

**UK Members Council Meeting
Sunday 14 July 2013
Athletics House, Birmingham**

Attendance: Lynn Davies
Wendy Haxell
Carol Anthony
Roy Corry
Bill Adcock
Kevan Taylor
Nigel Rowe
Chris Jones
Roger Simons
Leslie Roy
Mike Harris
Keith May
Niels de Vos
Peter King

Apologies: Ed Warner

Welcome & Apologies

LD welcomed everyone to the meeting and said apologies had been received from Ed Warner.

Minutes of meeting 16 February 2013

The minutes of the meeting were approved as a true record.

Matters arising from meeting 16 February 2013

Matters arising will be in the agenda

Chairs Report

Chairs report taken as read

Birmingham Institute – NdV confirmed that it was unlikely to happen during the Rio cycle but hopeful for next cycle.

Olympic Head Coach – PE has now been appointed as Head Coach in Canada for both Olympic & Paralympics. The Council wished him well in his new role.

Strategy – A strategy document is being produced which will be shared with stakeholders, this will cover 3 areas – 2005 – 2012 – 2017 with the overall aim “to be the best Olympic & Paralympic sport”.

The 5 key strategic areas:

- Best TV Events
- Best Participation
- Best Governance
- Winning Medals
- Put on the Best ever World Championships in 2017

The strategy document will be circulated before the Sainsbury's Anniversary Games

Richard Worth has been appointed as Senior Non Executive Director who will replace John Taylor. The Council congratulated Richard on his appointment. The Council also wished to thank John Taylor on his services to the Board.

CEO Report

CEO report taken as read

World Indoor Championships 2016 has bids from 2 cities – Birmingham & Glasgow, a decision on the bidding city will be decided in the next 2 weeks and notified to the IAAF.

British Championships – NdV said he was disappointed that the Championships were not well supported by clubs when athletes are running in club vests. BA added that this was partly due to clubs having other competitions on the same weekend. NdV asked the Council for their thoughts on how to build the support from clubs.

The Council wished to congratulate UKA on the challenges faced post 2012 and the achievements in 2013.

2014 Grand Prix – Ideally venue would be London however this is unlikely, but there is a possibility of Glasgow a couple of weeks before the Commonwealth Games. NdV is hopeful of being back in the Olympic stadium for 2015.

European Team Championship - LD said that the feedback from the European Team Championships in Gateshead from European Athletics was very positive. The Council wished to thank the Officials on their flexibility during difficult conditions due to the poor weather.

LR asked NdV with regards to the HCAF funding for 2014 onward. NdV said that this was still uncertain until a sponsor has been agreed.

Birmingham Diamond League – The Council wished to record their thanks to Cherry Alexander and the TV Events team on the delivery of an excellent Diamond League event.

SMG Reports

Facilities & Health & Safety – BA said the facilities website was out of date. SH to feedback to Michael Hunt to make sure the website is up to date.

UKA 2013/14 Budget

KT presented the 2013/14 Budget to the Council – A copy is attached for information.

Council Election

Vice President – A replacement for Steve Backley has been discussed at previous meeting. LD said that he had met with Jason Gardener since his name was mentioned as a possible replacement. JG will shadow LD as UKA President over the next 12 months. RC asked if JG would remain on the Board, LD confirmed that he would step down from the Board if he was confirmed President but would still attend UKA Board meetings. The Council agreed with JG acting as Vice President and therefore will be omitted from Council elections.

Clubs – BA has agreed to step down; KM & MH will be nominated for re-election. If re-elected, it will be a 2 years term; if someone else is nominated and subsequently elected then this would be a 4 year term. Nomination forms issued, the deadline for nominations is 6 September.

Road Running – NR will remain on the Council as Road Running representative and the Off Track position will be up for election.

LD wished to thank KT & John Temperton for carrying out the election process.

England Athletics – Chris Jones/Peter King

Taken as read – see Appendix I

Athlete Registration – CJ said that over 90,000 athletes had registered so far which is only around 1,000 down from the same time last year. BA asked that the registration process for athletes could be simplified, he felt that the amount of detail required was too much. CJ added that the information was important as this helped when sending communication to ensure relevance, as well for commercial use.

