

Welsh Masters Athletic Association Minutes for Meeting held at
Leckwith, Cardiff on 26th June 2013

Present	Mel James Eirian Arwyn John Townsend John Davies Rachel Matthews Derek Osborne Cath Alford Helen Cole Robert Eales	Chairman Min. sec
Apologies	Sue Hooper Rob Hooper John Collins Brian Webb	

1.	Opening address	The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that it was really good to see new committee attendees – Derek Osborne (Brecon AC), Cath Alford and Helen Cole (Rhondda AC) and Robert Eales (Newport Harriers).	
2.	Acceptance of Previous Minutes	Minutes of 15 th May 2013 were accepted as a true record. Proposer: John Townsend Seconded: Eirian Arwyn	
3.	Matters arising	<p><u>“Financial overseer” role</u> Hugh Roberts agreed to look through the association’s accounts, John Townsend therefore gave them to Eirian who will pass onto Hugh.</p> <p><u>Field Champs</u> – the committee thanked Cath and Eirian for ensuring there were plenty of officials for the field championships so that the officiating side of things worked out fine.</p>	
4.	Reports	<p><u>Treasurer’s report</u> John reported on the association’s accounts up to bank statement 46, issued 29 May 2013. The balance remains healthy and taking into account the upcoming costs of the website and other outstanding cheques will be slightly down on the balance at same time last year.</p> <p><u>Report from Sue Hooper</u> Sue sent through a written report as she was unable to make it to the meeting. Sue’s report: At present our membership stands at 302 paid up members. As with previous years membership is still “trickling” into me. I have removed all 2012 non payers from the database and BMAF will be informed when they require the next listing for the magazine.</p> <p>The Inter Area entry fee has been paid. Alex from WA has been approached by myself and Eirian for vests and they will be ready to collect by the Thursday prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Website is ongoing and I should have a proof from Kevin to look through very soon, as soon as that is sent Rob & I will look through it and make any amendments before the site goes live. As</p>	

		<p>soon as that is done the old site will be closed. The deposit & hosting fee has been paid and John has issued me with a cheque to pay the balance which I will do once the site is up and running. As soon as the site is online the results will be put on and any other information.</p> <p>After 2 league meetings we have very little in the way of suggestions for a social evening. After speaking to Cath at Swansea the other weekend it was suggested we could have a singer and buffet at Llandaff Club, and as previously suggested by Rob a horse racing evening.</p> <p>In both league meetings we were very short of officials, and unfortunately with only 2 track judges on the finish it is very hard to take down numbers, but all was rectified. As for seeding of races you will be surprised by the number of members who do not know what age group they are in and are not prepared to run against a same age group member who is “better” than them...</p> <p>In the actions 13/02/9 once again an A4 sheet will be placed on the booking in table at Newport for member suggestions. Actions 20/03/8c & 15/05/6a cannot be done at the moment.</p> <p>Would like to thank Welsh Athletics for hosting the 2013 Indoor and Outdoor Championships. There were mixed views on the meetings and look forward to member’s comments and suggestions before any future championships are arranged. Rob & myself are happy to liaise with WA on any future events if need be.</p>	
5.	Correspondence	<p>Rachel was contacted by Charlie Northey of Brecon AC and it appears his membership application had been lost in the post, so Rachel advised him to send through again to Sue. He enquired if it would be ok to take it along to Swansea league meeting and be able to score at that. Query emailed onto Sue H. (Having checked with Derek after the meeting this issue has now been resolved and Charlie’s membership processed).</p> <p>John Davies was contacted by Cat regarding the missing results for the women’s 60m at the Indoor Championships and contacted Darren at WA. John passed Darren’s details onto Cat who will now contact him directly and hopefully get the results on the WA website soon.</p>	
6.	Cross Country International	<p>After the late change of plan to the location for the cross country international things are now progressing well with the new location of Cardiff. The race course will be Blackweir (similar to McCain Cross country course) and the banquet venue is the Holland House Hotel.</p> <p>Coda Rock – band being looked at to perform at the dinner/dance. (committee members to check them out on the internet, Mel going to see them live).</p> <p>Welsh men’s team to be selected by John Collins and Mel James.</p> <p>Officials – Derek Osborne suggested that Brecon officials may be available to help out as they are not marshalling the schools.</p>	
7.	Inter-area T&F selection	<p>Action points discussed with regards to Inter area</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mel to email all the “definites” to check they can make it 	

		<p>2. Mel and John D meet to finalise the remaining places</p> <p>3. Mel finalise who is going on the coach. Eirian let Mel know who from ladies team. If only leaving from Cardiff there may only be one driver needed.</p> <p>4. Eirian asked Rob and Derek if they know of any W50-59 throwers then to let her know.</p>	
8	Website	<p>Following the end of the contract for our “old” website, Sue and Rob are progressing well with the production of a new website by a new company, Greenlane Studio. This will be more modern and functional and there will be access for more officers to update it (Sue, Mel and Rachel). We have asked members to bear with us while the new site is being created.</p>	
9.	Track and Field	<p>Cath Alford reported back from the recent Welsh Masters Field Champs held in conjunction with the WA U17/U20 champs. A number of problems on the day were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The masters throwers were not given 6 attempts. (this was felt by masters competitors as discriminatory as junior athletes were given 6 throws. Unfortunately this left masters with a “bad taste in their mouths” following the competition as they felt they had been treated as “second class”). - Cost of entry when weighed with the overall organisation and the quality of the medals was not justified. - In the end there was an overabundance of officials, we could have done it with less. <p>Committee agreed that for future championships we should look to do on our own. Derek Osborne proposed that Brecon AC could host the champs, would need input re officials, but he feels it is something they could do a good job of.</p> <p>Mel James summed up on track and field champs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consensus is that we should host them ourselves; - Need to appoint someone to go to the fixtures conference Oct/Nov; - Hold the champs as an “open” competition so other British Masters can compete, and - The committee will consider the offer of Brecon to host. <p>Track and Field Sub-committee</p> <p>Following the above discussion the below people volunteered to form a track and field sub-committee to consider matters relating to the track and field league and the championships. As Sue is retiring from the role of track and field coordinator this year, the sub-committee will take on the role of organising fixtures for 2014 onwards and report back to the main committee.</p> <p>Cath Alford Derek Osborne John Davies Rob Eales Eirian Arwyn</p> <p>Action – Rachel send out contact details for sub-committee members to get in touch with eachother.</p>	Rachel Matthews

