

# South Yorkshire Athletics Network

1<sup>st</sup> February 2011

3.00-5.00pm

## Year 2 Planning Meeting

Athletes Study  
English Institute of Sport,  
Sheffield

### Attendees

Ashley Little (AL – SYAN NDO),  
Janette Tomlins (JT- Wombwell SAC & BADG),  
Steve Marshall (SM - HH & SADG),  
Steve Gaines (SG - RH&AC & RADG),  
Julie Feeney (JF – Quad Kids),

Stuart Rogers ( SR - SY Sport),  
Kev Lincoln. (DAC & DADG),  
Adam Brown (England Athletics)  
Michelle Dent (MD - FDSO Yorkshire).

### Minutes

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<b>Agenda item:</b>	<b>1. Welcome &amp; Introductions &amp; Apologies</b>	<b>Presenter:</b> AL
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✓ AL welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were passed on from:

Ryan Amos (RA – Sheffield Hallam University).

<b>Agenda item:</b>	<b>2. Year 1 Review</b>	<b>Presenter:</b> ALL
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- ✓ AL informed the group that to aid the year 2 planning process, it would be beneficial to have a review of the successes and potential failures of year 1. AL stated that the coach development programme delivered through the coach sub group had been really successful, with a lot of positive feedback and praise of tutors, and the level of which the courses have been ran at.
  - ✓ SM informed the group that the timing of the coach sub group has been a problem for some representatives, and this may have lead to a lower attendance than other clubs.
  - ✓ SG stated that year 1 has provided many learning points, and one is the communication methods and the number of emails sent out. For AL & AB to work together in distributing information to clubs, and do a weekly information email.
  - ✓ JT raised the cost of printing the coach development posters to clubs, as whilst they look really good, the amount of coloured ink required is a lot. AL stated that she would print out a pack of posters for clubs and will either drop them off at clubs or they will be available for collection.
  - ✓ SM said that the group had talked about coaches not needing or wanting to do CPD, maybe this could be raised in the year 2 planning process? All agreed.
  - ✓ SM stated that whilst proposing to have volunteer coordinators in clubs is a good idea, the reality is clubs are struggling for volunteers in other roles, and some volunteers and doing numerous roles within a club and can not take on another. AL asked the group whether it would be worth running a workshop for volunteers within the clubs, on the roles within a club, and providing additional support on these roles, and what support they can receive. All agreed to add this into the year 2 plan.
  - ✓ AB questioned whether the network could produce a network wide reward scheme? And whether clubs currently have any at the moment which best practises could be shared between the other clubs. KL said Doncaster AC currently has one, and he would send AL a copy of it. All agreed this would be a project to be added in to the year 2 plan.
  - ✓ SR said that the CSP have an officer that can be contacted to support and provide links across the county to help with volunteer recruitment and retainment, and can be contacted via telephone or email.
  - ✓ Al informed the group that a volunteer toolkit had been developed, and has previously been emailed out to clubs. SM asked whether it could be emailed out again, and whether it would be useful to be uploaded onto each clubs website. AL said she would email the toolkit out, as well as uploading it onto the SYAN website ([www.syanet.co.uk](http://www.syanet.co.uk)). Clubs can then upload the toolkit onto their website.
  - ✓ SG informed the group that he and AL had met with Geoff Wightman about the Run in England Sheffield Coordinator, and the changes that are currently undergoing with RIE. It was confirmed at the meeting that the Sheffield post & projects will be covering the 'S' postcode, which includes Rotherham and Barnsley. AL & SG are to attend a Run Sheffield Meeting scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2011, where they will meet the new coordinator and will gain a clearer understanding of the projects. SG also informed the group of the upcoming Running Sub Group Launch, which will link in with the Run Sheffield projects.
  - ✓ SG informed the group that there was low attendance at the U11 competition which took place towards the end of January, in which AL & SG were team managers. The coordinator from Sports hall associates has been in talks with AL about a plan for next year to increase numbers. AL will give info later in the meeting.
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- ✓ It was suggested for network to produce an events calendar, in which coaches are aware of all the upcoming competitions, therefore can plan their athletes training. All agreed for this to be added into the year 2 plan.
- ✓ JF informed the group about quad kids, and how it can be easily adapted into clubs, as it is a ready made scheme. JF state that with the changes currently happening with SSPs, their focus is now on supporting clubs and networks. JF also said that she would be delivering the networks workshop of quad kids on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2011. SG enquired about the interclub quad kids competition that is running in Calderdale. AL to contact Brian Burgin to gain information on their programme.

