# UK MEMBERS COUNCIL MEETING Saturday 1 July 2017 UK Athletics, Athletics House, Perry Barr

- Members present: Jason Gardener President Donna Fraser – Vice President Myra Nimmo – England Athletics Chair Leslie Roy – Scottish Athletics President Carol Anthony – Welsh Athletics Chair Roy Corry – Athletics Northern Ireland Treasurer Tony Clements – Celtic Nations Clubs Representative Keith Reed – Senior Coaches Representative Wendy Haxell – Senior Officials Representative Nigel Rowe – Road Runners Representative Lawrence Clarke – Athlete Representative Mike Harris – Clubs Representative
- Observers: Richard Bowker UKA Chair Niels de Vos – UKA CEO Kevan Taylor – UKA Finance Director Jonathan Orr – UKA Chief Financial Officer Nigel Holl – UKA Director of Strategy & Partnerships Sarah Coffey – UKA Executive Assistant Sue Banks – Minutes

#### Welcome and Apologies

There were no apologies.

JG welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular, new members Mike Harris and Jonathan Orr. JO explained his previous role before joining UKA in April. JG congratulated Richard Bowker for confirmation of his role as UKA Chair and thanked Ed Warner for his 10 year service to the organisation.

JG thanked members for attending the dinner the previous evening.

#### Minutes of the meetings held on 17 February 2017

The minutes of the two meetings held on 17 February 2017 were approved as true records of the meetings

#### Matters Arising from the meeting held on 17 February 2017

The website information for Officials was raised and NH confirmed that this had been actioned and was still ongoing.

With regards to Road Runners, NH confirmed that the Risk Awareness was ongoing and still yet to be resolved.

CA confirmed that the present WA Endurance Programme used by Welsh Athletics would be shared with others as the general opinion was to see where this would be applicable elsewhere. She confirmed that Matt Newman (Welsh Athletics) was working on talent development work.

### President's Report

Report taken as read.

# **Code for Sports Governance**

JO presented his report that had been circulated in advance of the meeting with the following additional comments:

- Although there were some changes to be made as a result of the need to comply Code, many items could be considered as current best business practice.
- There were five main principles of good governance to meet (Structure, People, Communication, Standards and Conduct, Policies and Processes).
- Timelines are tight with a deadline of full compliance by no later than 31 October 2017.
- The Directors have the ultimate responsibility for the long-term success of UKA and therefore it was key that it was also the ultimate decision making body.
- Increased transparency, accountability and engagement with all stakeholders were important elements of the Code that would need to be carefully considered by the UKA Board.
- The Members Council had a key role to play as sounding board, a forum for debate and as ambassadors. NR questioned the structure item with regards to the length of time a Director stays on the Board and JO confirmed that this would be addressed in the proposals to be presented at the next Members Council meeting.

JO completed his presentation by saying that he would appreciate any ongoing dialogue and suggestions from Members.

RB confirmed that today's presentation was an indicator of the key issues and an outline of the process to be followed. Nothing final would be decided today.

Discussion took place regarding some of the key items where UKA was not currently compliant with the Code. JO confirmed that the draft proposals would be brought to the next UKMC meeting well before the October deadline. Members felt it useful to look at other sports for comparison – JO would pursue this. **Action: JO** 

# UKA UPDATE

# CEO Report

Report taken as read.

2017 ticket sales are very good, second biggest after London 2012 with 30,000 (at the moment) for each session and could rise to 40,000. Also very successful for IAAF Championships with 60,000 sold for one night, more than any other Championship ever.

JG questioned whether the attacks in Manchester/London had any impact on ticket sales. NdV replied saying it appears to have but it was difficult to know at this stage. Security was important so this had pushed up the cost of the events but because the stadium is cut off from vehicle access NdV stated that you were extremely safe within the stadium.

NdV confirmed that the 2019 season plans were being developed and discussion was ongoing with TV broadcasting.

# Finance and Governance

KT confirmed that UKMC elections need to take place for new members – a Celtic Nations representative, a Club representative for a discipline other than Track or Field plus a replacement for KR (Coaches representative) who is at the end of his four year term. Discussion took place regarding whether there be two separate elections or one, bearing in mind that this needed to be done before the AGM. Concerns were made as to the lack of people putting themselves forward for the Members Council despite many improvements to the application processes over the years. Members agreed to keep the process as simple as possible by voting once (all three at the same time).

JO then presented the Annual Budget for the year to 31 March 2017.

### Vice President's Report

Report taken as read.

DF added that she had been on a visit to Belfast with NH prior to their 24 hour Championships. DF confirmed that UKA support for this event had been greatly appreciated.

#### VOLUNTEER REPORTS

#### Coaching Report – KR

Report taken as read with the following comments:

- Clubs not always understand coaches role. NH stated that messages were going out to clubs and Coach Education and Coach Qualifications were fundamental in the process.
- Need to encourage young athletes to have a multi event approach. A suggestion from WH was something that made this clear on the website when they clicked 'Getting Involved'. NH felt this could be a good idea and he would investigate this. Action: NH

#### Clubs Report – Celtic Nations - TC

Report taken as read with the following comments:

• Scottish final will take place on 29 July not 31 July as stated in the report.

- Registration of athletes causing some issues some registered, some not (different between England Athletics and Welsh Athletics).
- Concern regarding Officials' capacity more of an issue because of clashes of fixtures. NH confirmed that this was being brought up regularly and we have huge challenges to change the calendar. WH stated that this was also part of her report where she had made some suggestion regarding the clashes and demands on Officials. JG asked if Officials had a quota number of events that they could officiate in a year, linked to health and safety concerns which have featured many times in UKMC reports. This discussion to be taken outside of this meeting. Action: NH

# Clubs Report – MH

Report taken as read. MH also felt that we could progress with the competition structure changes.

#### Officials Report – WH

Report taken as read with the following comments:

- WH was concerned about the safety issues regarding some track facilities. MN confirmed that this issue had been recognised and there were now 12 support managers out working with the clubs, so there should be some progress made with this. NH felt that it may be useful for Michael Hunt (Facilities Manager) to provide us with an update.
- WH reported that online reporting still an issue NH agreed to sort this outside of the meeting. Action: NH
- A query was raised by WH regarding Sunday night accommodation for Officials. She felt it should be offered free of charge if the Officials travelled over a certain distance. NH agreed to look at this. Action: NH
- WH extended her congratulations to DF on her recent speech she gave at the WIWA.

