

UKMC
Friday 30 November 2012
UKA, Alexander Stadium

Attendance Lynn Davies
 Mike Harris
 Keith May
 Roy Corry
 Carol Anthony
 Roger Simons
 Leslie Roy
 Wendy Haxell
 Chris Jones
 Kevan Taylor
 Carole Anthony
 Ed Warner
 Bill Adcocks

Apologies: Peter King
 Nigel Rowe
 Niels de Vos

Welcome & Apologies

Apologies received from PK, NdV& NR. LD told the meeting that HC had stepped down after 4 years on the Council, and will try and find a suitable replacement. LD congratulated Paula Dunn & Peter Eriksson on their appointments as Paralympic & Olympic Coach respectively. Congratulations to Keith May on his award for "Services to Athletics" at the England Hall of Fame dinner and Seb Coe who was inducted into the IAAF Hall of Fame at the Gala Dinner in Barcelona.

Minutes of the minutes 5 October 2012

With the addition of the acknowledgement of KT's presentation of the 2012 accounts at the last meeting, the minutes of the meeting 5 October were approved as a true record.

Matters arising from meeting 5 October 2012

The Matters arising were covered on the agenda.

WH & RS commented that the Officials section in UKA website was hidden in the competitions section and difficult to find.

CEO Report

Taken as read

EW explained why NdV was unable to make the meeting today due to meetings with Commercial Sponsors.

EW went on to explain the new British Athletics brand which will be launched at the Glasgow International Match in January 2013.

EW gave an update on the recent performance restructure and confirmed the positive feedback received on the appointments of Peter Eriksson (Olympic Head Coach) & Paula Dunn (Paralympic Head Coach).

Olympic Stadium – It is unlikely that the Olympic Stadium will be available for athletics until 2016 if the re-opening of the stadium takes place in 2015 for the start of the football season. A final decision is expected early December.

2017 – The IPC World Championships is looking to be confirmed as London in the near future, two weeks following the IAAF World Championships.

AGM

The minutes of the AGM meeting held 26 November 2011 were approved.

2012 Financial Statements

Approval of Report and Financial Statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2012. The Council agreed unanimously.

Appointment of haysmacintyre as the auditors of the Company for the year to 31 March 2013 and delegate agreement of their remuneration to the Board of Directors. The Council agreed unanimously.

Risk Register summary to be circulated at the next UKMC meeting in February. **Action:** KT

HCAF Reports

England Athletics – Chris Jones

OBJECTIVE	HEADLINES
WSP Submission Summary 13-17	Final delivery plan document has been submitted and we now await decisions (hopefully by 15 December latest) We attended the latest 2 day Sport England development directors forum alongside other NGBs and we managed to network with a number of SE staff who were positive about our position and aware of broader activities and developments taking effect within the sport at the moment – commercial, affiliation et al. We continue to progress well against our core performance indicators outlined in the 12-13 operational plan however the transitional nature of where we find ourselves at the moment as an NGB provide challenges in abundance – affiliation, WSP, commercial and key personnel change typify this. Communication regarding WSP outcome will be produced in December and relayed.
Running	30,363 registered members at 2 November with 1422 registered groups in place. A further 3k members being uploaded at present by CSPs as part of the running pilot involving 24 county sports partnerships. Next Active People Survey due in December which will analysis participation in running for the last 6 months. Road race license fees announced to the sport – favourable feedback from clubs on low road race license fee. Searchable 3-2-1 marked routes to be added to EA website in the next few months. Market research study being planned with SE and led by Anna Gray, the new community programme manager (replacing Alex Copeland) as part of our commitment to SE in the WSP to develop a greater and more informed understanding of the running market and customer insight to inform activator placement and programme design from 1 April onwards. Anna`s role will be fundamentally important in underpinning our recreational programmes including running – especially should we be successful with our “top up grant” of £5m from Sport England for running specifically. Youth pilots continue with a report due at the end of the year.
Athletics Networks	<u>Clubs</u> No change to network report from last month`s board update in terms of the number of funded networks – 46 have now received year 3 funding from EA. 2013-2017 Network “Funding Menu” (on successful agreement of funding from Sport England) has been developed and is currently being consulted by a select group of proactive volunteers (in-confidence). This will be aligned to SE outcomes and will go live from April 2013 onwards. Anna Gray has been appointed as Community Programme Manager replacing Alex Copeland starting on 12 November. She will lead our club development and recreational programme work moving forward but her short term priorities will include leading a market research and

insight study relating to running and our investment in this area working alongside Sport England to inform future activation role out.