Welsh Athletics – Carole Anthony

Taken as read – see Appendix II

- Swansea has been awarded the IPC European Athletics Championships in July 2014.
- Delivered a successful World Trial Running Championships in July 2013
- Cardiff have been nominated for the World Mountain Running Championships in Snowdonia in 2014

Scottish Athletics – Leslie Roy

Taken as read – see Appendix III

MH suggested that the Club together and Talent ID programmes could be used for other clubs

Athletics Northern Ireland – Roy Corry

Taken as read – see Appendix IV

Coaching Conference 22 September, Neil Black will be speaking along with a number of other UKA staff.

Club Representatives – Bill Adcocks

Taken as read – see Appendix V

Club – Keith May

Taken as read – see Appendix VI

Off Track & Road Running - Nigel Rowe

Taken as read – see Appendix VII

Coaching – Mike Harris

Taken as read – see Appendix VIII

Coach education & Domestic competition strategy on going with the relevant people

Officials – Wendy Haxell

Taken as read – see Appendix IX

WH explained as part of her report about the National Officials List that only ‘active’ officials would be invited and selected for Level 5 Meets (TV Events). She explained that for example a level 4 official would be invited to England U15 Championships; LR asked if other HCAF meets would be the same.

NdV asked if anyone knew if we had the right number of officials needed. WH added that there are problems due to fixtures. NdV asked if WH could look at producing a paper on the challenges.

WH noted that the Officials section on the website was also out of date

Any Other Business

Peter Stanley to present to a future meeting

Active People - PK said that the active people survey is what England Athletics are measured against for funding

BA wished to record the recent death of Matt Fraser who was the last General Secretary of British Athletics Federation

Memorandum & Articles of Association – KT said that for good governance of the sport the need to ensure the Memorandum & Articles are suitable for the business. A sub group of KT, RS & LD to meet to review post the AGM in November

Youth Development League - The YDL is well through the League season during which five main issues had been raised by the clubs which would be dealt with at a “Review & Reflect” meeting of YDL clubs on Saturday 30 November when these matters could be considered and 2014 rules changed if thought necessary. These were:

- League structure and travel distances
- Shortening timetabling set against requests for more non-scoring athletes
- Re-sequencing events.
- Lack of officials supporting meetings from host and visiting clubs.
- Shortage of athletes in certain events (notably steeplechase, 3000 and pole vault) which Mike Heath and I have been discussing with Peter Stanley since June

Date of Next Meeting

Friday 20 September 2013 – 10am Athletics House

APPENDICES

Appendix I

England Athletics Report – Chris Jones

KEY HEADLINES JULY 2013 HEADLINE UPDATE

- 13-17 contract now signed and first payment received.
- Active People Q7 results received during June. Participation down in running 1x30 mins a week but up by 23,000 in track and field showing 2012 impact and effect. Athletics has met its 4 year target for participation during the 09-13 period. CJ to explain more at UKMC.
- 13-14 internal operational plan and delivery budget now in place and driving our local staff work.
- 1ST RUN GROUP held in London 4th June involving private/commercial running providers to drive forward our recreational running strategy over the 13-17 period and to provide an insight function for the running market. CJ to explain more at the UKMC meeting regarding this concept.
- There are currently circa 45,500 Run England members and 2,750 registered Run England groups across England including over 100 registered marked running routes.
- We have secured an additional £35k from the FA to support our inner London Activation project. We are in the process of applying for further financial support from the GLA to complement our existing 12 borough wide activation work. This project delivered 120,000 participants as a result of a focused 2 year pilot project and has now been expanded into the 13-17 period. This model is being used as a blueprint in other major English cities.
- Peter Stanley is now in place having replaced Richard Wheeler as Head of Coaching & Development. Richard has now left the NGB and Peter reports to both UKA/EA boards on coaching. Peter's priorities include completing the UK wide coach education review and in driving forward the joint coaching strategy between UKA and EA.
- 5 event group leads are now in place as part of the joint coaching department cross UKA and EA. These guys are leading our coordinated strategy and are managing coach/athlete development strategies from top to bottom (and are working closely with the respective home country leads)
- The UKA led coach education review continues with advisory panels being set up to input to the process as well as individual interviews and user groups. An online survey rendered circa 2,000 responses thus far. This is due for completion by the early Autumn. EA is supporting this process but it is being led by UKA.
- 100% of the Athletics Network grant panels have now convened across England with an average grant of between £5-10k being awarded in each instance towards delivery of plans. Key activities include running participation, satellite clubs and coach education.
- Each of our 4 area teams has a budget now for coach education subsidies targeted at 14-25 year olds in line with our WSP. Some of this funding is being used to support network plans for education.
- 10 annual consultation events have were held with an average attendance of between 25-50 people at events. Nearly 2,000 online surveys completed and follow up 1:1 interviews are being conducted now with club representatives. 10 meeting summaries published on the EA website for viewing. The focus of the 2013 consultation process was affiliation and governance. CJ to update UKMC on this at the meeting.
- Regional club conferences will be held across England during Autumn/Winter 2013-14. These will be led by our regional councils and local delivery staff to meet the needs of local clubs.
- Planning has commenced for the 2013 National coaching conferences which will be held on 28 & 29 September (28 Leeds and Lee Valley, 29 Birmingham). The theme for this year events will be "pass it on! – mentoring in action" and an increased number of NCDP mentees will be involved to facilitate practical workshop, share their experiences of mentoring and form