#### Road Running and Off Track Report – NR

Report taken as read.

# Athletes Report – LC

LC confirmed the excellent news of the newly formed 'Athletes Commission'. This consisted of 9 members (current and former international athletes) being nominated to forming the Commission with the purpose of ensuring athletes voices are heard.

LC continued to express some concern for many athletes who have for various reasons terminated their athletic career and because this has been their only focus for many years, do not have another career to fall back on. He questioned how a duty of care should be put in place for the athletes once they were finished in the sport. The Athletes Commission would hopefully be able to help with this going forward. A suggestion could be an internship/partner with a business.

LC confirmed that he was engaging with some members of the Athletes Commission but he was happy to discuss further with any of the Members Council. MN suggested one option

was to look at degree apprenticeships that the Government were promoting. Further discussion took place and JG thanked LC for his passion regrading this.

# HOME COUNTRY REPORTS

# Scottish Athletics – LR

Report taken as read.

### Welsh Athletics – CA

Report taken as read with the following comments:

• Thanks to JG and RB for attending the recent Welsh Track & Field Championships.

#### England Athletics – MN

Report taken as read with the following comments:

- Through some re-structure the EA team now have a different way of working with the clubs.
- Manchester International event on 16 August MN offered her gratitude to JG and his Olympic 4 x 100 m Relay team for coming together for this event.

#### Athletics Northern Ireland – RC

Report taken as read with the following comments:

- Working well with schools membership has grown.
- Appointment of Jackie Newton as Director of Coaching and Athlete Development

#### Any Other Business

DF confirmed that the process of nominations for the Athletes Commission had been extended so if anyone knew of anyone who may be interested, the deadline was 26 July 2017.

JG wished the team and organisation every success for the Para and IAAF London World Championships.

#### Date of Next Meeting

Friday 15 September 2017

# **Presidents Report**

Thank you all for agreeing to move the UKMC meeting to Saturday.

Today's meeting we welcome Richard Bowker as the new Chairman of UK Athletics following Ed Warner stepping down following 10 years serving our sport. Ed, will still remain the Chairman of the London 2017 Championships. I am sure this Council would like to take this opportunity to thank Ed for his longstanding services and also wish Richard all the best as he takes charge leading our sport into a new era.

I would like to draw your attention to a very significant item on our agenda which will require our full attention. The new Code of Sports Governance requires a number of changes to our constitution. For UK Athletics to be compliant and meet the Code and continue to receive public funding from UK Sport and Sport England our Articles will require a number of changes. Changes required are to <u>remove the Council's power</u> to appoint and remove the Chairperson of UK Athletics, approving the appointment and removal of other Board Directors amongst other changes! Jonathan Orr, recently appointed as the new Financial Director to replace Kevan Taylor will be delivering a presentation on the Code of Sports Governance and its impact. Jonathan has included papers for us to come fully prepared to question, challenge and consider.

It was a pleasure to be invited by Welsh Athletics to join their excellent 100 year celebration of Welsh Track and Field Championships.

With the World Para Athletics Championships literally in front of us I am sure we look forward to hearing from Niels on how final preparations are coming along for both Championships.

I appreciate that there will be a number of Council members who will be involved with duties at the World Championship Team Trials and will want the meeting to keep to schedule.

I look forward to seeing you the night before the Council meeting where we have a dinner arranged at the Crown Plaza Hotel.

Jason Gardener President

#### UKMC – Vice President Report – 1 July 2017

#### General

#### **Mental Wellbeing**

As a <u>Heads Together supporter</u> (the Royals' mental health charity), a lunch and learn session was delivered for employees at UKA HQ to promote the importance of open conversations about mental health. The nature of our sport involves a lot of pressure on both athletes and employees which could lead to mental health problems. This event was supported by MIND, The Priory Group and England Athletics and was well received. The plan is to deliver a breakfast session at Loughborough for the athletes working with Jen Savage, Sports Psychologist and develop bitesize sessions for employees at HQ.

#### **Women in World Athletics**

I delivered a speech at the WIWA in May which was a 5 year programme as part of the London 2012 legacy to develop women in athletics. As this was the last planned event, I have approached Paula Gowing who is in talks with the IAAF to see how this can be continued. If this is not taken up by the IAAF, I think UKA should take this forward to develop women in leadership as part of our equality and diversity agenda.

#### **Performance Lifestyle**

I have a passion for the welfare of our athletes post athletic career and as we know not all athletes will become a Jess Ennis, so it is important that athletes understand and access the excellent service provided. I was amazed when I met with Julie Smith, EIS Senior Lifestyle Advisor to hear that the take up for £750 per year per athlete was minimal. This concerns me and I think this is something that needs more communication via coaches as some athletes want to focus on their performance and not post career.

#### #17MinutesFor Me

I am supporting their online challenge #17MinutesForMe, with filming and photography that highlights the fun and freedom of the challenge. Filming took place at my local club Croydon Harriers with young athletes and the footage will be used in emails and online to promote the challenge, to encourage people to get involved and take 17 minutes of exercise to improve their mental wellbeing.

#### Equality, Diversity & Inclusion update

#### **Right to Play**

I've been working with Joanna Kwasniak who leads on the partnership with Right to Play to see how we can explore more opportunities to work together. We are collaborating with their Women's Network to deliver an event around Role Models and Mentors, which resonates with both organisations. The event will take place either in February or March during International Women's Day with a purpose to empower women and share inspiring stories.

#### **Stonewall Rainbow Laces**

Stonewall is a charity which campaigns for the equality of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people across Britain. One of their campaigns is Rainbow Laces which is to make sport everyone's game. The UKA communications team are working with them leading up to the trials, working with athletes who are supportive of this campaign. Aside from this, David

Brown, Welfare Officer and myself will be working with them and potentially sign up to become Diversity Champions, where we can access their advice on any LGBT issues within our sport.

# Equality Standard in Sport – Advanced Level

I have now spoken with all the Home Country E&D leads to inform them of the approach to submitting a collectively as a sport. A meeting is scheduled in September with all the leads, UK Sport and Sport England to understand where we all are and discuss a plan of action together.

#### AOB

#### Philippa Roles

I attended the funeral of Philippa Roles on 5 June representing UKA and as a fellow athlete. A letter of condolences was sent from Niels and a donation to her chosen charity Cats Protection was arranged. I believe Welsh Athletics would like a meeting introduced in her honour.