Schools

Rumours continue that govt will be making further announcements on funding into School Sport during late November/early December focusing on primary schools. No further update on this at this time. Quadkids continue to plan school games activities and events for summer 2013 with Sportshall winter delivery underway as well. We are working with UKA to understand what the commercial support to schools activity will look like in 2013 but it is not clear. Managing schools relationships will need to be considered given our investments in ESAA and with bodies such as QK and Sportshall. QK and SH are out of contract in early 2013. ESAA have agreed to terms of grant for 2013.

Three disability CAADs were delivered in October (and start of November) and two CAADs were cancelled. CAAD delivery is now finished with the DASO team focussing on follow up support to athletes, clubs and coaches.

-2 AVIVA Parallel Success Coach and Athlete Talent Introduction Days have taken place with 7 coaches and 40 athletes attending. 7 further days are planned between Nov and March. Helen Pearce returns to work as our national disability lead on 4 November with Liz Purbrick reverting back to her South specific DASO role but retaining line management for the other 2 area staff through to the end of March.

Field Teams

Summary of progress against core objectives

- Over 450 coaches have benefitted from Flying Coach visits so far this delivery year
- 62% of coaches on the LCDP are now linked to a mentor from the NCDP
- In the last month delivery of LCDP events has kicked in with over 400 coaches attending events across the country.

6 monthly club and coach survey results have now closed with the final results as follows:

- 136 of 185 coaches asked have completed the LCDP survey
- Average satisfaction rating from coaches for CCSO support is 91% (M&SW = 88% / North = 96% / South = 88%)
- Average satisfaction rating for LCDP events is 85% (M&SW = 82% / North = 88% / South = 85%)
- 73 of the 98 tier one clubs have completed the survey
- Average satisfaction rating from clubs for CCSO support is 89% (M&SW = 90% / North = 91% / South = 85%)

Regional Awards

- 5 events have now taken place across the Midlands and North with the final 4 events due to take place in early December. So far over 250 guests have attended the events. Some excellent work took place through the North team to provide video footage on the night for the NW and Y&H
<http://www.englandathletics.org/news.asp?itemid=10357&itemTitle=North+West+region+award+winners+caught+on+film§ion=000100010002001300020001>

Other information...

- Madeleine Smith has resigned her post as CCSO for Essex (including Metropolitan Essex) to move to Australia. Her last working day will be 14 December. Given the changes to the South area with four CCSOs having parts of their areas move into the London region, discussions have begun with Bob Smith with a view to the recruitment process and interim arrangements from January to end of March.
- Women's coaching forum (Y&H) workshops taking place including an evening with Jenny Harris. Women only LiRF and coaching assistants course are planned in the New Year. A women's coach development day will take place on the 16 February at Leeds Met University.
- Paul Mosley is working effectively in the North in the pilot FT tutor role and is currently looking at a flexible approach to delivering the coaching assistant course in the North West, a pilot Diary Support Workshop is being delivered in Manchester in Dec and a support workshop around planning and youth development that will link directly to the Children's Coach course is being delivered later this month
- A programme of club development workshops has now been released across the M&SW area with sessions ranging from coach manager training to welfare training.
- Midterm reviews have now taken place for all CCSOs and Team Leaders
- NE Regional Council consultation evening has taken place involving wider partners (CSP's, Leisure Trust and FE/HE) in order to resurrect the council, encourage wider membership and start the regional planning process. Work is ongoing with South East and East Regional councils to evolve a regional plan for both areas which can be used to localise the 13-17 WSP and further promote the work of the councillors. Both councils have had one council meeting discussion on the content and format with further meetings planned for November (SE) and December (E). A similar approach has taken place in the EM and WM. The EM councillors are all involved with some local consultation through networks and counties, whilst the WM has a consultation event planned in late November.
- As referenced in the recreation strand of this report below, discussion is ongoing with all core cities and some progress being made as we work towards a smooth transition for the delivery of our 13-17 delivery plans. We will be involved with a pilot project in

Leeds to co-ordinate the work of all NGBs who have highlighted Leeds as a priority city. Birmingham are looking to appoint an athletics lead officer within the City Council. We are working with Bristol City Council to appoint part time activators in the city to deliver some pilot activation work that will also link into work being delivered through the Doorstep Sport Club programme. A meeting with core cities and Sport England will take place on Monday 12 November involving athletics and 3 other sports to accelerate some of this work

Recreation Lon RUN! circa 90,000 participants with 13,000 doing weekly activity delivered by 253 trained coaches. Funding negotiations ongoing with GLA and boroughs to extend beyond 2012-13 with commitments in place in nearly all boroughs. Further GLA funding information being relayed to NGBs at present with application due in during early Spring. Discussions with cities underway and AthleFIT pilot project plan continues – AthleFIT and LIRF courses both now REPs approved with skills active (register of exercise professionals) which will help leverage with the leisure sector. Some local authorities employing part time AthleFIT coordinators within their leisure centres. John Skevington has provided a report with this paper. Anna Gray will now lead this programme working alongside John in the coming months to develop the implementation model. We attended a priority cities summit on 12th November with Sport England and 3 other NGBs to discuss partnership working.