new links with local coaches. All UKMC members are welcome to attend any of these!

- Affiliation payments continue to come in for the 13-14 year with 87,000 athletes registered thus far (132k final baseline in 12-13). A further circa 3,000 Under 11s have also been registered during this time (new venture) alongside over 1.3k clubs and organisations (ahead of 12-13 numbers) Athlete Packs are going out at present including promotional offers from UKA commercial partners.
- Regional Volunteer Award nominations and Hall of Fame voting continues with regional award ceremonies taking place from September onwards – our 6th national HOF and Awards evening takes place on 19 October in Solihull. We expect between 500-600 guests to attend this celebration.
- Commonwealth Games standards, selection and appeals process plus an overall project plan have been developed with our management team assigned to lead this work. Many athletes have so far met the A and B standards. We have secured additional athlete development support funding from Sport England and are now looking closely at our requirements for holding camp finance in the lead towards Glasgow.
- We are working with UKA on their own facilities strategy at present and will ensure the EA document compliments and links into this.
- Work on site at Stoke Newington School is underway and the next project steering group is taking place on 6 June. Some issues have arisen over the project costs, which are now approximately £4K over the level of funding that is available. Key partners are aware and this will be discussed and resolved on the 6th, along with details of the opening for the site and finalising of the development and business plans.
- Briefly mentioned above but we are working closely with Sheffield CC / Liverpool CC / Nottingham CC / Manchester CC on specific T&F facility developments in these core cities
- 25 counties registered for grants for their Championships with a contrasting number of requests such as EDM, Photofinish, Technology for officials, clothing and support for officials, promotional and marketing resources etc.. Reports from the events are coming in slowly, the more positive the quicker the reaction time! Expect to have a fuller picture for the next meeting with some recommendations for any future activity.
- June 2-3 saw a “4 in 1” competition take place including EA Senior & Under 20’s CE’s, 42 Senior men entered, (*first time we have put a qualifying STD on a combined events for years!*) Event also includes a cancelled UKA disability event re branded as ‘England Open’ this has attracted 200 entries from over 130 athletes!! Also included were a number of Under 18 qualifying events for the World Youths and finally England will host a Home Countries Throws International, labelled the Alan Bertram Memorial International in Alan’s memory - this has attracted a further 86 of Britons throwers.
- Our national disability champs took place as part of the Midlands Counties track and field champs during June. A huge success.
- Under 20-23 Championships were again a success with numbers holding at the last few years high levels, in fact there were semi-finals for the 1500m’s in the first draft of the timetable! However a poor entry had been recorded on all sprint hurdles. Andy Day is working with our Sprints NCM and Head of Coaching & Development to better understand the reasons for this.
- We ran an educational day for our CCSOs on the Friday before the above Championships with presentations from Peter Stanley, Dave Sunderland and Andy Day, this on the back of the success of the day that was provided for 30 coaches and team managers held before the Loughborough International in May.
- Our senior champs take place this weekend as part of an integrated British Championships
- The ESAA Track and Field Championships were yet again a huge success. EA is funding these for the 13-17 period and continues to work very closely with the England Schools Athletic Federation.

