

**Minutes of the  
Irish Universities Athletics Association  
Emergency General Meeting**



**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
Via Zoom (Due to Covid 19 Restrictions)**

Organised by the Irish University Athletics Association

**In Attendance:**

**IUAA Universities Committee Members:** Garret Dunne, Eric Brady, Stephen Lipson, Laura Brennan, Dylan Byrne, Victoria Ias Daniel, John Moroney, Pierre Murchan, Cliona Murphy, James Nolan

**Members:** Aaron Tierney Smith (WIT), Aisling Kelly (UCC), Andrew Hart (MU), Bashir Hussain (AIT), Benen Ryan (QUB), Billy Ryan CIT, Bobby McCabe (MU), Caron Ryan (TCD), Cormac Dalton (DCU), Craig Harrington (CIT), Cyril Smyth (TCD), Darragh Kelly (UL), Donal Walsh (UCC), Emma Hutchenson (UU), Harry Kearns (UCD), Ian O'Sullavin (CIT), Jack Manning (DCU), Paul Byrne (DCU), Sean L'estrange (TUD), Dean Adams (UU), Daena Kealy (DCU), Donal Devane (NUIG), Mary Scanlon (DKIT), Oisín McKinley (TCD), Rachel Dunne (TCD), Rory Chesser (UL), Matt Lockett (NUIG), Jack Manning (DCU),

Chrisom, Conor, Emma,

**Apologies:**

James Nolan

The Chair Garret Dunne (GD) welcomed all attendees to the EGM 2021,

**1. XC 2021 & T&F 2021**

GD said that the XC had been planned for DCU and the T&F for Santry but that the country would be in Level 5 lockdown until at least May. GD asked the floor to give the committee approval to schedule the XC & T&F in the summer.

Rory Chesser (RC) said we should just focus on the T&F. GD said we should rule the XC out yet in case it was possible, and also referred to the XC/Relay hybrid suggested as the AGM. Paul Byrne (PB) said we could have an XC in September 2021 and again in Feb/Mar 2022. Ian O'Sullavin (IOS) said Sept for the XC was a good idea. Laura Brennan said June or Sept, RC said Sept was better. GD asked as what point did we want to park the XC. ISO said Aug/Sept at the latest. EB asked if colleges would permit travel in the Summer. LB asked would colleges fund travel out of season. John Moroney said that we would need to find this out so at time wasn't spent organising an event college wouldn't be funded/permitted to travel to. EB said that some college might not permit student to represent them. GD reminded everyone that membership fees still needed to be paid. Matt Lockett said students shouldn't go against their colleges wishes. EB said that the championships were run under the AAI and not Student Sport Ireland, although we needed to work with SSI. Bashir Hussain (BH) said predicting Covid is difficult.

GD summarised and said that the T&F should be held in the summer up to the end of August and the XC until the end of September. PB asked would the IUAA or DCU host the XC as DCU would like to

do it. GD clarified that the preference would be for DCU to host. Sean L'estrage asked about a mixed relay at the T&F. GD said this would require people to do more events. Stephen Lipson (SL) said there would be timetable constraints. PB suggested a separate 'relays' varsities. EB said we could look at a sprints/throws event in Sept/Oct 2022 and added that a lot of these ideas had been tried before and hadn't lasted. JM asked what do colleges finish exams. GD said late June wouldn't clash with exams. Caron Ryan (CR) said TCD were hosting a virtual Distance Mealy Relay in March which other colleges could join. Results would be based on trust. Victoria las Daniel (VID) reminded the meeting that college would need 4 weeks advance notice to mobiles athletes. UCD said they would be good to go whenever. Rachel Dunne (RD) said busses would need to be booked. Andrew Hart (AH) said that casual athlete would need more time, coupled with arranging transport and contacting new athletes who would be unfamiliar with varsities. All this would require 4-6 weeks.

GD thanked everyone , advised everyone to watch social media, keep training and keep tier teams engaged.

[Minutes compiled by Stephen Lipson]