

**UK Members Council
20 February 2010
Crowne Plaza, Birmingham**

Present: Lynn Davies - Chair
Roy Corry – Athletics Northern Ireland
Lynnette Harries – Welsh Athletics
Mike Harris – Coaching Representative
Keith May – Clubs Representative
Mike Summers – England Athletics
Bill Adcocks – Clubs Representative
Roger Simons – UK Athletics
Frank Dick – Scottish Athletics
Graham Jessop – Off Track Representative
Chris Cohen – IPC Representative
Helen Clitheroe – Athlete Representative

In attendance: Niels de Vos – UKA Chief Executive

Apologies: Andrew Taylor – Road Running Representative
Jonathan Edwards – European Athletics Representative
Seb Coe – IAAF Representative
Charles Bartholomew – UKA Finance & Operations Director
Ed Warner – UKA Chairman
Stan Burton – Officials Representative
Steve Backley – Vice President
John Graves – England Athletics

Welcome & Apologies

LD welcomed everyone to the meeting and a special welcome to Frank Dick as this was his first Council meeting. Apologies were received from Andrew Taylor, Stan Burton, John Graves, Ed Warner, Charles Bartholomew, Steve Backley, Seb Coe & Jonathan Edwards.

The Council wished to record their congratulations to Chris Cohen (CBE), David Littlewood (MBE) and Jean Pickering (MBE) who were awarded the Queens honours in the New Year listings.

LD wished to acknowledge the sad news of the death of Wilf Paish at the end of January and offered condolences to his family.

LD congratulated Helen Clitheroe on her recent performances.

Minutes of the meeting 5 December 2009

The minutes of the meeting 5 December 2009 were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising from meeting 5 December 2010

MH asked if the Council could be provided with an updated UKA structure - Actioned

FD asked NdV if a Throws coach had been appointed. NdV confirmed that further candidates had been interviewed but a decision was made not to make an offer.

FD also asked regarding the assurance on the Performance improvement KPI. NdV to discuss with FD outside of the meeting,

Chairs Report

The Chair's report was taken as read with key items highlighted.

Olympic Stadium – NdV updated the meeting on the Olympic Stadium confirming that the Olympic Park Legacy Company (OPLC) had been set up to ensure legacy of the stadium post 2012 and that their view was that the stadium should be an athletics legacy. OPLC have just announced a process to tender for use of the Olympic stadium, but this must include an athletics track. Decisions will be made in the autumn which is close to the final date to submit a bid for the 2015 World Championships.

NdV reported that there would be hosting their championships as a test event in the stadium in 2012. FD asked if UKA could stage an elite event on the back of this to give GB athletes competition experience in the stadium. NdV agreed that such experience was essential and that UKA were working on options.

CEO Report

NdV welcomed FD and thanked him for his support in helping build the team at UKA, in particular his recommendation of Kevin Tyler and his involvement with the recruitment and selection of England's NCM.

The CEO report was taken as read with key items highlighted.

Anti Doping – NdV confirmed the provisional suspension of two shot-putters for refusing to submit to a doping test. The athletes have been suspended for 2 years. NdV said that he was unsure if the athletes intended to appeal.

HC asked if athletes knew that they could be tested at any time even if they were not on funding. NdV confirmed that athletes could be tested at anytime regardless of funding. Following TGT's recommendation of increased education to athletes, the appointment of an Education Manager David Walsh was made in May 2009 and he is continuing to educate athletes. The Council agreed for David Herbert to present at the next meeting to give an update on the education process.

LOCOG ticketing – NDV said that he was currently working with LOCOG to push for affiliated members to have the ability to get Olympic tickets. Failing this UKA may look to buy tickets through the BOA and offer as a member benefit.

UK Sport funding – NdV confirmed while UK Sport had given an increase, set against the reduction in annual inflationary rise the net outcome was in fact a £40,000 cut in funding.

National Performance Centres

Lee Valley

Subject to final confirmation from Lee Valley Park Authority at their meeting on 25 February the Olympic track surface will be laid for the high jump, long jump, pole vault and 100m straight with thanks to London Marathon Trust who have agreed to fund. UKA are looking to buy additional surface for the pole vault and javelin area in Loughborough. The surface is planned to be put down at the end of April whilst most athletes are on warm weather training.

A wet recovery centre and extended gym will also be installed in the same time frame. UK Sport has agreed to fund up to £70k.

The athlete rest and recovery area should go through by the end of the athletics season, subject to planning permission.

Loughborough

A Throws Centre is planned for Loughborough and NdV is meeting with the University 8 March to discuss the location. Building work will not commence on the project until after the football season as the aim is to position the centre on the football pitch at the side of the Performance Centre.

