systems. We could look at Roster Athletics which is being promoted by EA. Further discussions will be held. There is a meeting of the SW League clubs next week.

## **9. AOB**

John Deaton had received a comment from an official in Avon about difficulties in getting upgraded. John will send on to Richard Ayling.

John mentioned the CIC status of the SW Council. This had been put on hold due to COVID but can now be progressed. K Reed to speak to his contact. Richard Ayling said that the council should consider allocation of budgets. It was felt that perhaps we need a dedicated finance person on the group.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

**Date of Next meeting – Match 30<sup>th</sup> (TBC)**

KR/RLE