# UK Members Council Coaching Report June 2017

#### KPI 1: Win more medals to inspire the public

With the World Championships just around the corner there are some positive signs that we may win medals. There have been some good early season form showed by many but not by all. We are in a bit of a transition period with many of our more established stars having retired or about to. We need to be patient and give the new breed time to gain experience without too much pressure. Our athletes in the IPC event will, I am sure, dominate once again and this has been a real success area.

#### KPI 2: Stage great events to engage the public

The World Championships are just weeks away and both events are eagerly awaited by everyone. It is hoped that the media will promote the events to the wider masses who may still not be aware that it is on. It is also hoped that that the events will go off without incidents and perhaps lift the mood in London and the whole country following recent events.

#### KPI 3: Increase participation to build an athletic nation

It has been a period of change recently within the home countries particularly with the restructuring within England. There are plans to try and replace the National Coach Mentor scheme with more locally focussed mentoring. The creation of a coaches club should be a positive move and will hopefully encourage both coach development and improve communication. It is still early days but the plans look promising.

I have attended the last two meetings of the Coaching Development group and there has been more positive progress in the review of the Athletics coach course and developing the role of the ex-international athletes. It is still planned to have a pilot course in September. A real positive of this process has been the insight I have gained into the working of our professional staff.

The Domestic Strategy group has yet to really get going but this this probably down to other priorities.

Athletics participation is still increasing and recreational running is growing at a fast pace. Many clubs are now recognising the need to recruit the new runners from working closely with parkrun and Couch to 5K programmes. The growth in qualified leaders is also good news but they need to be aware of what they can actually 'coach' under the terms of the insurance. Track and Field athletics still continues as always but without any major evidence of real growth. We also need to look at athletics within schools which needs a review. Perhaps our coaches could help more if funding allows.

# KPI 4: Host the `best ever` World Championships to make the country proud

It is encouraging to see that are plans in place to utilise the volunteers recruited to help at the World Champs in future events. This is a key legacy that is urgently required. At grass roots level we are struggling with officials and clubs also need to recruit more volunteers. This is not easy as people have very busy lives. We need to support our clubs as much as possible in this process. We can also expect interest in athletics to rise post summer and this will make it even more difficult for the clubs.

# Key Philosophies

# 1. All strategic decisions should be driven by the support of the Athlete Development Model (ADM)

We need to be careful that weekly events like Parkruns do not affect development of young athletes who may be overdoing the mileage and looking to specialise at too young of an age.

# To be Britain's best Olympic and Paralympic sport in everything we do.

This is still the goal. Our sport does have a lot of success in both aspects of the sport. Within the Paralympic pathways there needs to be a focus on development rather than just winning medals. Sometimes athletes are put off because they are not looked on as a medal prospect and cannot gain selection for GB teams. This does need to be looked at more widely.

Keith Reed Coaching Representative June 2017

#### CELTIC NATIONS TRACK AND FIELD CLUBS REPRESENTATIVE – UKMC REPORT JUNE 2017

A number of Celtic nations clubs have had very encouraging starts to the outdoor track and field season at a national level.

In the Women's UK League Premier Division, Edinburgh AC is in third place and still has the potential to finish in the top two with one match remaining. Swansea Harriers are currently in fifth and will want to retain their premier league status after the final match. If they succeed, there is a strong possibility they will be joined by Cardiff AC next year, which is currently in second place in Division One, and will be looking to maintain a top two place to gain promotion.

In the Men's British Athletics League, both Cardiff and Swansea are pushing for promotion to the Premier League. With both clubs having won one of the first two Division One league matches. Swansea tops the division, with Cardiff second. It will be very tough to retain these positions with two matches remaining, though hopefully at least one Welsh club will make it to the Premier league. Glasgow AC is currently seventh in Division One.

At a junior level there are similar good performances. Team Edinburgh and Team Glasgow are both leading their respective Northern Premier Divisions (North and South) in the Upper Age Group, and will be contesting a place in the national finals with both having the possibility of going through. Cardiff AC have also gained a place in the Midlands final by coming second in the Midlands Premier South West. West Wales composite, Cardiff Archers, South and East Wales composite and Swansea Harriers will all be battling it out in the Midlands South West area relegation and promotion match.

In the YDL Lower Age Group, the Scottish final will take place on 31 July to determine who goes forward to the national final in August. Edinburgh AC, Giffnock AC, Central AC, South Lanarkshire, Inverness Harriers and Island Select will be amongst the teams contesting the final.

In Northern Ireland, Regent House AC, Annalee AC, North Down AC and the City of Derry AC Spartans are all in strong positions when they contest their final on 1 July.

In the Lower Age Group Midlands region, Swansea Harriers and Cardiff Archers have booked their places in the Midlands final by coming first and second in the Premier South/ West division respectively.

These are all strong performances highlighting that the leading clubs in the Celtic nations are highly competitive across the age ranges.

In Northern Ireland, senior clubs take part in the Irish National League, which has its first match on 25 June. Lagan Valley and the City of Lisburn AC will be competing in Division One of the Women's League, and the City of Lisburn AC in Division One of the Men's League. Both teams will be looking for strong performances and Athletics NI will host the second match at the Mary Peters Track on 30 July.

In relation to initiatives within the Celtic nations to attract new club members, Athletics Northern Ireland has been building on their positive relationships with the Ulster Secondary Schools Athletics Association. Athletics Northern Ireland had a specific presence at the Ulster Schools Athletic Championships, with their own marquee, distributing ANI wristbands and giving out athletics guides to parents and athletes highlighting the benefits of athletics and joining an athletics club. All school event finalists were given discounts to the relevant

Northern Ireland age group Athletics Championships, with the event winners gaining free entry to the Championships. A separate entry portal was set up for school finalists and NI registration requirements wavered.

The ANI Championships themselves saw a 13% increase in numbers at U18 and U20 level, and though the increase at U14 and U16 was lower at 5%, this did reverse a trend of decreasing participation at the lower age groups, though numbers have always been high.

Welsh Athletics has seen unprecedented growth over the past 4 years, seeing club membership increase at an average of 12% each year. This has occurred against a background of reducing investment from Sport Wales for community sport. It is not anticipate that this trend will be reversed, so WA are looking at a new model to continue the growth within our sport, and to ensure a sustainable club structure is in place.

WA aim to achieve this by providing clubs with the support required to ensure a solid infrastructure that will enable them to modernise and evolve in the changing landscape of community sport in Wales.

