

**UKA Members Meeting**  
**Friday 25 February 2022 – 9.30**  
**via Teams Call**

**Present:** Jason Gardener – President  
Stefanie Reid – Vice President  
Steve Perks – Welsh Athletics Chair  
Gary Shaughnessy – England Athletics Chair  
David Abrahams – Athletics Northern Ireland Chair  
Grace Hall – Clubs Elected Representative  
Julian Starkey – Clubs Elected Representative  
Arwel Williams – Officials Representative  
Mike Leonard – Senior Coaches Representative  
Andrew Heyes – Chair of the Athletes Commission  
Roland Gibbard – Road Running Representative

**In Attendance** Ian Beattie – UKA Chair  
Mark Munro – Interim UKA Chief Executive  
Mark Draisey – UKA Chief Financial Officer and Company Secretary

**Welcome and Apologies**

The President welcomed those attending the meeting. Apologies were received from Ronald Morrison

**1. Minutes of the previous meetings and actions**

***Members meeting 17 December 2021***

The minutes of the meeting and been previously circulated for comment and were duly approved

***EGM 28 January 2022***

The minutes of the meeting and been previously circulated for comment and were duly approved

***Matters arising***

Logo size, MM confirmed that information has been provided to World Athletics with feedback and further discussion expected – to be kept as an open item on matters arising for future meetings – **Action MM**

Role title for the post held by GH and JS – to be covered in CFO update

Proposals were presented to the EGM on the 28<sup>th</sup> January and approved

MM confirmed that the next commercial work group is scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> March and will be raised then – to be kept as an open item on matter arising for future meetings – **Action MM**

JS raised the question on the correct terminology to be used for his role title compared to the role used for the recent election and subsequent of appointment of GH. MD to review and make a proposal at the next meeting – **Action MD**

### ***EGM 17 September 2021***

The minutes of the meeting were duly approved.

## **2. President's update**

The President thanked all of those involved in the hosting of the indoor grand prix on the previous weekend and noted how fantastic it was to see the event on the BBC with a crowd in the stadium. His best wishes for all those taking part in the forthcoming indoor championship were conveyed and how it represented a further great opportunity.

The President noted the disappointment following the announcement from CAS in respect of the doping incident at the Tokyo Olympics and the loss of the medal from the other members of the 4x100 men's relay team.

The updated concluded by reminding Members present on the importance of respecting the information that would be shared with them during today's meeting.

## **3. Vice Presidents update**

The Vice-President agreed with and supported the comments from the President.

The Vice-President also noted that following a recent training session at the Loughborough Performance Centre how pleased she was to see that feminine sanitary products are now available for free at the centre. She noted how science is recognising and promoting the benefits from aligning the menstrual cycle with training regimes.

The Vice-President also noted how positive it would for these messages to be re-enforced at club level.

## **4. UKA Chair Update**

The UKA Chair opened by thanking everyone for their efforts in connection with the indoor events that were being delivered either side of this meeting, in addition to the great news that Glasgow had been appointed the host city for the 2024 World Indoor Athletics.

The UKA Chair confirmed that following the EGM and the changes that were agreed UK Sport confirmed that these changes satisfy the final part of the change plan. Although this has been confirmed UK Sport will continue to take an interest in UKA.

Members were provided with an update on a number of key items:

- Ongoing UK Sport Governance review – following on from the completed Finance Review for which UKA received a satisfactory outcome
- Forthcoming Performance Review with UK Sport on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April
- Continued focus on building and improving relationships with stakeholders including World Athletics, European Athletics and UK partner cities. As part of this UKA representatives will be at the World Indoors, World Outdoors and European Outdoors.

- Details on recent Board changes were confirmed in respect of the appointment of Wendy Sly and Marilyn Okoro. It was confirmed that the quality of candidates was high. These appointments continue to ensure that the UKA Board is compliant with and exceeding the requirements on Board diversity.
- It was confirmed that the CEO recruitment process continues to go to plan with an announcement of the successful candidate expected to be made before the end of March.
- Details on likely changes to the Board in respect of the different sub-committees were outlined, these are still to be formally considered however Members will be kept apprised of progress
- It was also noted that the intention going forward was to re-establish the international working group of individuals who represent the UK on various international forums and groups together to share latest information in a more effective way.
- Following a query from the Members the UKA Chair confirmed that the work being done should be seen as covering all aspects of the sport including para.