Facilities Michael Hunt has started as UKA facilities development manager taking over from Peter Sutcliffe who has retired. SE have been involved in his induction programme. Grant offer of £100k has been received from Sport England for the facility pilot in Hackney London. We should hear from the London Marathon Foundation regarding a further grant application we have made imminently towards this project. This is a blueprint project for work in other cities that we wish to progress. We have actively responded to ongoing facility issues in Mansfield and Weymouth in the last few weeks. We are actively engaged with the priority cities in 9 of the 11 areas to date, specifically discussing activation and facility development as priority. A number of city authorities are using our facility plan and asset transfer guide to shape planning at a local level. £27.4K has been secured through Sport England to fund the transport costs of Olympic and Paralympic equipment to 10 clubs across England.

Competition & Teams

- Commonwealth games leadership group appointed on an interim basis with Richard Wheeler, Peter Stanley and Andy Day managing this process until further notice. It is our intention to publish standards by 1 January 2013.
- Senior Champs will be integrated into a larger UK Champs event in 2013 – this decision was not taken lightly and is taken with the intention of boosting area level competitions, reducing congestion in the fixture calendar, lowering standards in the trials to allow more athletes to enter (with extension of the Friday) greater commercial appeal, better use of finance and in recognition of the last 3 years feedback on EA senior champs (bear in mind that there is a high % of the current

athletes in the trials who are English and that Scotland/Wales and Ireland are effectively the size of areas/regions making England/UKA unique in that facet and in relation to the pathway. This is a one year agreement that will be reviewed for 2014, especially given that 2014 is Commonwealth Games year. AAA trophies and our partnership with AAA to continue to be a key feature of the event with full EA brand presence in title and at venue/on BBC etc... details are being worked through now.

- Positive 2nd meeting with the CAU and county association representatives concerning an EA and County partnership that will take effect from 2013 onwards.
- Indoor Entry forms produced - C.E.'s on-line entry now open, entries already in double figures!
- Agreement with BMC to hold a number of events on 2nd day of Senior CE Champs in Sheffield 6 January
- Agreement with AAA's to hold a Pink relay on first day of Age group CE's, 2 March.
- Meeting with BCC and MCAA to produce a number of 'corporate' athletics challenges at NIA for local businesses
- Successful EA 10 mile Championships , incorporated into the Great South, Portsmouth, full report on website
- Small team compete very well at Plymouth 10k, Highlights include event record by England's Matthew Hynes as well as top 3 finishes for all the England Women.
- First group of 16 athletes compete at the weekend as England Cross Country
- 2013 road championships agreement to include events into uk Grand Prix series. Half Marathon will move from Wilmslow where it has been successfully run for the last 4 years to the larger race at Reading. Looking to move the 10k champs the other way geographically from Bristol to Leeds.
- We have agreed a full U20's team to defend the Celtic Cup at the end of the Indoor season as well as a select senior side at the same meeting. Website announcement next week.
- We have agreed an under 20's select T&F team at the Welsh International in July and hope to increase this to 3 teams and tie selections into Area championships
- Kevin Tyler departure means EA needs to work closely with UKA to source a suitable replacement to ensure continuity in this area of work. CJ is engaged in this respect. Continuity in this role is fundamentally important and an interim solution is being looked at.
- Enclosed with this paper is two respective reports for members – they are a review of the NCDP and a 2012 coaching conference evaluation report. Both pieces of work are useful and provide insight to inform our work in these areas moving forward – both are positive in terms of the work delivered to coaches.
- Over 250 coaches attended the European Sprints Conference that EA and UKA have recently hosted thus re enforcing our growing reputation for hosting major coaching events of this

Coaching &
Talent

kind. 43 coaches are receiving direct support from the DASO team as part of an integrated LCDP programme

- Planning process looking at the future of LCDP conferences after several years of success is well underway, particularly focussing on LCDP/NCDP links which are critical
- Huge amounts of resource are currently being released to a very positive reception, particularly online via the Ucoach platform
- Ucoach Share launch successfully run and website being accessed prior to the hall of fame event with over 50 coaches being present to contribute material to this facility.