The modernisation process will include a new online portal and resource which over time will become part of the annual club affiliation – and will provide guidance and assistance to clubs on items like legal status, employment law and operating a payroll. Clubs will be asked to complete an annual self-appraisal, which will highlight key areas for development, with bespoke support given to clubs to enable them to achieve their annual objectives.

At the same time, Welsh Athletics will be piloting a project where clubs will conduct an internal review to scope out demand for additional resource within the club. This could be in the form of a paid role focusing on key projects within a club – all factors must be aligned to the overall objectives of Welsh Athletics. The roles will be jointly funded by the club and Welsh Athletics, with a business model being created to ensure the role is fully sustainable by the club over an agreed period.

Finally, Welsh Athletics will provide an innovation grant to clubs to pilot and adopt new systems that will ease the pressure on key volunteers and ensure a more interactive process between the clubs and its members.

Further details on each of these areas will be provided over the next 6 months, with a full launch of the scheme expected at this autumn's WA Clubs Conference.

In Scotland, progress regarding club development continues at pace. SA have just completed the first year of their National Club Leaders' Academy with 21 leaders graduating and this will be recognised at the national championships in August

The SA new CRM (Customer Relationship Management) system for both scottishathletics and clubs will be complete in August. Prototypes continue to be developed. One of the key developments and outcomes from the project is to 'give back' to affiliated clubs. As such SA will provide a free version of ClubServe, a core function of the CRM system to all affiliated clubs that will enable them to:

- a) operate a fully featured CRM system to manage all individuals/members and organisations they work with;
- b) create and manage their club membership scheme, including payments, direct debits and renewals;
- c) maintain the club bookkeeping requirements and produce end of year accounts;

- d) manage any statutory requirements dependent on their legal status, e.g. unincorporated, SCIO, charity, CASC, etc. and;
- e) provide planning software and survey software for the club to use as appropriate to them.

Another part of the wider CRM function will be for event organisers/clubs to utilise the new Scottish Athletics online entry system for permitted events.

The SA Club Modernisation project has increased to 34 active clubs and there are now have 32 club staff employed via the Club Together Project

There continues to be investment into coach development programme but prioritising local club delivery as well as national/talent development

In Northern Ireland work is ongoing to launch a new Club Mark scheme for clubs, providing higher standards and increased structure across the key elements of the scheme.

Issues that have been directly raised with me over the past few months, include concerns that the registration criteria across nations remains different, which has an impact at national league matches. Members of the Welsh General Council have raised a particular concern, where registration is different between England and Wales. Welsh Athletics requires renewed registration by April each year whilst in England this is the end of June. To compete in league matches, athletes from Wales must be registered with the governing body prior to any competition, whilst in England, athletes have a week after any competition to complete their registration. I understand Scotland also requires registration prior to any athlete competing. These anomalies are resulting in athletes from different nations competing against each other with differing registration status. I have been asked to raise this at the UKMC for further discussion and any consideration of rule changes to address the issue.

A regular comment at athlete meetings is the growing concern regarding officials capacity, especially in some of the more specialist areas of starter and timekeeper. Officials' courses in Wales are free this year to encourage take-up and it is recognised that the issue is not only one of sufficient numbers but is also a part of a wider debate regarding fixture congestion and the length of matches. It is also felt that a more robust mentoring scheme from club to national level would help with greater support and development provided to new officials.

#### Tony Clements UKMC Celtic Nations Track and Field Club's Representative

# UK Members Council Club Rep Report June 2017

I am looking forward to attending my first meeting since my election as Club Representative. In the coming months, I hope to highlight some of the issues that affect club athletics and where I feel UKA can affect change.

They include league athletics at senior level - how we can make it more attractive to athletes, how we can ensure there are adequate officials, how we can make it better from a spectator's point of view, how we can minimise costs in terms of track hire, meeting support, etc. This means looking at the possibility of mixed teams for the national leagues, timetable changes, meeting presentation such as announcing, results, etc.

At junior level, there are different issues that need to be highlighted such as dates, length of timetable, travel time, etc.

I envisage communicating with the leagues to obtain their views and liaising with the relevant UKA department to help progress domestic competition.

I am announcing at the BAL Big Day Out in mid-July when all five divisions appear at Bedford on the same day in an effort to improve the meeting experience.

I am also a member of the UKWAL committee and am pushing for change to improve national league women's athletics.

Mike Harris June 2017

# Report by Wendy Haxell, Technical Officials representative

#### **UKA Members Council Meeting June 2017**

#### Level 5 meetings

Arrangements for 2017 Championships well advanced.

#### Level 4 meetings

Started already. Concern still being expressed about drop-outs.

#### **Regional meetings**

Have lack of officials when other meetings (county Schools ) are on the same day. People tend to support locally as some counties have few officials and do not have the luxury of selecting their teams for schools meetings. I said this last year... the same is still true... One suggestion...Put the schools meetings on the Sat and Sun across each region so that there are some counties having their meetings on one day and others on the next. There would then be more officials for the regional championships over the two days.

#### **Club meetings**

Need to have fewer clashes... this still has not been addressed fully and we need athletes to have good club meetings for their desire to go further to be met.

#### Other issues

Track facilities... More stadia are being squeezed out of budgets locally and facilities are being poorly maintained. Patching of tracks where it should be a whole refit. Equipment not being maintained, holes in turf not being filled. There are safety issues everywhere and an accident waiting to happen.

#### Welfare issues.

Opportunities to select who you are sharing with has helped but some meetings (CAU, BUCS) do not have full lists of officials shown so it is impossible to choose as you do not know who is there. This also affects car sharing as people could see if there is someone near and thereby save money.

Eight hour day being addressed and monitored. New report form for chiefs includes specific start finish time data requirements.

Sunday night accommodation having to be paid for by officials. If for example the meeting is in Sheffield then some officials are travelling home after they finish and not arriving back in until midnight.

#### General

Conference was well attended. Need to include more for the top level officials. (something like scenario discussions so that people get to hear of problems and how they were dealt with.)

Level 5 course delivered and candidates now have their marks for the exam they took.

#### WIWA

Candidates met in London and attended some very good sessions. There were more attendees from other countries than from UK. Movement afoot to get more done on committees in Europe for Women to be represented.

#### Guns

When a licence expires surely there is an automatic enquiry about the guns held by that person. Not sure this always happens.

