

## **South Yorkshire Athletics network meeting 9<sup>th</sup> June 2010, EIS Sheffield**

### Present

Janette Tomlins (JT- Wombwell SAC & BADG), Steve Marshall (SM - HH & SADG), Louise White ( LW - CM Rep), Steve Gaines (SG - RH&AC & RADG), Bruce Kelsey (BK - SYSport), Emma Brady (EB - CCSO), Peter Moore (PM - Coach sub group) Nick Gaywood (NG - PDM /SSP).

### Apologies

Lisa Wright (CM Lead; subs Louise White), Helen Cund (SYSport; Subs Bruce Kelsey), John Howley, (CoS) Kev Lincoln. (DAC & DADG)

### Minutes of last meeting

EB advised that her lap top hard drive had crashed, meaning that all her files and internet connection had been lost. The minutes had been typed up, but not received, and it may be that the minutes may not be retrievable. This was accepted since the bulk, if not all the previous meeting had been to agree the revised plan content, which was now accepted by England Athletics (EA)

### Plan update

EB confirmed that she had added some notional targets to the plan agreed at the last meeting and submitted to Alex Copeland.

The following plan elements (categorised green) were updated / clarified as follows:-

- SYAN NDO appointments process, The advertisement had been agreed and the salary range clarified and confirmed. There had been a delay in getting the advert published and recruitment process commenced due to Barnsley MBC requiring some information from SYSport. This had been supplied and would be taken by the BMBC cabinet on 5<sup>th</sup> July. It was expected that this would be agreed and advertising and recruitment would follow that date.
- The SYAN launch was discussed. The event was agreed as an evening event on 12<sup>th</sup> July at EIS. EB & Stuart Rogers would be organising the event, and would agree the content and format with SG. Two planning meetings were agreed, 29<sup>th</sup> June and Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup>. Key themes would be:- Introduction /outline of SYAN key aims and plan actions, Coach development, and Young Athlete development. EB was in the process of contacting guest attendees. SG would circulate the format and slides to the SYAN members prior to the 12<sup>th</sup>. SM unable to attend as on holiday. Invites would be sent to all SY affiliated clubs, ADGs, & Coaches.

#### **Decision agreed that the plan sum £400 be approved for payment to cover costs.**

- SYAN Website; After discussion it was agreed that the best way forward was not to establish a new SYAN web site immediately, but to review the whole of the SY athletics websites / resources and to ensure that the SYAN approach clarified, simplified and removed duplication of existing sites.

#### **SG agreed to pursue this issue resolution with SYS, SYCAA, ADGs, SYSAA, the SYCM network and key clubs.**

- Club Volunteer matrix, agreed that we should introduce the topic in the launch event, and then task clubs to identify what their key shortages were. SG & SM advised that a club structure document had been used at the Club / Network conference in Nov 2009.

#### **SG would try and obtain a copy from Alex Copeland.**

- Purchase of Run in England 321 kits. Consent had been obtained for Clifton Park Rotherham.

#### **SM/SADG to confirm consent for Hillsborough Park/ Endcliffe Park**

- Schools /Club pilots in BADG and DADG areas.

#### **Update needed from the 2 ADGs / BPL for the Barnsley scheme.**

SG & BK confirmed the cost reimbursement/ payment process for plan initiatives as:-

- A planned action or initiative (already agreed by the network for inclusion in the plan) is confirmed and agreed as completed (or part completed or start up funding agreed) and a release of funds is agreed by the network group. (Should align with the plan costings)
- An Invoice is raised on behalf of a supplier, club, ADG or individual. NB the supplier has to be an accredited supplier on the CSP SAP system
- The plan action owner/ invoicer is reimbursed, or funded, with funds being released by the CSP, usually via BACS transfer payments.

#### **Action ADGs and Key clubs to provide supplier data to SYSports to speed up the payment process.**

SG asked what process the SYAN wanted to put in place for future meetings to review plan actions, progress and achievement v plan target.

**Agreed that each plan owner would report back on their plan element. SG would ensure the plan with targets was circulated to members. Next reporting date 31<sup>st</sup> july, SG would circulate reporting form.**

#### Club / Coach Issues

Lack of coach volunteers a key issue for clubs.

There were two elements to this 1) A lack of available volunteers within clubs to replace wastage / turnover  
2) A failure to get coach qualification via suitable course availability.

After discussion it was agreed that :-

- 1) The coach sub group plan should try and identify potential coach volunteers from outside the club environment, and that a solution may be that some coaches would work with athletes from other than their "parent club". This would be investigated by the Sub Group.
- 2) Coach education courses were being cancelled due to insufficient numbers – not just in SY but across the region and nationally.
- 3) EB suggested that the following were reasons contributing to the shortfall in numbers and subsequent cancellation of courses (All local courses to date had been cancelled)
  - a) Issuing a course schedule centrally – without reflecting demand from clubs had meant that some scheduled courses were for levels/ specialisms where there was simply no demand or requirement for courses.
  - b) Understanding of course availability/ dates was believed to not be at acceptable levels by some club coaches – resulting in no course bookings being made.
  - c) The fact that many coaches were busy and unavailable to attend courses during the summer Track & field competition season.
  - d) The increased cost of the new courses was i) deterring clubs from paying up front, and they were now only agreeing to reimbursement after a qualified coach had done so many club sessions or hours coaching. ii) Deterring individuals from applying as the cost was beyond their means.

These were accepted and seconded by the club reps present.

EB outlined 2 initiatives to address the issues:-

- 1) Clubs were to be offered two free places (but only for qualified coaches) on the 11<sup>th</sup> July Leaders course. Whilst this appeared counter intuitive (since it was additional coaches that were needed) the logic was that existing coaches would understand the added value of the new coach courses and spread the word to potential coaches in their clubs.

**Action, Clubs to communicate the offer and try and get existing coaches to attend the course on the 11<sup>th</sup> July.**

- 2) EA were considering allowing the networks to organise their own courses, ie paying the tutor and arranging the venue / delegates, and therefore reducing the delegate cost.

This was fully supported by the SYAN members

**Action, Peter Moore to get the SY coach sub group members together to a) try and get nominations for the 11<sup>th</sup> july session, and b) to start the sub group plan actions.**

#### NGB update / issues

EB advised that the Regional awards event was scheduled for the 6<sup>th</sup> October. Nominations forms were distributed to the delegates and on line nominations could also be made.

**Action clubs / ADGs to agree and submit nominations.**

**Date of Next Meeting: 20<sup>th</sup> July 1600 hours EIS**