## 5. UKA CEO and CFO Update

The interim CEO and CFO provided an overview presentation to the Members on current operational activity covering the following areas:

- Performance – With updates provided on the new performance management group and its purpose which is to consider the performance strategy and system and not specific technical coaching activity it was noted that the group will initially focus on Olympic with Para to follow in due course. Plus, an outline of current recruitment activity within the Performance team was also provided. The interim CEO also updated Members on the engagement that has been undertaken with members of the men's 4x100m relay team following the positive drug test, Members noted that UKA would not be issuing any further statements until after the AIU issue their decision
- Communications – With updates provided on the work that is ongoing with the SID to consider our overall approach and our aspirations for the future. In respect of Honour's nominations UKA and England Athletics are working on a joint process, the other Home Countries have their own routes through the devolved administrations
- Major Events & Competitions – Area of significant focus with lots of activity. Further information will be provided to Members later in the year. A question over the on-boarding/invite process for officials was raised and how this is co-ordinated. MM will seek feedback on this process. **Action MM**
- Commercial – With updates provide on the levels of activity with potential new partners with details to provided as and when new deals are confirmed. It was noted that getting the BBC broadcast confirmed for 2022 was good news for the sport.
- Development – Updates provided on the coach development framework and the new disciplinary procedures and licence terms and conditions which are to be published shortly.

- Safeguarding – Updates were provided on the overall level of cases that are being reported, whilst case numbers are high it is reflective of the fact that individuals are confident in the process to come forward. It was noted that the timescale for some cases can be long but is reflective of the complexity of that case. MM reiterated the fact that UKA have a zero-tolerance approach and that he has spoken to both UK Sport and Sport England on the more general point that NGB's cannot have the full responsibility for tackling and dealing with these issues. UKA is setting up a safeguarding advisory panel to provide guidance in these areas and includes individuals from NSPCC, the Police and those with lived experience.
- Governance – MD outlined next steps following the EGM which includes changes required to be made to the Election Regulations and Members Code of Conduct. The regulations are to be approved by the Board with Members being asked to comment on proposed changes to the Code of Conduct prior to formal approval. It was also note that MD will work with RG and others to define the nomination/election process for the Road Runners representative. An update on members terms of office was provided. It was agreed that that elected club representatives would be known as “Clubs Elected Representative”
- Finance – updates on the current financial position and budget process was provided.

It was also noted that the plan for the next Members meeting would be to invite the wider UKA Executive to the meeting to provide a more detailed overview on their areas.

## 6. Home Countries update

- Members noted that Athletics NI will recruiting for a new CEO, during this period an ANI Board member will take on the role on an interim basis.
- No other material points were raised.

## 7. Volunteer Reports (where specific item raised)

### a. Road Running

- i. It was noted that the easing of Covid restrictions is making the organisation of road running events easier
- ii. A request was raised that the status/make up of the working groups be provided. This will be prepared for the next Members meeting. **Action MM/MD**
- iii. It was noted that the approach for trans athlete inclusion is on the agenda and that a sport position will be required. Updates will be provided to Members at the appropriate time.

### b. Clubs

- i. A number of points were raised by the two club representatives. Areas of focus concern the shortage of officials for events, the timing and availability of the new rule book, the facility requirements for different competition levels and how that could be a barrier to entry for certain locations and the lack of face-to-face courses in favour of on-line.

ii. It was noted and welcomed that the general level of athletics continues to increase at club level as Covid restrictions are easing.

c. Coaches

i. It was noted that the Senior Coaches Representative has been in discussions with other coaches in regard to the Coaching Strategy. The strategy is welcome, but care is required in striking the right balance between raising the bar and professionalism

d. Officials

i. It was noted that in advance of the meeting a query was raised in respect of new safeguarding training required to be completed by officials. An update on numbers was provided and Members will be kept informed of progress in future meetings

8. Any Other Business

No further business was raised.

The meeting closed at 11.20am

END

### Summary of Actions

Point	ACTION	Responsible
1	Ongoing dialogue with World Athletics in respect of logo size on athletic vests to be kept as an open item and further updates to be provided at future meetings	<b>ACTION: MM</b>
1	MM to feed back to Commercial working group on lack of gender diversity in group membership at its meeting on 5 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>ACTION: MM</b>
5	MM to seek feedback on the on-boarding/nomination process for officials at Events	<b>ACTION: MM</b>
7	Update on make-up and status of working groups to be provided at the next meeting	<b>ACTION: MM/MD</b>