Coaching & Event Developments

The funding agreement from Sport England has now been signed. England Athletics have appointed up to 17 mentors with a Head of Coaching in London advertised, closing date 19 February.

Kevin Tyler meets with the Heads of Coaching from each home country on a regular basis; NdV suggested that the minutes from these meetings are circulated to the UKMC. NdV said that the sharing of information on events and development through the home countries was important and would progress this at the CEO forum on 4 March.

Super 8

NdV confirmed that the Super 8 event would be in Glasgow on the 7 July. Glasgow is very committed and is hoping for a sell-out. The capacity for the new stadium in Scotstoun is 6,000 which is bigger than the previous venue in Cardiff. NdV said that Schools had also picked up the Super 8 format.

Home Country's & UKMC

NdV said that one of his KPIs which had been previously agreed by the UKMC, was to minimise the duplication and management of expenditure within the home countries, NdV will continue to work towards this and will pick at the CEO forum on 4 March. NdV asked the Home Country representatives if there was anything else that Athletics Services could do to help to reduce duplication of costs.

NdV confirmed that Scottish Athletics' new CEO Nigel Holl was hoping to attend the CEO Forum on 4 March.

Run Britain

Geoff Wightman joined UKA 1 February to manage RunBritain. GW is currently preparing a business plan which needs to be self funding after the first year of appointment.

2010 Priorities for CEO

NdV outlined the priorities set for him by the UKA Board for 2010

- Business Management - managing the changes and driving the SBUs
- Business Plan to 2013
- Commercial planning
 - Sponsor renegotiation/renewal
 - Agency renegotiation/renewal

- British Grand Prix host city plan to 2013
- Elite Performance – continuous improvements
- Future Planning
 - Development post 2012 strategy
 - TV events strategy – 2012-14
 - Evolution of Super 8 – 2011-14
 - HCAF relations, roles & responsibilities
 - Facilities strategy 2011-15

Presentation by Derek Evely on the National Performance Centres

A copy is attached for information.

NdV said that each National Performance Centre had drop-in coaching sessions open to anyone; these were as follows:

1 pm – Thursday - Loughborough

1 pm – Friday - Lee Valley

LD thanked Derek Evely for his very informative presentation. All agreed that UKA should be congratulated on the excellence of this appointment and the obvious progress made.

Keith May - Track & Field Club report

The issue regarding the disabled athlete reported at the last meeting has now moved forward. The athlete concerned has produced an Inclusiveness Policy for Sussex County to enhance the policy already in place and this will be considered by the County in due course. The athlete has been invited to have a meeting with Marie Yates from UKA and Jo Wilkinson from England Athletics to discuss this policy.

Bill Adcocks and I attended another Club Advisory Group meeting with England Athletics where the main discussion point was finance. It was noted that the seven clubs that were represented all had differing ways of operating re finance and coaching etc. It confirmed that Clubs operate differently because of their own particular circumstances i.e. who runs their facilities, the number of coaches, officials and other volunteers that the Club has managed to recruit.

GAJ raised concern over the new inclusive policy and has written to Mike Summers and NdV.

FD said that Club coaching workshops had been set up in Scotland.

Mike Harris - Coaches report

I am currently involved in setting up a National Coaching Forum under the auspices of the EA National Council. Attendees will include regional council coaching portfolio holders, professional staff from EA & UKA including National Coach Mentors. Additionally coaches of level 2 standard and involved with young athletes will also be invited as well as female coaches.

The aim is to discuss the issues that coaches face and how to aid coach development. We will not be discussing the administration of coach education.

First meeting may well take place at the end of February.

I am also representing the EA National Council on their EA Competition Strategy Group, chaired by Mike Heath. My aim will be to offer a coaching input to any structural changes as I know that Long Term Athlete Development is crucial to this.

I did not attend the first meeting but the second meeting is on 8 March.

The National Coaching Conferences I attended at Sheffield & Birmingham were excellent with good quality presenters, adequate facilities and efficient organisation. There is no doubt that the collective efforts of UKA/EA coaching staff are beginning to create an atmosphere where coaches feel they belong, they are valued with opportunities to develop.

NdV added that as UKA had launched the “Year of the Coach” and that results sheets would include the name of the coach. Club names will still be included on press releases but will be listed at the bottom.

Stan Burton – Officials report

Nothing to report

Graham Jessop – Off Track report

GAJ said an Endurance Conference held on the 19 February at Crowne Plaza Birmingham was very well received. The presenters included Joss Irvings, James Li & Ronnie Warhurst.

Frank Dick - Scottish Athletics report

Series of ‘Town Hall’ visits to Inverness (videoconferenced), Aberdeen, Dundee, Glasgow, Edinburgh by new Chair Frank Dick and new Head Coach Laurier Primeau in third week of January were attended by 120 people. It was a positive series of meetings.