Appendix II

Welsh Athletics Report – Carole Anthony

Welsh Athletics Strategic Plan 2013 - 2017

The plan is now published and available via the Welsh Athletics website. The following link introduces the plan and describes the ambition and objectives;

<http://www.welshathletics.org/news--media/news/news-area/2013/06-june/welsh-athletics-strategic-plan-2013-2017.aspx>

Major Events

1. The bid to host the IPC European Athletics Championships in Swansea in July 2014 was successful and the LOC is now focused on delivery. The Local Organising Committee is comprised of Swansea City Council, Swansea University, Welsh Government, Disability Sport Wales, Welsh Athletics and UKA.
2. A successful World Trail Running Championships was held in Llanrwst on 6 July 2013. Following a rousing opening ceremony at Venue Cymru, Llandudno on Friday 5 July, athletes descended on the picturesque Gwydyr Forest to complete the 77k race. See the following link for details of British success;
<http://www.welshathletics.org/news--media/news/mountain-running/2013/lightfoot-and-mauclair-triumph-in-llanrwst-sunshine.aspx>
3. A green light has been given to bid for the World Mountain Running Championships in Llanberis, Snowdonia in 2015. The business plan seeks to link the WRMA World and Masters Mountain Running Championships over a 7-day festival of mountain running.
4. Finally, Cardiff has been nominated as the UK entry to host the World Half Marathon Championships in 2016. Unfortunately, the IAAF has insisted that the Championships are held in March, which prevents a link with the existing Cardiff Half Marathon (6 October). Initial discussions have been held with Welsh Government and Cardiff City Council to establish the LOC and to proceed with the bid.

Domestic and International Competitions

Following a damp, but successful Under 17 and Under 20 Welsh National Championship in Swansea on 22 June, the spotlight shifted to the capital city for the Senior National Championships on 29 & 30 June and then for the Welsh Schools Athletic Association's National Track and Field Championships on 6 July, part of the multi-sports Gemau Cymru (Welsh Games).

The Cardiff International Sports Stadium will also see the return of the Welsh Athletics International on Wednesday 31 July, a high-calibre international track and field meeting featuring teams from the home nations.

Looking forward, this Championship season marks the start of the twelve-month selection window for the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games, with qualification standards now published on our website.

New Starters

Welsh Athletics are pleased to announce the appointment of three new staff members in Club Network positions.

Jessica Huddleston will be covering West Wales/Dyfed, **Joey Duck** will cover the Glamorgan Valleys area and **Steven Boyles** will look after the area covering South East Wales.

The focus of these positions will be to deliver the primary objectives of the new Athletics Networks - Club Development Plan, to support the growth and development of the sport over the coming years.

These appointments now provide consistent coverage to all 8 school districts in Wales.

Appendix III

Scottish Athletics – Leslie Roy

1. Board members recruitment.

With the resignation of Julia Bracewell from the Board of scottishathletics we went public with an advertisement and had an excellent response. The chairman and CEO met with 5 candidates who stood out offering some very strong skills and experience that would add to the current board strengths. From this scottishathletics will be offering a position on the Board to two people.

2. **Athletics Inspires 2014 – Talent ID.** There is funding from Scottish Government as a follow up to the Cashback funding we have previously utilised. This programme focuses on schools especially, with a specific Talent ID programme. scottishathletics' aim is to create and deliver an innovative and exciting programme in order to identify and develop pupils with potential who are not currently involved in the athletics club structures, the ultimate aim to identify young potential who could become next generation of international athletes along with those currently in the system. We will focus on power events (endurance reasonably well taken care of) and every one of the 376 secondary schools in Scotland were invited to send along 3 male and 3 female S3 students who are not currently involved in an athletics clubs with 350 applicants being tested over week beginning 10 June in regional centres and a further 100 being identified through schools T & F championships where clashes existed.

Athletes who are identified based on the tests below will be supported to work with an experienced coach who will be able to facilitate their development and will also be part of a national programme with National Talent ID Gatherings where they will have the opportunity to speak with, spend time with and be mentored by International athletes. Those not selected will be invited and directed to a specific contact within their local athletics club.

Tests will identify talent in the power and speed events including:

30m sprint / Standing Long Jump / Overhead Shot / Batak Board / Three Spring Jumps / Cricket Ball Throw

3. **G2014 Officials.** All officials for the Glasgow Commonwealth Games have now been identified. The names are now being forwarded by G2014 to IAAF for ratification. It is also important to recognise that an appointment to Glasgow Commonwealth Games is not a reward for long and dedicated service - it is to perform a key role under pressure and with the World watching.