		<p>The committee wished to express their thanks to Sue Hooper for all the hard work she has put into organising the track and field league meetings and championships over the years.</p> <p>Eirian brought up the issue of Standards: We need to look at how our standards work especially when we have athletes competing with a disability. A competitor did not have a medal awarded as they failed to reach the standard. However the athlete had a disability. This issue needs to go on the T&F subcommittee agenda and also an item put forward at the AGM should we need to change the standards which is a constitutional issue.</p> <p>Action - T&F subcommittee discuss and if need be put forward motion at AGM.</p>	T&F Sub Committee
10.	AGM	<p>It was agreed that the date for the AGM will be Saturday 26 October 2013.</p> <p>Action – Sue Hooper advertise on the website and through masters facebook page.</p> <p>The exact format for the evening was not finalised. Ideas put forward were to have a buffet and social evening directly after the AGM, maximising the number of members attending.</p> <p>Action - The Committee agreed to discuss the format at the next committee meeting.</p>	Sue Hooper Committee
11.	AOB	<p>Diamond Champions awards The Diamond Champions awards, sponsored by McCarthy and Stone acknowledge the dedication of volunteers over the age of 60. Last year John Collins was shortlisted. Nominations are due by 15 September and it was agreed that Rachel will put forward a nomination for John Collins and Mel James.</p> <p>Incentives for joining WMAA Derek Osborne mentioned the possibility of introducing incentives for joining the Welsh Masters as league meetings only £5 per meeting for non members. Action – track and field sub-committee to look into this issue and report back.</p> <p>Bill Kingsbury’s memorial award Cath informed the committee that the award this year had been given to Graham Holder.</p>	Rachel Matthews Track and field sub-committee
12.	Next meeting	TBA – committee to communicate by email to agree next meeting date as members absent from meeting and also holiday season coming up.	

Record of Actions

<u>ID</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Progress</u>	<u>Status</u>
6/10/1d	Mel James to raises the matter of a Welsh 10k Masters Championships to be discussed with Welsh Athletics during a planned future meeting to discuss mutual support between the organisations.		Open
17/10/8b	Mel James to obtain a rough breakdown of costs for the 2013 British & Irish CC International from Bernie Jones		Closed
17/10/8c	Rob approach WA to invite them along to the 2013 British & Irish CC International	On-Going	Open
17/10/10	Committee to discuss venues & dates for social/presentation evening at the next meeting	Now being discussed as part of 2013 AGM arrangements .	Closed
17/10/12b	Rachel suggested the idea of having different featured athletes on the website as an inspiration to other members. Sue to send Rachel relevant contact details. Rachel to contact potential interviewees and produce an article for website	On-going. First interview done, Rachel to continue to do more interviews to expand this section of the website.	Open
28/11/6 (from AGM minutes)	“Financial overseer” required to look through the accounts.	Ongoing	Open
28/11/11	Mel to produce list of queries for WA (e.g. medals at Road & XC events) and Rob to discuss with WA	Ongoing – particularly regarding the affiliation issue.	Open
13/02/9	Sue Hooper to arrange “ballot” box at each T&F meeting to ask members what they would like as a social/presentation evening.		Closed
20/03/3a	Mel to check that the M35-39 age group has been incorporated into WA events, specifically the recent road relays.	Ongoing	Open
20/03/8b	Mel to enquire with Arthur at next Executive meeting as to what events will be held at the Inter-area		Closed

20/03/8c	Sue post recent performances by WMAA athletes at BMAF Indoors and X Country Championships.		Closed
15/05/6a	Eirian to send Sue scores for first league match		Closed
15/05/6b	Eirian liaise with Cath Alford to coordinate officials/helpers for the field champs on 22 June		Closed
15/05/7	XC International plans for Cardiff – race grounds, banquet venue and accommodation. Mel to confirm the race course (Blackweir) and banquet venue (Holland House Hotel) for the XC International. Rachel to assist in sourcing further hotel accommodation.		Open
15/05/8a	2013 AGM – committee to arrange date asap.	Date arranged – Saturday 26 October	Closed
15/05/8b	Inter-area match transportation – Mel to arrange bus.		Closed
15/05/8c	WMAA website – Sue and Rob to liaise with host to discuss options and get the site up and running again asap.		Open
26/06/9a	Rachel email contact details to track and field sub-committee		Closed
26/06/9b	Track and field sub-committee discuss the current WMAA “standards” and report to committee. Any motions for changes to be put forward at AGM.		Open
26/06/10a	Sue advertise the AGM date (26 October 2013) on the website		Open

26/06/10b	Committee agree exact format of AGM and if it will be followed by social / presentation evening with buffet, entertainment etc.		Open
26/06/11a	Rachel put forward nominations for the Diamond Awards for John Collins and Mel James – due by 15 September		Open
26/06/11b	WMAA membership incentives – to be discussed by track and field sub committee		Open