*NB – AL contacted the Calderdale network, and they run a sports hall athletics programme, not a quad kids programme.*

<b>Agenda item:</b>	<b>3. &amp; 4. Year 2</b>	<b>Presenter:</b> ALL
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- ✓ All agreed for the coach sub group to develop the coach development projects for the year 2 plan.
- ✓ AL informed the group that RA had provided some information on how Sheffield Hallam could support the clubs with year 2 potential projects. AL informed the group that RA is to speak to the Sheffield clubs about working together and utilising the clubs performance coaches for some training for their students, and there is some potential funding for this. SM informed the group that there was already an informal agreement for this. SM also questioned why RA had spoken with AL instead of attending the SADG. AL stated that she had met with RA to try and get the university more involved with the SYAN, and build a more effective partnership. *NB – RA attended the SADG meeting that took place after this meeting.*
- ✓ AL also informed the group that other projects could be for a volunteering programme, where university students could gain coaching experience through the clubs, whilst helping the clubs increase their volunteer numbers. RA also said that the university could also help with the coach education programme, as they can run courses on behalf of the network, but can also source tutors from their lecturers for the network. RA also stated that the network can also utilise the volunteers that currently run their park run, and that the university can also train up volunteers through their own programmes. Agreed to put this project into the plan.
- ✓ Official Development was discussed, as it hadn't been in the year 1 project. There was a discussion on running a local level 1 officials course. All agreed that there wasn't a problem with the cost of the course (£10 per person), just the locality and getting officials onto it. All agreed for this to be put in the plan, but for people to book on and pay for it themselves. An audit of the officials across the network club was also agreed to be put in the plan, as the coach audit in year 1 had been successful. A discussion on equipment for officials was discussed such as waterproof clipboards, however no final decision was made on whether to include it or not.
- ✓ AL informed the group that Kevin from Sports hall associates had suggested about running local come and try sessions or competitions within the four boroughs for U11s to create more interest, and provide an increase in numbers for the county team selection. Sports hall associates would not be able to cover the cost of the venues, however would supply everything else as in-kind support. All agreed to put this project in, and run it for U11s only.
- ✓ SM asked whether the network could purchase electronic timing equipment and EDM. SG replied saying whilst he agreed with the idea in principle, as the area could do with this equipment, he did think that the majority of it should be funded through the SYCAA. SG proposed that the network could propose the SYCAA and other clubs about this idea, and the network could contribute a small amount.
- ✓ SG informed the group that running projects of the plan will be added after the meeting that AL & SG are attending with the Sheffield Coordinator, and the launch of the running group. *NB – taking place on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April*

- ✓ SG also raised that through the schools sub group it was discussed that the network clubs should support the track and field and cross country county schools championships. Agreed to be put in the plan.
- ✓ AL then went through the proposal by the Doncaster ADG. It was agreed that the network would put the following projects into their year 2 plan: disability training workshops with a practical session to follow up, aimed at assistant coach or level 2 coaches; a workshop for club volunteers aimed at disability awareness; production and printing of flyers to advertise all the disability projects; summer disability star track (being ran by Doncaster AC – an in kind project). The group decided not to include transport for a specials schools programme, as this would not be of any benefit for the network, and they asked for more information on the disability activity sessions to be ran in collaboration with Doncaster Rovers, and asked whether it would be opened up to the network? It has no been added in to the year 2 plan to date.

<b>Agenda item:</b>	<b>5. Prioritisation of Projects</b>	<b>Presenter:</b> ALL
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- ✓ Due to the short amount of time left of the meeting, it was decided for AL to type up the ideas from the meeting into the year 2 plan form, and for it to be emailed out for further consultation.
- ✓ The consultation would take place up until the meeting to be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April 2011, which the year 2 plan will be reviewed and revised twice, with comments and feedback from all clubs.

<b>Agenda item:</b>	<b>9. AOB</b>	<b>Presenter:</b> ALL
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**Date of Next Network Meeting: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> of April 2011, 3-5pm, EIS Athlete Study**