New CEO Nigel Holl commences on 1 April. He is currently COO at English Netball but has worked at English Hockey, Scottish Institute of Sport and is a Board member of Commonwealth

Games England. He represented Scotland at ultra running. He has previously been commuting south from his family home in Stirling. Outgoing CEO departs on 28 February.

Indoor formats have shown slight dip in entries for U15/U17 age group Championships but significant rises in U13 Superteams formats and also senior Inter-Regional competition. FD there was only one entry into the 1500m. FD has arranged for a focus group to be set up to look at why there is a drop off.

Scotland won five out of six competitions at Celtic Nations Cross Country in Antrim

At time of writing (25.1) Scottish records have been broken in women's shot, women's pole vault, U20 men's 800.

Bank of Scotland has extended its sponsorship (active since 1999), for a further year. The Co-op will not be renewing four year sponsorship contract with **jogscotland** beyond April.

Performance review is completed. New Chair will outline at the Members Council meeting, including Scotstoun.

New Board member – Alex Barr as interim club representative. He is a member of Giffnock North AC and founded The BIG Partnership – Scotland's largest PR Agency

scottishathletics on schedule to move to next stage of Equity Status – preliminary level by March 2010

Recent re-opening of Scotstoun Stadium, Glasgow with an indoor training centre means the following have been opened in a three year period, thanks to **sportscotland** and local authority investment

- 2008 Pitreavie Indoor Centre
- 2009 Aberdeen Sports Village (indoor)
- 2010 Scotstoun indoor
- 2010 Ravenscraig indoor

Regional Managers have now been appointed in five out of six Scottish regions

- Tayside & Fife
- Central
- Highlands
- Grampian
- East

Third quarter budget update is modest surplus on turnover of £2.1m

FD confirmed that Pat Rollo would be the Scottish Team Manager for the Commonwealth Games in Delhi.

The Council wished to offer their best wishes to Nigel Holl on his appointment of CEO to Scottish Athletics.

Roy Corry – Athletics Northern Ireland

Corporate Issues

ANI Strategic Plan 2009-2013

Waiting to hear from Sport NI if our allocated funding for 2010/2011 is confirmed given the well publicised reduction in Sport NI's funding from DCAL.

Annual Financial Statements 30 September 2008

Confirmed by auditors only change due to £20k CT provision in the draft format approved by the Management Board 29 October 2009 Results : Actual £2.1k Profit, Budget £1.0k Loss , Net assets £30.9k with 29 days spend.

Management Accounts period 3 months ended 31 December

Profit £8.6k, Budget Profit £9.3k, Net assets £38.5k

Competition

IAAF/ McCain UK Challenge Cross Country

Successful event at Antrim, incorporating the Celtic Games Team Challenge.

Antrim will also venue for the forthcoming Schools Home Countries International Cross Country Championships.

IAAF allocation date for 2010/2011 season will be 26 January 2011.

Our thanks to UKA Endurance staff namely Ian Stewart and Spencer Barden for their assistance and professional expertise in the assembly of the international and UKA competitors.

National Junior & Senior Cross Country Championships

Successful junior event with Special Olympic Gold Medalist Michael McKillop adding the title to his trophy list. In the forthcoming Senior event 13 February 2010 Willowfield's Brian Campbell will be going for his 4th consecutive senior title while the ladies race appears to be very open.

Irish Indoors

Successful event with impressive performances from Ciara Mageean, Kelly McNeice, Clare Wilkinson and Jo Patterson in the ladies while the men's performances came from Dean Adams and James McIlroy.

Promotional

Joy Alexander won the Officials Award at the UKA Awards dinner in December.

Courses

Several Courses arranged for Level 2 Coaches award and various levels for Officials as well as mentoring and guidance updates

Volunteers

Successful transition for the fledglings on their first major event at the Indoors which justified the investment, and is now essential part of our succession planning and requirement strategy.

Congratulations

GB & NI Team's performance at Dublin at the European Cross Country Championships. Very evident by the results that the hard work by the endurance staff and coaching team created a special occasion for the younger team members and more important great team bonding.

Commonwealth Games Delhi

Team manager and assistant appointed namely Jackie McKernan and David Reid.
Several proposed holding camps in Portugal (2) and Doha which are all acceptable, however, financial appraisal to be prepared for best value and best practice.

RC raised concern over CvC not attending the European Cross Country in December.

Lynette Harris - Welsh Athletics

The first preparation weekend for potential Commonwealth Games athletes and their coaches was held in Cardiff on December 11-13. This was organised by our new Head of Coaching John Dagata who brought together an impressive group of speakers to prepare our athletes on the road to Delhi and beyond.