#### **Online reporting**

New forms to complete on line. I personally find them fiddly as you cannot download in a Word document and so a lot more copy and paste has to be done. (line by line) I can see that they are trying to get us to list items and make reports easier to read BUT they are not as easy to write. I reported that I could only download in a website format that could not be changed to a word document after I had completed the first one. The second one was as bad. Other people want to put more in and find the one-liners restrictive.

Wendy Haxell June 2017

# UK Members Council Road Running Report for July 2017 meeting.

ITEM	2013	2014 Dec	2015 Dec	30.12.16	09.02.17	<b>16.06.17</b>
Licensed Events	2,115	1,670*	2636	2857	1,082	2,719
Races with online entry	359	494	620	734	329	787
Online Entrants	66,403	82,982	103,148	129,975	32,446	105,172
Total Maximum Field Size	190,030	213,652	245,789	257,863	128,165	265,509
Usable Data	88,627	120,871	108,246#	132,472	135,282	142,340
Event Adjudicators on Trinity	299	303	330	336	340	343
Licensed events covered by EA				91-95%	91-95%	91-95%
Handicap scoring claimants			60,000	68,978	70,000	71,500

\*2390 when you take into account multiple events (2013-2,115) # Usable data has dropped because of de-duping the data. This does not include Scotland and NI.

# Road Running Management Group formerly (runbritain Technical Group):

- Establishing Road Running Management Medical Sub Group
- Seeking representatives from small, medium and large races to sit on RRMG
- Within a month we will have all Home Countries working to a common set of Licence Standards across UKA
- We have undertaken two Race Director Courses, one in Chester and one in Cardiff, there is a further course planned for August in North Wales
- We will be sending representatives to European Athletics Road Running Conference in October.

#### Health & Safety Matters:

We have a meeting in two weeks with Counter Terrorism Advisors as a result of recent events. This will help provide further guidance (risk management) to organisers of non-arena events.

Nigel Rowe MBE 21 June 2017

# **Scottishathletics**

# Report to UKMC July 2017

# KPI 1: Win more medals to inspire the public

**Scottishathletics** athletes have continued to Perform when it Counts and produce excellent performances. Sammi Kinghorn broke her first world record in the T53 200m in Arizona while Derek Rae produced a scintillating performance at the London Marathon incorporating the IPC World Championships to win a World Championship bronze medal.

Four Scottish Para athletes will be heading to London for the World Para Athletics Championships – Jo Butterfield(F51 club throw and discus), Maria Lyle (T35 100m, 200m and relay), Stef Reid (T44 Long Jump) and Sammi Kinghorn (T53 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m).

Meanwhile on the hills scottishathletics athletes finished first (Murray Strain) and second (Tom Owens) in the Three peaks World Mountain running Championships (long) trial race and both have been selected for the GB&NI team for the World Long distance Mountain Running Championships in Ital in August along with Charlotte Morgan who finished third in the Women's event. With Andrew Douglas winning the British Hill Running championships, (he has now been selected for the GB&NI team for the GB&NI team for the World Mountain Running Champs (up and down)) our hill runners are doing well.

The Cross Country season seems a long time ago but Gillian Black and Anna Macfadyen had good performances at the World Cross Country Championships in Kampala, Uganda.

Endurance athletes are doing exceptionally well with Robbie Simpson selected for the World Championships following his find performance at the London Marathon and joins Callum Hawkins in the team. On the track Beth Potter won a fabulous British 10,000m title within the London World Championship qualifying time as well. Scottishathletics now has four Scots pre-selected for the world Championships in London (Laura Muir, Callum Hawkins, Robbie Simpson & Beth Potter)

Our 1500m athletes - Jake Wightman, Chris O'Hare and Josh Kerr have been in scintillating form with all three running sub 3.36 and all with World Championship qualifying standards. Josh is now the NCAA indoor and outdoor 1500m champion, while Jake won the Oslo Diamond league 1500m in a new PB.

Our younger athletes are determined not to be left out with eleven athletes selected for Team Scotland at the Commonwealth Youth Games in Bahamas in July. One of these athletes (Adam Clayton) broke the Scottish U17 200m record that had been held by peter Little for 40 years. At time of writing there are five scottishathletics athletes selected for the European U20 Championships (Alisha Rees, Jemma Reekie, Holly McArthur, Ben Greenwood and george Evans) while Neil Gourley, Jack Lawrie and Kelsey Stewart.

Five scottishathletics athletes were selected for the European Team Championships in Lille, France – Eilidh Doyle (400mH), Jake Wightman (1500m), Lennie Waite (3000mSC), Kirsten McAslan and Zoey Clark (4x400m). Andrew Murphy has landed his first GB&NI senior vest after being called up for the Combined Events European Team Championships on 1-2 July, five years after winning a GB U20 vest.

We have two recent appointments to our coaching team with Aston Moore and Andy Neal joining as performance Mentors for jumps and throws respectively. Both have strong track records in developing athletes to world level and both are excellent coach educators. They will provide; mentoring support to identified and agreed individual athlete-coach pairings; support progression of athletes and coaches to a higher level of competency in their specific event(s); support and deliver at the National Academy training camps; practical coaching support of identified National athlete/coach pairings within the Performance Mentors local coaching/competition environment at agreed points in the year.

# KPI 2: Stage Great Events to engage the public

Our Championship event entries continue to surpass all expectations which in itself presents organisational challenges but we are obviously doing something right as during the early winter season alone 29 national, native or Age Group Records were achieved plus three Scottish bests.

In mid-May 2000 athletes entered the scottishathletics District Championships at three venues across the country – Inverness, Kilmarnock and Grangemouth. The Scottish 5K Championships (road) were held in May with a full capacity of 600 athletes. On the track scottishathletics 10K championships were incorporated into a night of 10K's attracting a record 80 entries.

# KPI 3: Increase participation to build an athletic nation

**Facilities – Meadowbank** – the facility is due to close in March 2018 for refurbishment allowing for winter training indoors before the work starts. The refurbishment at Grangemouth is now complete but there are a number of challenges with event sites – throwing circle and pole vault but the leisure trust is

working with the contractor to get the issues resolved. Inverness and Dundee upgrades have been delayed.

Jog**scotland.** Scottishathletics and SAMH (Scottish Association for Mental health) have joined together in a new collaborative partnership to deliver the on-going operations of jogscotland. The new partnership will look to offer exciting new opportunities to the existing 40,000 jogscotland members and 300+ groups across the country. SAMH are a forward thinking charitable organisation and there is a clear natural link between physical and mental wellbeing.