4. **G2014 Test event.** It has taken time for G2014 to be in a position to discuss the options of a “Test Event” ahead of the Glasgow Commonwealth Games. We have been pushing the concept on a number of fronts – Hampden Park is a temporary venue which brings some unique challenges and a test event maybe the only occasion that athletes other than the CG competitors get to experience competing at the venue – a potential memory for life for some. There will be further discussions but we are optimistic that the Scottish Schools Athletics Championships will be deemed an appropriate Test event. SSAA are in support of that proposal and concept, and have also got the understanding that if it does happen, then there is likely to be aspects that will change from the norm – in order to meet the test event requirements. This event should give many young people the chance to compete at the same venue as Jessica, Eilidh and Usain – a once in a lifetime for many. Eight members of G2014 Staff visited the Scottish Schools Championships at Grangemouth on Friday 7 June – to look at that event and get a real understanding of how it would act as a test event. Those discussions were positive, and we expect decisions later this summer.
5. **Club Together Programme.** Consistent with our annual business plan, we have “gone to the market” seeking interested clubs to expand the Club Together Programme if funding is secured via our partners sportscotland. Timing is good, in that we seek interested parties as we published the year’s figures – very impressive in terms of RETENTION of athletes, coaches and volunteers. These figures are on our website – the story is added to the back of this report since the figures do mark this programme as being extremely successful.
- We have received interest from 12 clubs in joining the Club Together programme from later this summer, and the detail is currently being worked up to ensure successful “business cases” being presented for support to sportscotland Regional Partners. We would anticipate this reducing to 9 or 10 for presentation to sportscotland.
6. **Emirates Arena – Winter dates and approach.** There has been extensive discussion and dialogue with Glasgow Life regarding the booking and management of the Emirates Arena for the winter 2013-14. Those discussions build on the experiences of the winter just gone. Nigel Holl has led the dialogue regarding bookings – on behalf of not only scottishathletics, but also Scottish Schools, the Universities and Colleges, and the Indoor League. Those discussions have resulted in a confirmed winter timetable – integrated with Basketball and other sporting events using the arena. Work continues with clubs to seek their commitment to the venue – regular bookings rather than waiting for inclement weather.

Appendix IV

Athletics Northern Ireland – Roy Corry

Corporate Issues

Finance & Risk

Annual Accounts y/e 30 September 2012

Approved at AGM 20 March 2013

Management Accounts 6 months March 2013

While income increase against budget so too did expenditure leaving a £2.5k shortfall against budget with a £7.6 loss

Sport NI -Equality Standard

Satisfactory progress on information gathering from Board & Staff, audit of relevant policies and procedures.

Sport NI - Management & Audit Governance

Advised that we have maintained our substantial rating. This is the highest level possible and avoids onerous financial vouching procedures. Four year partnership agreement signed April 2013 –March 2017

UKA Report

Commercial Rights proposal approved. UK in process of revisiting their strategic priorities. Pare down the range of their direct operations leaving the Home countries more autonomy in delivering the agreed strategy. Schools will be directly effected on funding from UKA.

Youth Advisory Committee Proposal

Presentation made by Andrew Minnis for ANI to replicate that similar to UKA and more recently Scottish Athletics. Agreed in principle but work has to be done on term of reference and funding.

Commonwealth Games 2014

Method of recruiting second coach for Glasgow 2014 discussed and approved.

Mary Peters Track Opening

Official opening 23 May 2013 and unveiling of statue by Dame Mary assisted by Lord Coe and Lord Mayor with. Children & International events arranged.

BCM Management Contract

Belfast City Council advised us of our successful bid. Contract will commence 1 August 2013.

Professional Staff

Athlete & Coach Development

It was noted there had been a number of pleasing results during the early summer months. From the athletes perspective several initiatives were introduced. These included Soft Tissue Massage, Physiology, Athlete Support Programme, Field Event Initiative, Talent Development & Youth Academy

Coaching & Club Development

1. Coach Education

UKA Courses completed with final assessments

UKA Tutors meeting held with UKA Coach Educators, we have 9 tutors of which 2 are Regional Trainers & 4 Coach Assessors

Elevating Athletics – UKA will no longer fund Teacher Courses. ANI will still deliver same to Education Library Boards

Coaching Networks – Tom Crick will attend next Sprints network at the end of August
Coach Mentoring Programme. Pilot programme took place Oct 2012 – March 2013, review of same will initiate new mentoring plan.

2. Development Initiatives

30, 40, 50 Club Cross Country League will be delivered in 2013/2014

Startrack schemes will be delivered by Active Community coaches.

Tesco Great School Run organised awaiting confirmation date.

3. Club Development

Club Mark scheme seven clubs accredited

Athletics Club networks progressing well.

