

**Meeting Notes of England Athletics South West Region Council Meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December via Zoom at 19.00**

**In attendance:**

**Richard Llewellyn-Eaton (Chair), John Deaton, Paul D'Arcy, Keith Reed (Competitions group admin), Brian Baker**

**1. Apologies and welcome:**

Apologies received from the following

**Sonya Ellis, Dave Varney, Richard Ayling (EA) Phil Lucker, Fiona Edington, and Elliot Prince.**

Richard welcomed everyone to the meeting

**2. Matters Arising.**

None not raised anywhere else

**3. SW Conference and awards follow up plus EA update**

Richard Ayling passed on his thanks to all the SW Council for their help with making the SW awards evening such a success. He has received many nice emails from the winners and runners up. Everyone agreed it had gone well and that Jo Pavey was an excellent host. The venue was also a good choice.

We should all give some thoughts to next year. It was felt by a few that we should invited the people nominating the prospective winners as well.

We also felt that we should reintroduce the athlete awards but we would have to do this before the main awards and cover the costs.

The conference which took place prior to awards was a worthwhile event.

A set of notes was produced and circulated to all who attended and the regional councillors.

The discussion on competitions had largely mirrored those at the National conference.

We had already made some changes to the SW Track and Field and this should be looked at again.

The discussions on Volunteer recruitment also seemed to be in line with current EA thinking on making things simpler to qualify as a coach or official.

**4. Competition Conference (see link for details of slides etc.)**

[England Athletics Competition Conference - Athletics & Running](#)

Richard L-E attendee this and in general there was a lot of support for the changes. The plan is to hold further consultation before implementing changes in 2024. Some concerns were raised about the competition structure for U15 especially in the area of relaxing the rules. However broadly a change is welcomed. WE will make sure everyone is kept abreast of developments.

John Deaton gave an update on the YDL who have recent AGM where changes were proposed.

There is to be a consultation process with clubs here as well.

**5. SW Cross Country**

Paul has now received the official license to use RNAS Merryfield again in 2023. The date will be 8<sup>th</sup> January but he also one for Somerset Schools on 21<sup>st</sup> January. Cost will £180 each. Paul hopes to get a one-time license in future.

Course is as last year. Paul will chase up the contractors about the hedges and grass cutting. Entries have started coming in (over 300). It was agreed to extend the deadline to 28<sup>th</sup> December.

KR will supply Paul a copy of the EA License. Site visit next week and course will be marked on 6<sup>th</sup> Jan (11am), BB to provide KR with names of helpers.

## **6. SW Indoors**

Day 1 of the Junior Championships was held on Dec 4th with the second day on January 8th. Entries are still open. There is a link on the Athletics SW website. John Deaton attended and presented medals which he will also do at the next one. The process worked well

Richard LE has been trying to firm up the hosting for the Senior/U20 championships with the Welsh Championships. We hope to confirm this very soon. Welsh Athletics have agreed to look at putting some junior distance events at the December event next year.

## **7. Other 2023 events**

### **Road Events**

Dave Phillips and Emma Stepto are talking to the other counties about the 2023 events. We are also in discussions about the Road Relays in 2023. It is possible there could be changes to the Cleeve Relays held in late August. We have also started talking to the South Devon Relays for 2023 if Cleeve are not able to offer their race as a championship.

### **SW Track and Field**

The track is booked for 31st July 2023 at Exeter. We need to finalise programme including the inclusion of the Inter Counties. We need to sort this early in 2023.

## **8. AOB**

John mentioned the CIC situation. There had not been no progress and it would be good to get it sorted ahead of the Council elections in the Spring. KR to follow up and John will have a further look at the application process.

John also mentioned the Midland Counties situation which has some uncertainty. Entries have opened for the MCAA Cross Country Champs.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

**Date of Next meeting – Wednesday Feb 8th**

KR/RLE