**Funding** – scottishathletics has received a cut in its funding from sportscotland of  $\pounds 140,000$ . Our priorities do not change and we are committed to ensuring our focus remains on supporting our membership and continuing to activate key programmes that help athletes, coaches, clubs, officials and volunteers to thrive and grow.

In mid-June the scottish Government, via sportscotland committed £60,000 to the jogscotland programme over the next two years. This will be used to expand jogscotland's reach to the inactive and under-represented groups including women, girls and older people as well as tackling inequality and discrimination in participation.

There are current challenges to levy monies as communicated recently by the Great Run Company. They have decided to take a UK-wide stand and at this juncture are refusing to pay license/permit fees to any of the home countries

# KPI 4: Host the 'best ever' World Championships to make the country proud

As previously, **scottish**athletics is totally committed to this objective, and to supporting the UK wide drive to ensure this objective is delivered. We see 2017 offering yet another "catalyst" for development impact as well of course as being a huge incentive for elite athletes to compete at a home WC.

Leslie Roy scottishathletics June 2017

# Welsh Athletics UKMC Report June 2017

#### 1. The four strategic priorities

# KPI 1: Win more medals to inspire the public

This past weekend saw a Welsh contingent of nearly 50 athletes travel to **Bedford for the EA U20 / U23 Championships**, which doubles as the "trials" for both the European U20 and European U23 Championship events. Fine weather brought with it a selection of equally fine performances as Welsh athletes took 3 National titles – and that was with some notable absentees who currently top their respective rankings (David Omoregie (110mH) who is focussed on his preparations for the World Championships and will not contest this year's European U23 Championships, Hannah Brier (100m) who is recovering from an injury earlier this year and Matthew Harding (800m) who is still in the USA with his NCAA commitments). Several Welsh athletes now await the decision of the selectors for the forthcoming European Championship events.

Cardiff AAC's Jac Palmer (Adrian Palmer) led the way with a big new PB of 65.88m to claim his first National U23 Hammer title. It was a double celebration for coach Adrian Palmer, as Jac's training partner Adele Nicoll (Adrian Palmer) claimed her 12<sup>th</sup> National Title, as she threw 16.24m for a clear victory.

In the U20 Men's 1500m, European Youth Champion Jake Hayward (Paul Darney) claimed back to back titles, as he repeated his 2016 victory with a well-controlled tactical run to sprint clear of the field over the final 400m to win in a time of 3:57.97. Jake will now be chasing a qualifying mark for the European Junior Championships, and will also have half an eye on the standard required for the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Welsh Athletics is pleased to announce that six Welsh athletes will be heading to the Bahamas to compete at the **Commonwealth Youth Games in July.** 

Four athletes achieved the standard set for nomination; Discus thrower James Tomlinson (Coach: Paul Jenson / Club: Pembrokeshire Harriers), who smashed the 54.00m standard with a throw of 62.48m earlier this season; 3000m runner Oliver Barbaresi (Coach: Andy Walling / Club: Menai Track and Field), who went 8.30 in his only 3000m outdoor race so far this year - comfortably within the 8.35 required for nomination; Bethany Moule (Coach: John Davies / Club: Neath Harriers), who is currently ranked 2nd in the UK as an U17 in the javelin; and shot putter, Sarah Omoregie (Coach: Gareth Lease / Club: Cardiff AAC), who threw 15.83m during the indoor season. All four of those athletes have been selected as part of the Team Wales. Welsh Athletics is also delighted that the Commonwealth Games Wales selection panel chose a further two Welsh athletes; Lauren Evans (Coach: Nigel Lewis / Club: Cardiff AAC) in the 100m hurdles and Naomi Reid (Coach: Phil Banning / Club: Cardiff AAC) in the 39-strong Team Wales contingent.

# KPI 2: Stage Great Events to engage the public

The **100<sup>th</sup> edition of the Welsh Championships** took place in Cardiff on the 9 & 10 June, incorporating the 2018 Commonwealth Games Trials.Head of Coaching and Performance

Scott Simpson said; "The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Welsh Championships was a special occasion and provided a great window into the exciting talent that is current on display in Wales".

He remarked "Highlights for me included; seeing Carys Parry return to form with a CWG "A" standard in the women's Hammer, Tom Williams break the 21 second barrier in the 200m and Dewi Griffiths run a fabulous solo 5000m for the second week in a row, running 13.50 in strong winds on both occasions".

In addition to the Championships, a parade of previous champions acted as a celebration of the best Welsh talent over the years and included; Former World Marathon record holder Steve Jones, Olympic Long Jump Champion Lynn Davies CBE, and European, Commonwealth, World and Olympic medallist Jamie Baulch.

Commonwealth Games Silver medallist Venissa Head and the 1998 Commonwealth Games Bronze medallist Shaun Pickering were also present. Pickering commented on the experience saying; "It was an honour to walk alongside so many great Champions from the past".



UKA President Jason Gardener and Chairman Richard Bowker join Welsh Athletics Chair Carol Anthony and CEO Matt Newman at the 100<sup>th</sup> Welsh Track & Field Championships

The second '**Run with the wind**' sprints open took place on Wednesday (21 June) night with a number of strong performances and personal bests to mention. Despite the scorching temperatures, the athletes persevered and as a result in total 111 came away with new personal bests.

The **Run 4 Wales events company** has established a series of great events to engage the public.

# Run 4 Wales Events 2017 - 50,000 competitors

	Constiti and Mole College Contep:Constructi en Tho	CARDIFF BAY RUN
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10K	April 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Trail Running Half Marathon & 10K	May 22 <sup>nd</sup>
VELOTHON 110 and 140km cycling sportive	July 9 <sup>th</sup>
10K	Sept 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Half Marathon	Oct 1 <sup>st</sup>

KPI 3: Increase participation to build an athletic nation



# KPI 4: Host the 'best ever' World Championships to make the country proud

Welsh Athletics continues to support the delivery and legacy projects for London 2017.

#### 2. The 2 Key 'Philosophies'

# All strategic decisions should be driven by the support of the Athlete Development Model.

Welsh Athletics is excited to announce the next phase in the development of its strategy for the long term development of talented coaches and athletes in Wales.

Following the recent success of the pilot project in endurance, a more structured regional and national development programme will now be rolled out in sprints and field events from the autumn of 2017 – in addition to the continuation of the endurance programme.

