scottishathletics **Hill Running Commission**

Minutes of Commission Meeting held at Caledonia House on 5 May 2009

1 Attendance

Present: Alasdair Anthony, David Armitage (Chair), Emma Birnie (West Regional Co-ordinator), Hugh Buchanan (Central Regional Co-ordinator), Mark Johnston (Secretary), Mike Johnston (**scottish**athletics' National Endurance Manager), Ian Nimmo (minutes), Malcolm Patterson (Scottish Hill Runners), Mike Pearson (Finance)
Apologies: Jamie Thin (East Regional Co-ordinator), Geoff Wightman (**scottish**athletics' Chief Executive)

2 Minutes of meeting of 17 March 2009 (previously circulated) Approved.

3 Matters arising (not covered elsewhere)

- *Stride*'s list of forthcoming races (4.1) has been amended.
- Including age limits in **scottish**athletics' Fixture Lists (4.2) is feasible. *Action*: Mike Johnston to liaise with John McDonald
- Scottish Hill Runners' list of junior races was publicised on the **scottish**athletics web site: http://www.scottishathletics.org.uk/index.php?p=17&itemType=news&itemId=4089

4 Reports

4.1 Convenor's update (David Armitage)

- The article on Scotland's best moments in the World Trophy was published in *PB* (Issue 1 for 2009, pp. 8-9).
- **scottish**athletics has received an invitation from the organisers to send a team **to the** WMRA International Youth Challenge.

4.2 Scottish Hill Runners (Malcolm Patterson)

- Malcolm Patterson thanked the Commission for the invitation to join it and hopes to help cement the relationship between the two organisations.
- The competitive season is progressing well.
- The junior calendar has been well-received. However some organisers have not told Scottish Hill Runners that they are putting on junior races alongside their senior ones.
- There have been several races for which juniors were refused entry because of the distances involved (UKA Rule 410).
- Scottish Hill Runners is keen to help the Commission to develop new international opportunities.

4.3 Endurance Squads (Mike Johnston)

- Squad meetings are expected to recommence at the end of May, by which time the National Coach will have been appointed.
- Squads in Highland and Grampian have been operating on a month-by-month basis.

5 Finance (Mike Pearson)

- The position with regard to 2008/09 and 2009/10 is broadly satisfactory.

- National teams may be invited to the World Long Distance Mountain Running Challenge (Austria, October). For budgetary purposes this event could replace the "New UK fixture?".

6 Policy and Technical Issues

6.1 UKA Mountain Running Advisory Group (Mark Johnston)
- The Group met on 3 April. Its main remit is the performance end of mountain running.
- The Group is proposing to introduce a Mountain Running Grand Prix. The Commission agreed that suitable races for it are the Inter-Counties, the European and World Trials, and a Home Countries' International. *Action*: Mark Johnston
- Alan Barlow is chairing a sub-group to look after traditional hill/fell running (including the British Championships and Relays).
- The Group is proposing to organise senior UK squads for mountain running.
- The Group would like nominations from Scotland for team managers. *Action*: Mark Johnston, Mike Johnston

6.2 Composition and Management of Commission
- Scottish Hill Runners' representative Malcolm Patterson has joined the Commission.
- The Commission confirmed the appointment of Linda MacEwan (Lochaber) as the North Regional Co-ordinator.
- The Commission approved its revised Terms of Reference. These should be now published on the **scottish**athletics web site. *Action*: Ian Nimmo
  [Note: they can be downloaded from Home > About Us > Organisation]

6.3 Behaviour of competitors and spectators
- The Commission is concerned that competitors, non-competing runners and spectators could all inadvertently upset race organisers' safety and finishing procedures.
- The Commission agreed that it should re-iterate, e.g. via the **scottish**athletics and Scottish Hill Runners web sites, that (a) competitors who retire must inform the organisers as soon as possible; and (b) non-competing runners and spectators must ensure that course marshals and finish teams do not mistake them for competitors. *Action*: Malcolm Patterson

6.4 Levies and British Championship races The Commission needs to establish the position with regard to the non-members' levy of competitors in British Championship races from countries other than Scotland. *Action*: David Armitage

6.5 Team competition The rules regarding first- and second-claim clubs need to be clarified. The Road and Cross-country Commission has suggested amendments to them. David Armitage will circulate these suggestions to the Commission for comment. *Action*: All

7 Domestic competition

7.1 One-off senior Championship (Clachnaben, 11 April)
- The Championship was a success, although none of the three MU23 finishers was a **scottish**athletics member and therefore eligible for the Championship.
- The Commission needs to formalise rules for calculating team positions. These may also be proposed for inclusion in the 2010 edition of UKA's *Rules of Competition*. *Action*: Mark Johnston
- The Commission should consider providing the race organiser with a suitable spreadsheet for processing the results. *Action*: Hugh Buchanan
- The Commission re-affirmed that it should enforce UKA's Rule 410 on minimum ages.

7.2 Junior Championships, Ben Lomond (9 May): in hand.

7.3 Inter-counties Championship, Kendal (23 May): in hand.

7.4 British Championships, 2010: Scotland has been asked to host a short race in July. *Action*: Mark Johnston

8 International Fixtures

8.1 Proposals for an annual senior Home International to be formulated initially by David Armitage and Mark Johnston. *Action*: David Armitage, Mark Johnston

8.2 The Commonwealth Championships (17-20 September) are assumed to be going ahead.

9. Development activities Development weekend at Wanlockhead, 9-10 January 2010: in hand. *Action*: Malcolm Patterson

10 Dates of next meetings: Tuesday 23 June then Thursday 20 August.

Action points

Alasdair Anthony 6.5
Emma Birnie 6.5
Hugh Buchanan 6.5, 7.1
David Armitage 6.4, 6.5, 8.1
Mark Johnston 6.1 (×2), 6.5, 7.1, 7.4, 8.1
Mike Johnston 3, 6.1, 6.5
Linda MacEwan 6.5
Ian Nimmo 6.2, 6.5
Malcolm Patterson 6.3, 6.5, 9
Mike Pearson 6.5
Jamie Thin 6.5
Geoff Wightman 6.5