Winter programme continues, with major events recently run around all event group

- 41% of the conference workshops (12 workshops) involved NCDP mentees as deliverers or co-deliverers.
- Income generated from bookings was £11,200
- 187 evaluation forms were completed representing an overall response rate of 53%
- Overall Satisfaction Ratings (out of 10)
 - North - 7.5
 - Midlands and South West – 8.0
 - South – 8.1
- 98% of coaches attending would recommend the conferences to other coaches

The following workshops were delivered in October:

- Disability Awareness Evening- Southampton AC
- An Introduction to Wheelchair Racing-Warwick (SW & Mids LCDP)
- 6 further LCDP workshops are planned between Nov and March

Member
Engagement

We are still receiving a significant level of responses with regard to the Affiliation package for 2013 both via phone, posted letters and email. These have eased slightly in volume but these are still coming in on a daily basis to the team. I have written response letters to around 12 clubs who have taken the time to write asking for further explanation and to outline their concerns. This is taking a lot of time to manage but it is fundamentally important. 3 open consultation sessions are organised for 30 Nov, 1 and 14 December for clubs in the North, Midlands and South respectively to enable them the opportunity to input to affiliation discussions and review in line with AGM commitments. Significant traffic in Athletics Weekly to which we have responded in specific cases.

Work on the new Trinity Club and Athlete portal continues, “Digital Morphsis” are leading the project work and utilising FSI as a back up to this process. IT have invited three Club Secretaries from Birchfield, Cambridge and Coleridge, Shaftsbury and Barnet Athletic Clubs to look at the proposed enhancements and to provide feedback/suggestions to enable improvements to be made whilst it is

still being developed. This took place on 16 November and we hope that this will also prove that the process to affiliate athletes is not going to radically change for the worse, which appears to be the consensus and if anything will be more streamlined. We must remember that the process deployed is the same process that we have operated for 6 years now but with some improvements to the functionality. Clubs have been using this approach for the duration of the EA affiliation scheme.

The Affiliation Project Group is meeting regularly to ensure that all streams are on track to bring together all aspects of the launch of the new affiliation scheme.

Affiliation for this year remains buoyant 120,000 registered athletes to date, over 7,000 up on last year.

Education

Sportscoach UK have begun work on their review of our coach education programme with a final report due in December to inform our work moving forward. This study looks at strategic planning of courses together with delivery mechanisms currently deployed and benchmarks these against other NGB approaches.

Event Name	Courses Run	Courses Budgeted
Athletics Coach / CiRF	23	27
Athletics Leader	27	24
Children's Coach	2	3
Coaching Assistant	38	48
Elevating Athletics	26	33
Leadership in Running Fitness	97	120

Officials Education from the end of September onwards has received a large number of course requests, these are in the majority ad hoc requests and we are requesting that course request forms are completed (which brings Officials in line with Coach Education) just to ensure that the course requester knows the information required / lead time and sets out expectations allowing Cheryl to manage her workload rather than keep reacting to different requests.

Course figures up until the end of October:

Event Name	Courses Run	Courses Budgeted
Health & Safety	17	24
Level 1 Assistant Official	24	40
Level 2 Courses	14	29
Level 2 Endurance	1	8
Risk Assessment	1	7

We have arranged an Officials Forum which will take place on Sunday 2 December at Athletics House and have 45 confirmed

attendees. All 3 area official`s conferences will be funded by EA in 2012 in the three areas with circa 200 plus officials attending these in total – a pattern replicated for the last 3 years.

Coaching Education Inclusion- with the support of the other home countries, UKA and home country disability federations, with the added opportunity for re-print due to AVIVA sponsorship being withdrawn the group is on track to review all leader, assistant and coach level courses by the end of January. This will ensure from April 2013 we have an inclusive coach education system with a 'golden thread' of disability throughout. It will be important to underpin this learning through further LCDP workshops etc.

Education Coordinator Training- Inclusion training provided for the EC team directly in relation to their roles and linked to supporting guidance

Communications

The Hall of Fame and National Volunteer Awards night was held on 27 October with good attendance representing a wide diversity of the sport – circa 400 guests. A report on the event as well as details of the new Hall of Fame inductees and Volunteer Award winners went live the same night. The event was covered over three pages in the following week's Athletics Weekly.

More information on the changes to affiliation and membership was added to the website on Thursday 1 November addressing a number of frequent queries that had been received and suggestions made by a volunteer working group. Some of this reflected information also provided at the AGM.

Regional Council election process begins imminently with details being promoted far and wide to stimulate greater interest and response from potential volunteers wishing to stand for election.

With the support of Ray Morgan a new website section for the UK CAU was launched on 5 November at

www.englandathletics.org/ukcau and

www.englandathletics.org/counties.

Other recent event coverage has included the England Athletics 10M championships and ECCA English National Cross Country Relay championships.

STP magazine due out at the end of November and then a further edition of the officials magazine For The Record is due out a month later.

Welsh Athletics – Carol Anthony

Strategic Plans 2013 - 2017

Work continues on the strategic plans for submission to Sport Wales in December.