The purpose of the programmes will be to bring together athletes, coaches and parents, in each of the event areas, with a view to developing the behaviours, experiences, knowledge and skills of all involved. It is hoped that we can reach further down the athlete and coach development pathway and start helping and shaping development earlier in their

progression. Working with coaches and athletes in an integrated environment is a key element of this approach. The involvement of parents in this process is also a critical component of the plan. It is envisaged that the work done on the regional programmes will support and compliment the work being done in the clubs within each region.

We will be focusing in on three major strands within the development model;

- 1. Technical competency (event specific skills)
- 2. Physical preparation (development of physical qualities)
- 3. Lifestyle skills

Welsh Athletics are looking to recruit into a number of coordinator roles below to help deliver the programmes across the event groups. It is hoped that these coordinators will complement the staff who are already in post and who will work collaboratively with Welsh Athletics to drive this programme forwards.

# **National Development Coordinators**

- 1. National Endurance Development Coordinator
- 2. National Jumps Development Coordinator
- 3. National Throws Development Coordinator

# **Regional Coordinators**

- 1. Regional Endurance Coordinators x 4 (North, East, South and West)
- 2. Regional Speed Coordinator South and East
- 3. Regional Speed Coordinator West
- 4. Combined Events Coordinator
- 5. Pole Vault Coordinator
- 6. Javelin Coordinator
- 7. Jumps Coordinator
- 8. Heavy Throws Coordinator

#### To be Britain's best Olympic and Paralympic sport in everything we do

Welsh Athletics is about to embark on a critical chapter in its journey towards becoming a High Performing Organisation. The next 18 months will require a dual focus, firstly on our operational delivery and secondly, on a wide-ranging consultation in readiness for the next strategic plan (2018-2024).

By starting with an internal process, we firstly want to establish if we are on the right course with our existing strategy. However, we also want to consider a <u>new focus</u>, with WA operating in a different way, as part of the re-modelling of our relationship with Sport Wales and the wider sector.

This is about WA thinking about its current priorities and then setting an ambitious programme which the staff team is committed to delivering. A more "business-like" focus would require a new strategy for the sport and more of a customer-led approach to the work we do, whilst at the same time maintaining a delivery of the core elements (essential) of our work as a National Governing Body.

# Sad news.

Welsh Athletics wishes to acknowledge the sad passing of former Welsh First Minister Rhodri Morgan.

Cardiff born Mr Morgan was a long-time supporter of Athletics in Wales and became a patron alongside Lynn Davies CBE and John Disley CBE in 2013.

Welsh Athletics also wishes to acknowledge the deaths of Vice President John Collins and former double Olympic athlete Phillipa Roles.

Carol Anthony June 2017

# ENGLAND ATHLETICS UK MEMBERS COUNCIL –HEADLINE REPORT JUNE 2016

# **General Strategic & Operational Overview**

- EA is focused, during what is Q1, on delivering against its 17-18 operational plan and budget having reorganised its staffing structure during March as mentioned previously with a new strategic plan and financial model in place. General mood is positive and we are now into delivery mode with major outdoor championships and team events underway. EA continues to financially support county, area and national competitions organised by third parties such as the English Schools AA.
- We have agreed an action plan with Sport England relating to the mandatory good governance code for publicly funded organisations. We are largely compliant and related actions will be implemented by the end of 2017 all being well. We were also used as a best practice case study in the related national publication.
- The number of registered club athletes and runners is currently circa 130,000 which is circa 10,000 more than this time last year. As reported before, the number of people running twice a month, according to Sport England, totals 6.75m and the long-term growth trend is a positive one and there are 2,900 road races licensed (200 more than in 2015) and at least 8m people having run at least once in the last 12 months.
- The 2017 Annual EA Consultation Programme is live with the club sport. Circa 3k online surveys completed to date. Closes end of summer and followed by local consultation workshops in September. This is an annual process that informs our thinking around membership fee levels and other aspects of strategy.
- There are two new EA Board Directors since the last report with Tony Shiret and Mike Harris standing down from their positions, being replaced by Mike Neighbour (SE) and Allan Wort (NW) respectively. The EA Board next meets on July 26<sup>th</sup> in London.

# KPI 1: Win more medals to inspire the public

- Commonwealth Youth Games preparations are on track and we look forward to this event in the Bahamas in the next month. Scott Grace is our team leader and Myra Nimmo will be in attendance as well as Chair of the Board.
- Plans are on track ahead of us taking a 75 strong Commonwealth Games team in 2018 (Gold Coast) and we expect to take part in Nitro again in February 2018.
- The Combined Events champs and 20 & 23 Age Group Champs were held in Bedford during mid-June and our Senior Champs take place in partnership with the CAU during July.
- Manchester International is being held on 16<sup>th</sup> August with Denmark joining the home nations for this annual fixture. Our Under 15/17 champs completes our summer outdoor national programme.
- Various teams have represented England during this period across the domains of indoor track/field, jumps, combined events, road running and cross country. EA takes between 30-40 teams abroad to compete each year.

To grow opportunities for everyone to experience athletics and running, to enable them to reach their full potential

# KPI 2: Stage Great Events to engage the public

- As reported above, our full summer track and field championships programme is underway. Indoor champ performances and entry numbers strong.
- We are working with UKA (through Nigel Holl) and the Youth Sport Trust to ascertain our position with respect to future UK School Games participation. Nigel can explain more at UKMC.
- We are in the midst of planning our autumn and winter schedule of coaching, leader, teacher and official's courses to take place across England. We are also planning a full programme of national and local coach development activities organised by our national coach and athlete development managers and local Club Support team.
- The 10<sup>th</sup> annual EA Hall of Fame and National Awards Night will likely take place in October at the Ricoh Stadium Coventry this year for the first time as reported above. Our 9 regional award nights will take place from September onwards.

# KPI 3: Increase participation to build an athletic nation

- A team of 12 Club Support staff officers are in place across England to work with clubs to help them to develop and to support them across a range of areas such as facility development, business planning and volunteer recruitment and retention. We are actively engaged with specific facilities across England where a track and field facility is under threat or indeed where the club may be engaged in brokering an asset transfer with the local authority. This is becoming an increasing focus for our staff.
- A full product review has started of our Athletics365 programme which is currently used as a curriculum by clubs across the whole of the UK and in some European Countries. This will be completed in the Winter. This will not affect existing delivery of the programme in clubs.
- RunTogether now 1,200 registered groups, 30,000 registered runners, 120,000 booked sessions through our website and we continue to train leaders through the LIRF qualification.
- We ran a coordinated volunteer recognition campaign during June #youmakeithappen as part of national volunteer week and in the build towards the 2017 World Champs. This has attracted a significant social media following.

