Cheshire Athletics Network Minutes 6th June 2011

1 EA coach survey

Vicky briefly explained the request for information about coach numbers and structure for T&F clubs in Cheshire. Forms were handed out to the respective clubs and separate to the meeting *representatives* were asked to complete them and return to either Vicky or Sarah Friday.

2 Over view of year 2 plan

Andy Garnett as chairman briefed the newer representatives on the lead up to the plan and then the subsequent presentation to the EA panel. Since that time, although a favourable verbal response has been received, nothing has been heard officially. Vicky presented a variation to the seven point plan, based on her understanding of the feedback from the panel. This appears to change the emphasis more towards Coaching rather than a combined coach and athlete development concept, which was in the original plan submission.

After a robust and lively discussion, the conclusion was England Athletics who control the budget can direct the emphasis of the athletics network work. Andy was asked to send an email to Andy Lee asking for a formal response to the plan as more than 3 weeks had now elapsed since the presentation. *Action AG*

3 Network composition and Needs

It was agreed that over the next 2/3 months VH should attempt to visit both clubs already in the network and potential new clubs to build up a better understanding of the clubs needs, to meet a wider cross section of club representatives and to promote the year 2 plan. *Action VH*

4 Plan implementation

Based on the assumption that the plan was approved, a discussion on how to map out a calendar was considered taking into account generic, specific, and road race running organiser events. These should continue to be both a mixture of both event specific coaching, coupled with complementary workshops.

It was important to have these as a series, repeating certain themes; to ensure there were no clashes with other EA events, and where possible combining with other local networks. We should make sure that there was a clear buy in and reward for coaches attending; to utilise flying coaches and to incorporate master classes from outside experts.

However, the emphasis must be on delivering these locally and building and repeating on last years successes. Payment for attendance was considered necessary.

At this stage the following dates were suggested for 2011 - Wed 13 July (Parlauf?); w/e of 16/17th July; Sat 6 Aug (alongside Teggs Nose fell race?); 24/25th Sept; 1/2nd Oct; 15/16th Oct; 26/27th Nov.

Representatives of clubs were asked to check venue availability and willingness to commit to a specific date.

Responses to VH before the next meeting; to enable Vicky to publish a skeleton programme for consideration.

5 Network promotion and membership

VH to follow up specifically with Warrington, Halton & Frodsham, and Helsby to try to cement their ongoing commitment. Also both VH and Sarah Friday to visit clubs

preferably on training nights to both promote the network and to seek responses to a few set Questions.

It was important that clubs had a link to the Cheshire network on their respective websites, and that the county website was fully utilised.

The Cheshire network should have its own identity.

The use of flyers along the lines of that used by Manchester was proposed. VH to consider.

It was agreed that Andy Garnett should make an application for an EA award as Athletic Network of the year. *Action AG*

6 Funding

We need to improve how we can manage the funding of our events. A meeting with representatives of Sport Cheshire was required - A date of Tues 14th June was proposed with Mike Cutler, Bob Lynch and Vicky Huyton attending. *VH to check availability of Sport Cheshire personnel*

7 Future Meeting dates

Mon. 18th July and 12th Sept.

Bob Lynch 7th June2011.