The following documents will be reviewed and represented:

- a. Athletic Networks - Club Development Plan. To be extended to articulate the WA response to the Sport Wales strategies on Community Sport and Child Poverty.
- b. Progressing Coaching for Performance. To reflect the coach development and athlete support programs through to 2014.
- c. Off Track athletics. An overall plan which will link to Athletics Networks, mirroring the Run England model delivered through the local activators.
- d. Run 4 Wales Business Plan, the vision for event management.
- e. Governance Self Assurance. Delivered to Sport Wales on 5 November as a condition of future funding.
- f. Competition Review. To be concluded by December.

WA must submit all strategic plans and an application form to Sport Wales by 14 December.

Welsh Schools Athletic Association

A good dialogue has been maintained with the objective of signing a service level agreement for 2013 – 2017.

This will commit both parties to the shared ambition of:

“Offering every child in Wales the opportunity to take part in athletics activities; to run, jump and throw”

The aim is to agree the terms of the SLA by 14 December.

Run 4 Wales

This year’s Lloyds TSB Cardiff Half Marathon was a resounding success:-

- More than 18,000 people entered in 2012, a 20% increase on 2011
- Stunning course featured Cardiff’s most iconic landmarks
- More than 40,000 spectators lined the route
- 800 Charities were represented
- More than £2.2 Million was raised for good causes
- Runners from 35 countries took part
- Event records were set in the men’s and women’s races
- Elite field featured top world runners, Olympians and a Commonwealth Champion
- TV Highlights on Channel 4 and then shown across the World
- Race attracted more than 30,000 visitors to Cardiff
- Huge online presence with race trending in UK

Governance

The 2012 Welsh Athletics Annual Report, entitled “Golden Opportunity” is now available on the homepage of the WA website, www.welshathletics.org

At the AGM on 27 October, the following leadership roles were agreed:

1. Carol Anthony is now Chair of the Board of Directors, for a term of three years.
2. Two new non-executive directors were also appointed for a term of three years.
Sally Jones-Evans, Group Operations Director at Lloyds TSB and Angharad Mair, Executive Director at Tinopolis plc, an independent media company.
3. Lynette Harries now assumes the role as Chair of the General Council for a two-year term.
4. Joyce Tomala was appointed as General Council Secretary for a two-year term.

The following committee secretaries were also appointed:

a. Track and Field	Sue Sayer
b. Cross Country	To be agreed
c. Mountain Running	Arwel Lewis
d. Road Running	Paul Brooks
e. Trail Running	Matt Ward
f. Officials	Derek Crowder

5. The following task group leads were confirmed:

a. Progressing Coaching for Performance	Gwyn Williams
b. Athletics Networks	Chris Moss

Scottish Athletics – Leslie Roy

1. Staff

Stephen Maguire (Performance Manager) has made an excellent start and is quietly being noticed and appreciated by people that count.

Mark Munro (Development Manager) and his team are producing some stunning resources, and creating change where it matters – at a local level; our partners – sportscotland can't stop talking about the impact being made by scottishathletics at the moment.

Peter Jardine and Sue Gyford (Communications Team) have changed the way we communicate, and the negativity in that area has (almost) gone.

Joining the team on the 10 December is **Billy Mitchell** to head up jogscotland and Recreational Running. Once Billy joins, **Dawn Allan** (Finance) will be the only member of the senior management team who precedes Nigel Holl at scottishathletics. That turn-over, uncomfortable maybe at times, has brought a cracking team together, and the positivity and output is a start of what can be delivered over the next few years.

The challenges will not go away easily..... G2014 – the expectation of medals and performances at world level, retention of young people in clubs and helping them get there from schools. Legacy – creating a bigger impact off G2014 than London2012, impacting wider on the health of our nation, and putting athletics at the heart of every sporting discussion / opportunity in Scotland.

2. **IFAC, jogscotland conference & Annual Dinner.** A credit to all involved in the planning and delivery of the pretty complex weekend of the 26/27/28 October. It should also be recognised that the National Cross Country Relay Championships were held on the Saturday as well – a pretty manic, but ultimately productive and positive weekend.

IFAC has previously caused some financial concerns however whilst there may be a “loss” against the event, that loss is much reduced on last year’s figure, and is in line with expectations. Indeed, considering the number of Scottish coaches involved across the weekend, it is a relatively small investment.

There has been discussion about whether or not IFAC would remain in Scotland as Frank Dick has been talking to other potential hosts. Nigel Holl is in dialogue with Frank and others to retain it in Glasgow for 2013 and maybe 2014 (as a final year – post G2014), on the condition that even more of the programme links in with and integrates with our programme of coach development for Scottish coaches. This is gathering pace currently, and IFAC must not cut across that as a stand-alone. As a conference, it is different in context, but speakers and practical session must align sufficiently to ensure consistency of message. If that is agreed, then the proposal will be to retain it in Glasgow for at least the next year..... and maybe a post G2014 finale in October 2014.

