

Scottish Athletics Limited

Road Running and Cross Country Commission

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 3rd February 2025 at 1800 hrs. via Zoom.

Present:

Mike Johnston (Chair), Dave Cairns, Ted Finch, Dave Hanlon, Sandra Hardacre, Alison Heggie, Colin Hutchison, Alex Jackson, Alasdhair Love, John McKay, Angela Mudge, John Newsom, Sharon Taylor, Michael Wright.

Chairman's Welcome, Apologies and Opening Remarks

No apologies received.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly Dave Hanlon who was attending his first meeting of the RR & CCC.

Well done to Central AC who finished 8th in the European XC Clubs in Portugal on 2nd February.

(2) Papers Circulated:

- (1) Minutes of previous meeting of 11th November 2024 (MJ)*
- (2) Endurance Officials update (DC)*
- (3) Age Group Change – Feedback on distances and competitions (AL)*
- (4) Unapproved East District Minutes (SH) – For info only
- (5) Draft West District Minutes (ST) – For info only

Minutes of last meeting:

The minutes were agreed as accurate by the meeting.

(3) Actions agreed and continued:

- **RRCC21/09 – Development of Scottish Athletics Races –** Ongoing – MJ/AL
- **RRCC23/02 –**
Age Group Change – Paper circulated with Minutes – Meeting had been held – MJ/AL/AM/AJ/SH in attendance.
Overview of where we are now –

U10's will be in Rulebook. We should give some guidance about U10's in Endurance Events in that it is local club led activities only.

Suggestion that U12's could run first leg of District Relays. When looking into this further it was felt that this was not a good idea – it could be that an U12 wins a District Medal but is not allowed to compete in the National Relays. Meeting agreed with U12's not being allowed to compete in District Relays. Appropriate races for U12's to be considered such as League or County Events.

Agreed New Age Groups - U13 become U14
 U15 become U16
 U17 become U18

Good communication of implications of the changes will be required. It is anticipated that when the roll out of communication happens there will be lots of feedback from athletes, coaches and parents.

Agreed by all at meeting that there was merit in recognising more finishers in the younger age groups. This will be looked at further and possibly a couple of pilot races next year.

A fuller document was sent to commission members. MJ stated that the information within this document should be discussed at Commission level only.

AL – Unique opportunity to make changes that we feel are correct. Everything is proposals and further discussions will take place with Commissions, Officials, Coaches, Clubs, Young People's Forum.

Feedback on this last document is encouraged. Please pass any input to MJ who will input this to the group via AL.

(4) Championship Events Applications:

Would be good if we could identify races, we are giving Championship status to earlier than we are currently.

(5) Events Completed and to Come:

Completed

30.11.24 – District Championships -

East District – Everything went well

North District – Everything went well – thanks to SA for sending banners which made it look more like a Championship event.

West District – Everything went well. Good course and would be good to have other events on this course.

11.1.25 – Inter District XC Championships –

Good course which was spectator friendly. UK Challenge event was incorporated into this event. Unsure as to what will happen with Challenge events for next year. Looking to cut them to 4 events. World XC Championships will always be in January. There will be changes to post Christmas events. 2026 will be the last time we are in step with the UK – age group changes.

The intake of more elite athletes and athletes from south of the border – MW has thoughts on this and will be discussed further at our next meeting.

When age group changes come into effect Students (U20's) will not be allowed to run the distance of Senior races. An U20 Team event will need to be looked at. U20 age group will have a smaller catchment – we need to look at the effects this will have on all our events.

Challenge Status; U20 teams for 2026; encouraging larger numbers of entries from England and Wales; to be discussed as an agenda item at the next meeting

To Come

8.2.25 – Masters XC Championships - No changing facilities – everything at course (declarations etc) – presentations as we go. Course looking good. Record entry in the M65 category.

22.2.25 – National XC Championships – entries close on Thursday 6th February. More Marshals needed. All bookings made. Officials allocations completed. Course that we will be on has not been affected by the recent high winds.

15.3.25 – East Fortune – booking has been confirmed. Athletes will run course in opposite direction to that of 2 years ago. Course visit arranged for 12th February.

22.3.25 – 6/4 Stage Relay – School booked.

(6) Endurance Officials Report:

Report circulated.

Update to report is that there are now three L3 Upgrades rather than two.

There is still a vacancy on the North District for a Rep. JN asked what was expected of the person who would be doing this - DC agreed to send JN Guidance Notes for this. Next North District meeting to be held this week.

(7) Selection Group:

All selectors agreed to continue and appointed for 2025 and 2026. Selection meetings have already taken place.

(8) Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on 12th May 2025 at 5.30 pm.

The following meeting will be held on 11th August 2025.

Meeting closed at 7 pm

SH –17th February 2025