4. Welfare

Safeguarding Children & Young People in Sport new course scheduled September 2013

Linda McGibbon continues to deal with any ongoing issues.

5. Active Communities

Catherine Crawford (Club & Coach Development Officer) will liaise with Active Communities programme and the coaches.

6. Coaching Conference

Saturday 21 September 2013 University Of Ulster, Jordanstown

With top UK Professional Staff participating

New Northern Ireland Records

Linzi Herron Long Jump 6.13

Ben Reynolds 110m H 13.49

Appendix IV

Clubs – Bill Adcocks

As always the period since the last UKMC has been a very busy one on a number of fronts. The rumblings of the eligibility of some athletes from the winning team in the ECCA Cross Country relays and the ERRA National Road relays created much concern, so much so that at the General Committee of the ECCA on 13 May a proposal was discussed and voted on to restrict the number of Foreign Athletes that a club can have in its scorers for the team Championships at the English Nationals. A number of proposals were considered and finally it was carried that a maximum of one foreign athlete would be able to count for a team. This does not preclude a club entering as many such athletes as it has registered. There was a feeling that the option that no Foreign Athletes could score should have been an option but as this was not on the order paper, amendments on the day were not allowed.

The English Road Running Association were in attendance at the ECCA meeting and will consider the situation for their relay championships.

It is anticipated that the ECCA will be making a proposal re foreign athletes for consideration by the rules revision group for inclusion in the 2014 rule book.

It has to be said that all of the above would not have taken place if rule 5 (6) had not been amended for the 2012 edition of the rule book. By taking out the requirement for a residency period prior to a competition because as it stood it was difficult to administer interpretations of the rule crept in which were against the ethos of the rule.

On the same matter of foreign athletes there has been the on-going situation arising from the disqualification of the winning team in the North of England Men's 6 stage Road Relays last October. Without attempting to revisit the whole situation, it has to be said that Clubs are not happy that the reasons why the final outcome was a reversal of the event referee's original decision have not been put in the public domain.

The much lauded Youth Development Leagues will have completed for the lower age groups by the time of this meeting, with the upper age groups having one fixture to go. It has been an interesting exercise but not without its problems. These will vary from club to club but it will be interesting to see the outcomes of any end of season appraisal. The main problems could centre around travel distances and times, duration of the meetings, officials and the condition of some of the facilities.

On the first point consider Notts AC UAG Midland Premier 2 – travel to Yeovil - round trip 406 miles and total time 7 hours plus for a meeting starting at 1015 and finishing at 1755. Notts again LAG Midland Premier 1 – travel to Cardiff – round trip 318 miles and a total time of 6 hours for a meeting starting at 1100 and finishing at 1700. It might be considered that this is one particular club but I would not think that this type of situation does not apply to other clubs throughout those involved.

Some facilities appear to be struggling with the upkeep and it shows. In the Midland League (seniors) the first meeting for division 3 was cancelled because the track to be used did not have a valid certificate. The track in question now has a certificate (B grade) and a YDL LAG meeting took place with two events not taking place due to the certificate not sanctioning them and another event not covered by the certificate, taking place.

On the matter of track certification the UK website information on this matter is somewhat out of date for some items.

Appendix VI

Coaching - Keith May

Some concern was raised over the change of date of the County Championships, with many fearing that it would mean a drop in entries. This, in general, does not appear to have happened and some Counties actually showed an increase in entries. The increase in entries seemed to have mainly come in the younger age groups. This may of course have come as a result of the increase of interest after the Olympics.

I attended the two England Athletics consultation seminars held in the South East. It was interesting to hear the diverse views of people attending and many of those attending were positive. The full feedback from all the consultations has now been released.

The Youth Development League has now had three rounds with good support for both the Lower Age Group league and the Upper Age Group league. The Upper Age Group league timetable was sensibly amended after the first fixture, after feedback received from Clubs. This new timetable was for Clubs outside the Premier Divisions. This has reduced the length of the meeting by approx. 2 hours, which has made a huge difference to the Clubs affected. It will be interesting to see the feedback from Clubs at the end of the season.

Appendix VII

Off Track – Nigel Rowe

runbritain:

Race Director Courses:

Since the last Members Council meeting an Accredited Race Directors Course has been held in Birmingham and two Intermediate Courses held in, Scunthorpe and Crystal Palace.

Road Race Licence Applications:

We have seen the introduction of the flat rate fee for affiliated clubs of £25.00 introduced and an increase in the banded fees for other organisers. As a result a lot more money remains within the road running club structure. Wales has adopted this and the appointment of Event Adjudicators.