3. **Club Together and future club investment options / possibilities.** The Club Together programme is producing figures that are causing ripples throughout not just athletics! Dramatic numbers of new volunteers, coaches and athletes – ahead of the Olympic Tidal Wave addressing the capacity issue in clubs head on. Sportscotland, and other sports here in Scotland are looking at them and are jealous!

There is a word of caution across those figures however. They are stunning, but until they are maintained and those numbers of volunteers and coaches (over 400) are retained for long enough to have an impact the jury will still be out. It is hoped that as other sports copy our model (which they surely will), that lesson is heeded..... strong, clear management and leadership is actually the most essential ingredient.

4. **Equality Strategy and Standard.** scottishathletics achieved the Foundation Level of the Equality Standard for Sport in June 2010. Sportscotland have recently appointed new consultants (Plan4Sport) to work with Governing Bodies to achieve the next level – in our case the Intermediate Award. Previously this has been mentioned as a condition of Investment Funding, although it is currently not mentioned in our Investment Contract with sportscotland.

Key to this Level, is being able to demonstrate positive actions in the right areas, matched against the Award criteria. A target of submitting evidence for the next level award by the end of April 2013 has been set. Ambitious maybe, but this needs to be progressed.

5. **Commonwealth Squad re-selection process and outcomes.** At the last scottishathletics Board meeting the process for the Commonwealth Squad review was

outlined and discussed. That process has now concluded and athletes and personal coaches are all currently getting 1:1 phone calls advising them of the situation.

Perhaps most positively out of this process has been two new approaches. The first has been the inclusion of a number of para-sport athletes who are on track to represent Scotland at the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Previously any support for these athletes was directed through our partners at Scottish Disability Sport (SDS). It is more appropriate that these athletes are integrated within our wider system and approach, and benefit from consistent challenge and support. There is no doubt that Stephen Maguire's Paralympic coaching pedigree has assisted greatly here, although the principle pre-dates Stephens's involvement (back to the integrated Commonwealth Selection standards and policy).

The second change and refocus, has followed detailed discussion with sportscotland Institute of Sport, and an analysis of the support that athletes have been receiving, and from whom. This has resulted in three tiers being introduced within the Commonwealth Squad but rather to enable a more individualised approach to be adopted, and understood with our partners at the Institute.

This approach, together with a number of "squad" programmes – altitude; middle distance; relays etc starts to develop a more detailed context for delivery of the Performance Programme support. Stephen Maguire is managing this very well in early days in post, and the indications from athletes and personal coaches are very positive in terms of "buy-in" and engagement.

Most positive of all in Performance Terms – the joined up thinking and work with UKA as the new structures emerge. Very positive and encouraging.

Athletics Northern Ireland – Roy Corry

Corporate Issues

Finance & Risk Report

Annual Accounts year ended 30 September 2012

Will be presented in draft format to the board 19 December 2012. Indications reflect a loss of £1.5k compared to profit of £4.1k in 2011 and a budgeted break even.

Annual Financial Budgets y/e 30 September 2013

Will be presented to the board 19 December 2012 but Treasurer advised difficulty in estimating the level of SNI funding 2013/2014.

Staff Personnel Movements

Clare McCoy (Marketing & Comms) will leave 30 November 2012.

Replaced by Joanna Mulholland previously Admin Assistant.

New Admin Assistant Stephanie Foster joins us 1 December 2012

Vicki Kennedy has gone on maternity leave with Catherine Crawford acting up from 1 December 2012 as Coaching & Club Development Manager. This will result in Laura Kerr moving into the role of Talent Development Coach.

Dean Adams appointed Active Communities Coach (Antrim & Newtownabbey) as cover for Laura.

Welfare Policy & Procedure

Vicki Kennedy addressed the Board on the present arrangement of the Coaching & Club Development Manager acting as Welfare Officer being unsuitable and not good practice. Potential conflict of interest does not permit her to deal with welfare issues with a level of detachment. Proposed that contact should be made with agencies to assist in recruitment of same with an annual retainer of £2k

World Police & Fire Games

Further meetings with the Organising Committee has assisted us in our programme for the co-ordination and delivery of Athletics Events in August 2013.

Mary Peters Track Upgrade

Work on the track almost complete and hand over to Belfast City Council should be in December 2012. Facility Management tender process will start in December 2012 and close 11 January 2013 with successful tender notified early February 2013.

Coaching & Club Development

Coach Education:

UKA Courses: commenced September 2012 and will continue to March 2013.

UKA Tutors: all 9 tutors have been accredited plus Elaine Grant approved as Regional Trainer bringing us up to 2.

Elevating Athletics: Courses: delivered from Sep through to Nov to Education & Library Boards, and Universities.

Coaching Conference: held Sep attracted 120 coaches. Thanks to UKA for assistance.

