

Meeting Notes of England Athletics South West Regional Council Meeting held via Zoom on Wednesday 6th September (7pm)

In attendance:

Paul D’Arcy (chair) John Deaton, Keith Reed (Competitions group admin), Charlotte Phillips, David Cooke, Richard Ayling, Sonya Ellis, Elliot Prince, Sarah Massey, Richard Llewellyn-Eaton, Roland Gibbard

1. Apologies

Apologies received from **Brian Baker, Holly Newman, Debbie Brooks and Dave Varney**

2. Welcome and introductions:

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

3. Matters Arising.

Some errors with the attendance and apologies on the previous meeting notes.

4. SW Track and Field Champs

David Cooke has done an extensive analysis of the event (copy attached). In summary it had gone very well with an increased attendance especially in the Senior age groups. We were visited by Chris Jones and Gary Shaughnessy from EA and they had very complimentary. We used a combination of the Jotform and Roster this year. We will need to review this next year. Financially the event had only broken even, so we will need to look at pricing in 2024. We should try and avoid any clashes in 2024 if possible.

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

Some more progress has been made with this and thanks to Sarah for her hard work with Paul. We will need a separate meeting to finalise early in October.

7. EA Update (including National Council report)

Paul gave a brief report the most recent meeting of the National Council and a summary of the recent Council Call. The main topics were the proposed increases in EA fees and the various option that had been circulated. Option 2 seemed to be the most popular. Some concerns were raised but Northern Athletics who charge an addition athlete fee to affiliate to their organisation.

The other discussion was on the age group changes which are under discussions. There are a series of webinars being held which councillors should attend. There seems to be opposition to the changes from many areas including the Schools. It is important to get this right for the good of the sport.

Richard Ayling gave a brief update on EA situation and the Regional Volunteer awards.

The panel met in August. Panel was [names redacted for Website version].

The SW had the highest number of nominations and this made the process of selecting the winners very difficult. This was done and the proposed winners are being checked out by EA as part of due diligence.

The invites for winners and runners up will then go out. We will need to ensure that the venue can cope with numbers.

Apart from the Volunteer awards Richard has been extremely busy helping cover for staff shortages and other issues

The Club Improvement Grants are still available (up to £500). Several were awarded to SW clubs in July with more to be issued for August.

EA is now taking over Coach and Officials Licensing. We need to ensure everyone does update their terms and conditions as their insurance will not be valid after October 1st.

Clubs can be linked in with KUKRI who are the EA kit supplier if they require kit. Contact Richard Ayling if interested.

There is a Coaching Day at Par on 16th September at Par which should be well attended.

8. Conference and SW Volunteer Awards 2023

We did agree to give athlete awards. KR will look at potential winners based on the circulated format with help from other council members.

We still plan to give out the awards at the SW Regional Conference which is being held the same day as the awards on November 11th.

Conference format

This will be need to finalised. There will be a meeting on 27th September to sort via Zoom.

We need to get the date out to clubs, officials and coaches.

9. Other 2023 events

Road Events

Dave Phillips provided a report on the Langley Burrell 10k held on August 13th. There were four counties there:

Cornwall, Devon, Dorset and Wiltshire.

James Higgs and the DB max team organising the race were very supportive and helpful to myself and Emma Stepto of Cornwall who are taking a lead with the championship at the moment. James tells me DB Max will be at the Chippenham Half Marathon on Sunday September 17th. Looking forward to seeing them again then to conclude the competition for this year.

The winners were as follows:

Women

- 1 Cornwall
- 2 Devon
- 3 Dorset

Men

- 1 Cornwall
- 2 Dorset
- 3 Wiltshire

Medals were given out (6 to each)

As you may remember, it was Simon Gilbert of Wiltshire who suggested we use the Langley Burrell 10k and has been generally very supportive of the championship. Dave has suggested asking Simon if he'd take a lead role in coordinating the championship.

Roland Gibbard did have some concern about the long distance from the start to race HQ (over1km)
The next event is on Sunday Sept 17 Chippenham Half Marathon. Keith Reed will be the Race Referee.

The 2023 South-West Road Relay Championships were held on the evening of Friday 11th August, at Paignton, incorporated in the South Devon AC Road Relays.

South-West Championships Results:

- Men: 1. Erme Valley Harriers; 2. Teignbridge Trotters; 3. Torbay Tri.
- Women: 1. Teignbridge Trotters; 2. Torbay Tri.; 3. South-West Road Runners
- Junior Men: South Devon AC
- Junior Women: South Devon AC

Full results of the race can be found at [The South Devon AC website](#).

SW Indoors

Sonya had made progress with this and we should be able to hold the Juniors events within the two open events in December and January. Senior ones to be confirmed

SW Cross Country

Applications has been submitted for our event on Sunday 7th January plus the Somerset Schools on 21st January and SW Schools on 3rd February. Provisional permission has been granted. We will use Jotform for entry again. Fee as 2023. Medals and lanyards have been orders for all 2024 events.

KR to circulate officials invites.

10. AOB.

John Deaton said the UK CAU AGM will be on Monday 25th September

Paul D'Arcy said the Sapphire League had gone well. Trophies look good.

Roland Gibbard is keen to put on Race Director courses for clubs, They need to contact him

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Next meeting is Wednesday 1st November 7pm.

(Meeting on conference on 27th September 7pm)

PD/KBR