Licenses to date stand at 1,337 (total for last year - 2,013)

We currently have 295 races using the online entry system (total for last year - 325)

We now have 285 Event Adjudicators covering 296 roles (some work in more than one region)

Over 35,000 have claimed their Handicap Scores

Grand Prix: After 3 events the standings are;

	Position	Name	Points
Men	1 st	Nicholas Torry	729
	2 nd	Kevin Rojas	704
	3 rd	Shaun Antell	660
Women			
	1 st	Katrina Wooton	799
	2 nd	Annabel Granger	702
	3 rd	Martha Hall	668

All current hosts have shown an interest in staging 2014 Grand Prix.

Website: This was re-launched on 1 May after many delays; most of the inherent problems have now been ironed out. Thanks to Gavin Lightwood and Adrian Thiemicke for all their sterling work during this process.

Race Organiser: Also launched within the website makeover is a new tool for race organisers, a fully integrated mapping and reporting system.

Surrey County Council: Having attended a meeting with John Temperton at the request of Surrey County Council to discuss events on the highway, it is pleasing to report that they will ensure that all road running events will need a UKA Road Running Licence. We also agreed to work more closely on a monitoring system to identify other events not currently hold our licence and will also input into their Event Organiser Guide, currently in draft.

Rules: The Technical Group will be putting forward a number of changes to rules and seeking the inclusion of an Endurance Appendix that will cover the roles and responsibilities of officials, and definitions (disciplines) etc.

UKA Endurance Advisory Group:

A couple areas of work currently being undertaken;

Definitions – This is providing a clearer understanding of road, multi terrain and trail events definitions.

Officials Handbook is in final draft, this will cover road running and cross country elements.

Michael Hunt is providing a Health and Safety paper as a result of recent incidents at races; this will include participants taking supplements.

England Athletics:

Run England – Number of Groups stands at 2,313

Number of Runners stands at 47,303

Chapter 8 Courses – Are continuing on a regular basis and a new 4 year contract for these and refresher courses are being agreed. Accreditation for this will be added to UKA Officials Accreditation.

Commonwealth Association of Mountain and Ultra distance Running:

No tenders have been received to stage the 3rd Championships in 2015.

Ultra Distance Running:

Ricky Lightfoot GB took 1st Male at the 4th IAU Trail World Championships held in North Wales on 6 July, in a time of 5:36:03 (75km).

Appendix VII

Coaching Mike Harris

Since my election some six years ago, the area of coaching has been pivotal to UKA strategy.

In my experience (i.e. since 1980 when Max Jones passed me out as an Assistant Club Coach) it has never had a higher profile.

The emphasis on coach development has been the right thing to do and I have personally seen the evidence of this from the Masterclass programme & international conferences right down to the Local Coach Development Programme, which continues to develop.

The area of coach education has trod a more difficult path and is currently the subject of an independent review. Much work has been done on this but more still needs to be done and this area is currently a main agenda item at home country level. Aside from logistical problems such as cost, tutor quality & availability, course dates, etc, where it is always going to be difficult to satisfy every individual, the main focus has to be on the coach education syllabus and it's structure.

Throughout this period, there have been probably three key players heading the coaching strategy; Callum Orr initially ; and then Kevin Tyler & Richard Wheatear until recently. What is now required is further stability.

I was on the interview panel that lead to the recent appointment of Peter Stanley as Head of Coaching.

Peter is a well-respected coach at all levels, who knows the domestic scene very well but who has a massive area of responsibility. He has already listed his priority areas but with his role as leader of the England Commonwealth Games team and his additional area of domestic competition strategy, it will require some monitoring to ensure focus & direction is maintained.

I have offered to meet with Peter to discuss domestic competition strategy in particular as this area still has a lack of direction, strategy and vision and is plays a key part in coach development.

This season I have attended UK League matches (including Edinburgh with 3 – 500 spectators for Jess Ennis's planned appearance), Upper & Lower YDL matches, Northern League matches and the European Team Champs, all team competitions.

I have also attended championships, Grand Prix and other individual events.

Without doubt the most enjoyable are the team competitions, from a spectator point of view and, I would argue, an athlete's point of view.

It is clear that such competition is crucial to the athlete development pathway, and, therefore, the coach development pathway but this has not always been acknowledged by the coaches who contribute to the domestic competition pathway. These coaches are outside the club system as they are mainly focussed on elite athlete development – their views are needed but not as strategy setters.