Coaching Networks: Scheduled for 2 pa for each event group:

Alan Richardson delivered Pole vault, Jump Drills & Plyometrics session. Network held for selected coaches after the session on Q & A basis.

Throws workshop held November with Malcolm Fenton covering Hammer & Discus
Sprints workshop to held 1 December 2012 with Nick Dakin

Endurance network is scheduled for January 2013

Coach Mentoring: Programme commenced 13 coaches linked to a mentor with some coaches linked to UKA mentor & others linked to national mentors.

Development Initiatives:

Schools Cross Country League: Started October 2012 with 85 schools participating with 2nd round in December 2012.

Aviva Star:track Schemes: Delivered in 6 areas, however unable to deliver in Belfast re MP Track upgrade. Sportshall scheme delivered Halloween in Antrim by Active Communities Coach.

Club Development:

Club Mark: 6 clubs received accredited Clubmark status. Another 10 clubs registered and are currently going through the process.

First Aid: Course delivered October with reserve list currently being progressed

Active Communities:

Currently 5 coaches in position

Athlete Development

SINI: Nine Athlete & Coach reviews have been completed, plus further meetings regarding service level agreements.

Four athletes to be added this month.

Progressing several projects on with SINI on nutrition

Progressing incorporation from SINI ref Youth Academy

Soft Tissue Massage:

Service continues to be beneficial and well received by athletes

Physiology:

Plans well advanced for endurance altitude camp

Athlete Development continued

Field Event Initiative/ Mentoring:

Continuity envisaged with programme & projects to begin in December

Talent Development:

Several series of tests carried out in school & selected athletes for the Rising Stars programme. Well received and better buy in from athletes. Youth Academy programme well advanced, will be rolled out in December 2012.

Promotional Issues

Athletics NI Annual Awards

Will be held 21 November 2012 at Athletics House, Mary Peters Track, Belfast. A finger buffet with liquid refreshments will be provided. Categories to include:
Clubs, Volunteers, Officials & Coaches

Competition

Age Groups Cross Country Championships

Successful two days competitions held in October/November attracting in excess of 2,000 competitors.

Athletics NI 10k Road Race Championships

Successful competition well organised event by Willowfield T Harriers attracting 930 competitors held 17 November 2012.

Volunteer Representatives

Club Representative Report - Bill Adcocks

Since the last meeting the winter activities for a large number of clubs and their members have moved into full gear.

After the cancellation of the ERRA 6 and 4 stage Road Relays, due to be held in Sutton Park, quick action was taken to find a new venue, Clumber Park, near Worksop. The event went off well although with a somewhat reduced take up of clubs. This was a credit to those who found the location and set it up, the officers of the ERRA and the officials who stepped in to ensure that the event went ahead in the usual manner.

The first fixture of the winter's McCain Cross Challenge took place on 28 October in Bristol.

The ECCA Cross Country Relays at Mansfield went ahead as planned on the 3 November with a near record number of entries across the ten races. Mansfield remains a popular venue for this event but a cloud hangs over the location as the relationship between the Trust who looks after the park and the resident athletics club, Mansfield Harriers has broken down. This has meant that the club is without a home base and its existence is on a precipice.

A week later in England many cross country leagues had their first fixture of the year and the size of the fields did not disappoint. The major leagues have been highlighted in Athletics Weekly over the last few weeks which has given a good backing to this area of the sport which appears to be in rude health numerically. This is good news as it is traditionally the breeding ground for track distance and marathon runners.

Over these events two problems have arisen, to my knowledge, both relating to UKA rules:

- a. Rule 3(1) relating to Club membership and the termination of membership from the athlete's First Claim club. Prior to this year the rule required that the transfer was only effective once all outstanding dues to the Club have been made. This usually related mainly to outstanding subscriptions. This has now been changed and the rule states that termination shall only be effective once all outstanding **tangible assets** of the former Club held by the athlete have been returned. **Tangible assets** do not include alleged money owed in unpaid membership by an athlete to his / her club, therefore clubs can no longer hold onto any paperwork presented by athletes wishing to change their first claim club until these outstanding fees are paid.

In my opinion this is nonsense as it means that athletes can, in the vast majority of cases, just walk away from their existing first claim club without any sanction whatsoever.

- b. Rule 5 – Foreign Athletes (U20 and Senior athletes). Prior to this year Foreign Athletes, temporarily or permanently, resident in the UK who , providing that they have been registered with UKA and have been resident in the UK for a minimum of two months prior to the date of the competition can compete for a First Claim UK Club

The latter requirement has been removed but no definition of temporary residence given. This has been interpreted recently as enabling a foreign athlete being able to fly in, compete and fly out. This is surely totally against the ethos of the sport.

Both of these rules and their wording need urgent reconsideration if fairness and consideration of most of those in the sport is to be restored.