# KPI 4: Host the 'best-ever' World Championships to make the country proud

 As reported before, EA is the lead partner in managing and delivering the "Inspiration Programme" from the World Champs. Investment from Spirit of 2012 Trust, Sport England and the GLA is enabling activation of this programme. A summary of the programme is provided below

# Inspiration Programme: Project Update - June 2017

Theme	Project Name	Project Details	Latest News
Community	Team Personal Best	TeamPersonalBest.org is a campaign that uses the website to bring together all athletics and running activity in one place during the summer of 2017	Register your club sessions, groups or volunteer open days now at <u>TeamPersonalBest.org</u>
Disability	Athletics & Running Innovation Summit	A summit on 14 <sup>th</sup> July to bring together grassroots practitioners for a day of learning and sharing on the subject of "innovation in improving experiences of disabled people in athletics and running"	Nominate someone to receive a special invite now: Click to Nominate
Disability	#17minutesforme Online Challenge	A wellbeing challenge in partnership with Mind, the mental health charity. Participants within the challenge are encouraged to take part in 17 minutes of individual or group physical activity 3 times a week	Registration Opens w/c 19 <sup>th</sup> June. Follow @17minutesforme or find us on facebook for more information
Disability	Inspiration Clubs & Inspiration Days	Network of 10 clubs supported by packages of training and equipment to improve disability provision and deliver inclusive activity days to their local community	Applications have now closed for club funding. Small Grants funding is available to clubs for delivery of an inclusion day
Volunteering	Campaigns & Conferences	A series of campaigns and conferences over 3 years to celebrate volunteering, to support volunteer recruitment and to develop the skills and knowledge of the volunteer community in Athletics and Running	#YouMakeitHappen continues through June. Volunteer Open Day Support Packs will be available in early July.
Volunteering	GameChangers	A three year programme to create Youth Volunteering Partnerships in 40 athletics and running clubs across the country.	Wave 1 applications have been assessed and clubs are being informed on decisions. Wave 2 applications will open in Autumn
Volunteering	Volunteer Champions	A new network of volunteers based in clubs whose role is dedicated to ensuring volunteers have the best experience possible.	The first training day for Wave 1 is on July 1st. You can still sign up $\underbrace{\text{Click to Sign Up}}$
Schools	Run – Jump – Throw Resources	. Free specially themed resource packs available to all for delivering athletics in schools For teachers who register they will also receive free access for 6 months to all primary schools athletics resource packs and lesson plans	Teachers can register now for free access to schools specific Team Personal Best resources <u>Schools Link</u>
Community	London Support	£400,000 Grant fund invested by Mayor of London into community athletics and running . A Series of workshops will take place over the summer to support organisations to deliver Team Personal Best activities	Successful applicants have been informed and projects will be announced in late June. Find out more about workshops at <u>TeamPersonalBest.org</u>

To grow opportunities for everyone to experience athletics and running, to enable them to reach their full potential

# Athletics Northern Ireland – HCAF Report June 2017

### KPI 2.1: Win more medals to inspire the public

Ten Athletes have achieved qualifying performances for the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. Dempsey McGuigan (HT), Sommer Leckey (HJ), Paul Pollock (Mar), Emma Mitchell (10,000m). Adam McMullan (LJ), Ciara Mageean (1500m), Ben Reynolds (110H) Amy Foster (100m), Adam Kirk-Smith (3000mSC) and Mollie Courtney (100mH). A number of other athletes are expected to qualify by the deadline of the end of September. As numbers are limited it seems unlikely that we will be able to select all who have achieved qualifying performances.

Paul Pollock and Ciara Mageean have also achieved qualifying standards for the World Championships. James Hamilton (T20, 1500m) Jason Smyth (T13 100m,200m) and Michael McKillop (T37 800m 1500m) have been selected for the World Para Champs. Jack Agnew (T54) and Eve Dann (T36) have been selected for the Para World Juniors.

Four NI senior records have been set this season so far – Emma Mitchell (10,000m, 32.51.78 and 5000m, 15.50.55) Haley Murray (HT, 59.49) and Kate O'Connor (Hep, 5360) along with a number of Junior and U18 records.

Course Name	Number of Courses	Number of Participants
Coaching Assistant	2	37
Leader in Running and Fitness	6	140
Athletics Coach	0	0
Coaching in Running & Fitness	1	14
Integration Days	0	0
Athletics 365 Workshop	5	149
Coaching Networks	1	22

#### Coaching Courses 1 Feb to 30 June

Jackie Newton was appointed as Director of Coaching and Athlete Development replacing Tom Crick. She commenced work on 1 May. She appears to have settled in well and has been meeting athletes, coaches and various stakeholders. We have now reached our full staffing complement in line with our funding award from Sport NI for the four year cycle (2017-21)

# KPI 2 & 3 – Stage Great Events to engage the public/ Increase participation to build an athletic nation – March to June 2017

Our main mass participation event during this period was the Belfast Marathon. It proved to be one of the most successful of recent years with over 15000 runners taking part in the marathon and associated events (relay, fun run etc.) on the day. We are at present negotiating to refresh the event by plotting a new more athlete friendly course for next year's events. The Titanic 10k was also successfully promoted by ANI and the number of licensed road races promoted by clubs and other bodies continues to rise.

Our Senior T&F championships were held on Saturday 10 June and were very successful with a 30% uplift from 2016 in total entries and with a noticeable improvement in the general quality of performances.

Our Age group (14 - 17) Championships were on Sat 17 June with a 5% uplift in entries and some excellent individual performances.

We set up a stall at the Ulster Schools Championships and offered free and discounted entries into our own age group championships to athletes not already members of clubs. This proved to be very successful and popular and we believe helps explain some of the uplift in our championship entries.

The World 24 hour Championships are being held in Belfast this weekend (1–2 July) with participants from upwards of 35 countries taking part.

Athletes Registered	Male	Female	
U13	385	423	
14-15	337	390	
Age 16+	2468	2784	
Total	3190	3597	6787

Athlete membership continues to rise though the massive percentage rises of the past few years have moderated a little. The total registered on 15<sup>th</sup> June of 6787 is a rise of approximately 12% on the same date in 2016.

We also now have a total of 80 clubs affiliated.

Roy Corry June 2017