I look forward to discussing this with Peter

Appendix IX

Officials – Wendy Haxell

Education

A deadline for Health and Safety has been issued so that regulations regarding long throws will be fully enforced.

After 30 June 2013 any official at level 2 or above (Track judge, Field judge, Timekeeper, Starter, Starters Assistant, Photofinish Judge) that has not completed the health and safety module would only be able to assist a qualified official **until** they had completed the Health and Safety course

A new record of experience has sent out to all officials with instructions on its use depending on the official's level.

Level 3 questions are now on the website and have to be submitted and marked before any application can be considered.

Education coordinators are likely to be appointed for each region.

Summer fixtures

The England Combined events with some paralympic events was a success. The general atmosphere was enhanced by the additions.

The European Team Championships was hailed a success despite the weather. Opportunities are still being given to develop officials in major roles.

Statement from European Athletics President Hansjörg Wirz

The bar has certainly been raised at these excellent European Athletics Team Championships in Gateshead.

We are very happy to see how the people of Gateshead and the North East have embraced these unique national team championships.

The stadium has been packed out rain or shine with spectators who have created a memorable atmosphere over the last two days. It has been great to see such a historic sporting venue as the Gateshead International Stadium provide excellent facilities where the athletes could compete to the best of their abilities.

We have received very encouraging television audience overnight figures for Saturday's coverage on BBC One, with an average audience of 1.6 million, peaking at 2.4 million, with a 14.5 percent market share.

The passionate fans at the stadium and the millions watching at home have showed how well received athletics is in Great Britain, and that the momentum that our sport picked up during the London 2012 Olympics has been maintained.

The organisation of the championships has been excellent. We believe that the organising committees of the Braunschweig 2014 and Cheboksary 2015 European Athletics Team Championships will go away from this event inspired and motivated by what they have seen to replicate the success of these European Athletics Team Championships.

Dear colleagues,

A quick note (as I've had a few) to thank you so much for your amazing work in Gateshead.

Due to EA's requirements to show case 'Round 4's', this event is, without doubt, the hardest on the annual calendar. Having to hit a junction every minute or so is pretty tough and yet, across two days, we managed to showcase every field event with the exception of one javelin throw. An astonishing performance, particularly with a couple of monsoons to deal with.

It was noticeable that EA put out a press release within minutes of the end of the event which stated that Gateshead had set a new benchmark for the team Championships. Much of this is down to you guys.

*Still, we can't rest on our laurels. We are all back in action in 6 days time in Birmingham. So mark it down as a good job done and let's continue to show everyone that when it comes to EP, there is, as they say in Highlander, **only one**.*

*Andy Kay
Event Presentation Director*

Meetings

Keith Davies, Chris Cohen and I also met to look at the structure of the national list for the future. A proposal was put to TAG in May for inclusion from 2014.

I was delighted to act as Master of Ceremonies for both the National conference and WIWA. (50 Officials from 32 countries will attend the first ever Women in World Athletics Seminar (WIWA) being held in Solihull and hosted by British Athletics and European Athletics.

The initiative, which forms part of the British Athletics Annual Officials Conference where an additional 200 officials were in attendance, was a key part of the bid for the IAAF World Athletic Championships in London in 2017, and has been designed to develop the legacy of women's leadership and officiating in athletics, in preparation for the Championships, as well as increase the involvement of women in sport at all levels and in all functions and roles. Partnered by UK Sport and the IAAF Regional Development Centre in Moscow, the seminar will be held annually in Britain for the next four years.)

Arrangements for officials

There needs to be greater coordination between UKA and CSE as sometimes travel arrangements have been made which do not link in with briefing meetings for chiefs.

Shadowing has been taking place in preparation for the Commonwealth Games.

Website

Officials find it very frustrating that the website is not updated. More information should be put on there as some people do not attend the conference where a lot of extra things are spoken about outside of the workshop content which is on the website.

Chiefs cannot find out the latest list of officials if there is no updating.

The use of EXTRANET is very good as it gives up to date information to the chiefs.

IAAF

Physio tape has been sent to IAAF for clarification on rules. This tape has words and logo which as a strip on clothing would be illegal. The current feeling is that the tape is also illegal and feedback so far has corroborated this view.

DBS

New licensing arrangements are now in place which means the applicant has to notify UKA by sending their certificate in when they receive it.