The other major item that has hit clubs is the intention of England Athletics to increase athletes' registration fees by 400%. It is not felt by many clubs that this can be justified although EA have attempted to do this with no breakdown of their expenditure which at £8.75 million in the last year is beyond comprehension to the average club member. To compound the problem a proposed structure of payments will create a nightmare of administration for clubs and their volunteer workers/officers. Track and Field athletes are in the minority of those in the sport yet are being asked to pay the most. I feel that the whole concept will prove divisive in the sport. Comparisons with other sports have been made to justify the increases but athletics is a very complex sport in terms of demographics and disciplines. As a result comparisons are irrelevant.

Club Representative Report - Keith May

I attended a meeting with England Athletics and with other representatives from Clubs to discuss England's way forward with the future funding of Networks. This was a very useful as it looked at how networks would be able to apply for funding and what criteria would be applied. The meeting also discussed the increase of affiliation fees, and although it was agreed that the increase was necessary and in line with fees which other home countries charge, there was a suggestion that England could have put costs against the services that

they provide so that Clubs could see on what the money was being spent. Unfortunately I could not attend the England AGM but I understand that discussion that took place at the meeting was mainly positive and there were several constructive ideas coming from it. I am hoping to attend the Club Forum that England is holding in the South in December and it will be interesting to see what comes from that forum and the other ones being held in the North and the Midlands.

Coaching - Mike Harris

U Coach facility is a success – 500 coaches regularly use it, 2000 weekly, 8000 monthly from a total of 15000 active coaches.

Still a challenge to place the huge amount of content required onto the website but feedback is good. NCDP coaches are also using it.

Coach education courses i.e. Leader, LiRF, Coaching assistant seeing large numbers attend.

Athletics Coach & course delivery monitored on an on-going basis.

Professional coaches now based at Loughborough. Essential to maintain link between performance coaches & coach development. Also liaison with competition department.

Event development now being moved down to EA staff i.e. Tony Hadley.

Richard Wheeler currently covering Kevin Tyler`s role until a permanent replacement is appointed.

Officials – Wendy Haxell

Olympics/Paralympics

Officials who worked at these events have been invited to a dinner by UKA. I know that many officials have appreciated this gesture and have accepted.

Education

I attended the Education subcommittee and all courses are being reviewed, the lists of tutors are being updated. This may take over a year to complete.

Several level 2 courses have been cancelled by England Athletics as numbers do not make them financially viable. There are concerns being expressed by COFSECS and local organisers. It is important that these courses run if we are to maintain recruitment of new officials.

Winter fixtures and upgradings

Appointments for officials at national meetings are in hand and will go out within the next few days. Upgradings for new officials to the national list are being processed and the list of level 4 officials is being reviewed as level 4 relates to managerial duties and is valid for 2 years.

Meetings

The Recruitment and Retention committee met this month. I await any information from this.

I will be attending the TRNG meeting with peer groups on 25 November and the Home Countries Forum on 26 November.

Off Track - Nigel Rowe

Run England:

1478 Groups

31,500 Members

runbritain:

UKA Road Race Licenses issued 2012: 2003

Number of organisations using online entry system: 320

Race Handicaps: 29,000

- Recently staged a series of road shows covering runbritain and Run England topics
- Road Race Handbook will be published online later this month
- Additional Race Director material in the form of Fact Sheets will also be published on the website

UKA Endurance Advisory Group:

- NI still not represented on this body
- Age Groups across road running, trail, cross country and fell running discussed.
- It was agreed to put forward suggestions for the inclusion of an Endurance Appendix in the next Rule Book Revision
- There is a need to compile definitions of endurance disciplines
- The percentage distance permitted off an acceptable road running surface, needs to be addressed
- The Worlds Trail Race championship will be staged in Anglesey in 2013.
- Wales are also bidding for the World Mountain Running Championships to be staged in 2015

Commonwealth Association of Mountain and Ultra Running:

Sanction has been received from Commonwealth Games Federation to stage another championship in 2015.

A Championship Proposal Document is being prepared

Options –

- South Africa and Gibraltar have shown some early interest.
- With Wales bidding for the World Mountain Running Championships there may be scope to combine events, if not then the Commonwealth Championships may need to be staged in the spring of 2015 rather than the autumn.

International Reports

Nothing to report

Any Other Business

2013 UKMC dates – The dates for 2013 were agreed:

Friday 15 February – 6-8pm & Saturday 16 February 9.30pm

Sunday 13 July – 9.30pm

Friday 4 October – 10pm

Friday 29 November – 10pm

Vice President – The Council discussed the role of Vice President and agreed that the role should go to an open recruitment. **Action:** LD to prepare a job specification for the role of Vice President.

Date of next meeting

Friday 15 & Saturday 16 February – Crowne Plaza, Birmingham (followed by dinner on Friday evening)