

## **Meeting Notes of England Athletics South West Region Council Meeting held on Zoom on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June (7pm)**

**In attendance: Paul D’Arcy (chair) John Deaton, Keith Reed (Competitions group admin), Charlotte Phillips, Debbie Brooks, David Cooke, Richard Ayling, Sonya Ellis, Elliot Prince, Sarah Massey, Richard Llewellyn-Eaton and Dave Varney**

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies received from **Brian Baker, Holly Newman, Richard Llewellyn-Eaton and Dave Varney**

### **2. Welcome and introductions:**

Paul D’Arcy welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance

### **3. Matters Arising.**

None not raised anywhere else

### **4. SW Track and Field Champs**

Entries are now open and are coming in steadily. We are using Jotform linked to Roster.

Level 2 License confirmed. Track and First Aid booked. RLE to bring Gazebo

KR to confirm with Exeter Harriers about use of clubhouse and potential volunteers.

Standards and Timetable (with medal presentations slots) agreed. DC to confirm details with County Team Managers and get on websites. Charlotte confirmed that Dorset will be on board this year.

KR has list of officials (some more now added). Chiefs need to be confirmed.

We have three VIP’s visiting: Chris Jones CEO EA; Gary Shaughnessy Chair EA Board; Alan Richardson (EA Talent Programme Manager)

We will need to look after them on the day and involve them in medals presentations but still allow them to chat to people. Richard Ayling to assist with Sarah plus another SW Council member.

Agreed no charge to enter venue but perhaps consider an Environmental Charge in 2024

### **6. Structure and Role of Athletics SW Ltd (Update)**

Some progress has been made with this and thanks to Sarah for her hard work with Paul.

It was difficult to discuss as Sarah had issues with her phone signal so it was agreed that a separate discussion would be held. Sarah will summarise the current position.

### **7. EA Update (including National Council report)**

Paul gave a brief report of the most recent meeting of the National Council and a summary of the recent Council Call. The notes from this meeting were circulated.

JD asked about plans for consultations about the possible Age group changes. it was felt by all that a greater understanding of the rationale and benefits of such a major change was needed. PD to find out situation.

There were Lots of concerns over lack of officials, Some licences must be questionable on who they write down as Chiefs.

Richard Ayling gave a brief update on EA situation.

There have been a few staff changes within EA. Spencer Duval is retiring so his post of Endurance Regional Coach Lead will be split between Off Track (Tom Craggs) and On-track (TBC). Amy Frith (CSM) is leaving. Rmay have to cover some of her roles in short term. There are some changes in the Finance team

Club Improvement Grants are now available (up to £500)

Key focus for Richard is Club Standards.

Work being done with Cornwall AC.

EA is now taking over Coach and Officials Licensing. Will need to support people when changes occur.

## **8. Volunteer Awards 2023**

### **Potential 2023 SW Regional Volunteer Award Nominations:**

Richard Ayling gave us an update on the Regional Volunteer awards. A copy of the presentation will be circulated. Closing Date is 26<sup>th</sup> July. The Panel is due to meet in August. Panel to be [names redacted for website version]

Ideas on potential nominations from the regional council: [redacted for website version]

Can anyone let Richard know if you require any support with nominations? Full details can be found at <https://www.englandathletics.org/about-us/volunteer-awards/regional-volunteer-awards-2023/>. Please note the deadline for nominations is July 26th!

We have agreed to give athlete awards. KR had circulated categories previously used. We will need to confirm this and decide on winners by next meeting in September. We will give out the awards at the SW Regional Conference which is being held the same day as the awards (November 11th).

It was also suggested we could do the Sapphire League awards at the same time.

### **Conference format**

KR and RA gave their thoughts on a conference programme. This will be need to be finalised.

It was felt that the event needs to attract people from clubs. Part of the day should be devoted to getting feedback from athletes/coaches and parents. This could be done by inviting recipients of athlete awards along early. We would welcome input form Council members.

## **9. Other 2023 events**

### **Road Events**

The SW Road Running Championship this year are confirmed as

Sunday Aug 13th Langley Burrell 10k

Sunday Sept 17th Chippenham Half Marathon

Keith has been discussing the possibility of Road relays at the South Devon event on Aug 11th.

### **SW Indoors**

Sonya will follow up on this with Welsh Athletics and Cardiff Met.

### **SW Cross Country**

Need to start sorting paperwork.

**10. AOB.**

Nothing raised

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Next meeting is Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

(Meeting on SWIC on 26<sup>th</sup> July 7pm)

PD/KBR