Our Welsh Indoor Championships were held at NIAC on 23, 30 & 31 January. The Senior Open Championships attracted a number of quality athletes from different parts of the UK; the two day even for our junior athletes was also well supported by athletes from all the Welsh Regions.

Welsh Athletics has presented its Major Events Framework to the Welsh Assembly to cover the period 2010-2012. This was well received and we hope that this will result in additional funding to support some of the events.

Welsh Track and Field leagues have been restructured and the changes will be implemented this year.

The UKA Cardiff Cross Challenge was staged at Blackwear in the shadow Cardiff Castle in the heart of the city on 17 January. This was a very successful event which was well supported by athletes and officials.

Senior staff and the chair Welsh Athletics attended a panel meeting with the Sports Council for Wales on 8 February to review activities undertaken during the past year and to present the programme for the coming year. We were congratulated on the progress made to date; the outcome however was that we remain on a standstill budget. Although this was somewhat disappointing perhaps it is not surprising in the current financial climate

The Indoor Celtic Cup International which will be staged at NIAC on 21 February. This event caters for our senior and under 20 age group. In addition, the event includes a Schools international for the under16 age group which serves to strengthen the athlete pathway. The inclusion of the schools in the programme reinforces the close working relationships between Welsh Athletics and Welsh Schools AA.

Welsh Athletics wishes to record it's thanks to the colleagues from UKA who have provided invaluable guidance and support relating to different areas of work during the past few months.

LH confirmed that Mike Delaney had been appointed as Welsh team manager for the Commonwealth Games.

Mike Summers – England Athletics

Coaching masterclasses on hurdles, high jump, sprint, pole vault and endurance (with BMC) attract over 400 coaches.

441 coaches now supported on Local Coach Development Programme led by our Club and Coach Support Officers in partnership with the National and Area Coach Mentors.

Over 400 coaches attended the National Coaching conferences in December with scores of 8.4 out of 10 for satisfaction and all attendees saying they'd recommend to others.

Nine women-only Physical Preparation courses arranged as part of our programme to support Women in Coaching.

London Head of Coaching Advertised. Closing date 19 February. Interviews 25 February 2010. Athletics Networks - 48 applications now at a 'develop' or 'delivery' stage. Phase 4 submissions due by 26 February. Next quarterly reports are due this month.

The Education and Customer Services team have been re-structured. Paul Bearman has left the organisation. Cheryl Pooni has been promoted to the Head Office Supervisory role reporting to Chris Mallender; Neil Deans appointed to an interim role to lead on coach education implementation.

The new TRINITY database for coach education has now been implemented within the team - initially for all Leadership and Level 1 courses to ensure the system works for us and our

customers; backlog with licence production has been resolved for coaches, but still needs further work for officials.

Affiliation review group has been convened. No changes to 2010 scheme but cheaper card being resourced to reduce costs. All options being considered for 2011 scheme.

Consultation process live – closing date 1 March – around 1000 responses to date.

Consultation Roadshow: 20 roadshows across the country planned with 3 networks linked up for each. To be led by CCSOs with support from Regional Councils

First Officials Magazine “For The Record” circulated to 3,500 people via officials conferences and area associations – further editions out in Summer and Autumn. Officials e bulletin being prepared to go to around 1,000 officials bi weekly.

Coaching team for Commonwealth Games Delhi announced. Adidas confirmed as kit supplier. Communications plan in place: athletes providing blogs and regular news stories.

Run in England Partnership discussions ongoing with the Forestry Commission, the NHS and Cancer Research UK. Run in England 3-2-1 launch took place on 29 January with Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport Ben Bradshaw. A video is on the website.

MS to add the Council Members on to the distribution list for PACE magazine & the new Officials magazine For The Record.

MS confirmed that Mike Heath had been appointed to England Athletics Board and will sit on the competitions strategy group.

England Athletics have announced that John Brierley would be the Team Manager and Tim Newnham team coach for the Commonwealth Games. MS wish to thank Alison Wyeth for her support with the Commonwealth Games.

Seb Coe - IAAF report

Nothing to report

Jonathan Edwards – European Athletics report

Nothing to report

Any Other Business

International appointments strategy - RC asked about a strategy for 2011 – NdV to discuss at next meeting

RS said that the agenda did not include any Paralympic update. SH to ensure IPC report included on the agenda. RS update the Council over debates with IPC and changes to a number of rules. RS said that working with Peter Eriksson, changes to a number of rules had been averted.

FD asked NdV the reason for dropping of UKCC before having a replacement coaching programme in place. NdV to provide FD with details but stressed that the drive for a decision came from the Home Countries whose primary objective was one of price – UKCC was simply viewed as too expensive. LD confirmed that this decision had been supported by UKMC.

Date of next meeting

Sunday 27 June – Birmingham