

RUNNING BRIEFS

Team Southampton

April 2007

Your Future in Athletics

One of the recommendations of the Foster Review was that a single body should take over the governance of athletics and as a consequence England Athletics has now been formed and replaces the AAA of England. As a Club we have now faced the decision as to whether or not we should affiliate to England Athletics (EA) and by doing so also commit our members to Individual Affiliation (or membership) as well. Individual Membership was also a recommendation of the Foster Review and brings the south in particular in line with existing "membership schemes" elsewhere in the country.

After much deliberation and debate we have decided that we should affiliate to EA. This was based on the premise that not to do so will place not just the Club but also our members at a disadvantage. By affiliating we, and therefore our members, benefit from the services provided by EA – insurance, grants/funding, education and training of officials/coaches, regional squad training and, most importantly, the right to take part in our sport at all levels and in its democratic process. Simply expressed we felt that we would be letting you, our members, down if we failed to take this opportunity and thereby effectively cut ourselves off from the body responsible for athletics in England.

So what does this mean in practical terms?

Principally we are now required to not just pay a set annual affiliation fee for Team Southampton but also an individual fee for those of our members who are active athletes and intend to take part in any competition organised under UKA rules. This will be due on 1 April each year.

This involves us providing EA details of our members and their status within the sport – athlete, coach, official, volunteer and so on – and paying a fee (set at £3 for 2007-08) for each active (participating) athlete. For this year Team Southampton has agreed to meet the cost of all the individual affiliations for those of our members for whom Team Southampton is their only club. Those classed as volunteers – such as coaches or officials – will not need to pay an affiliation fee but will nevertheless be part of the database and will be classed as members of EA.

For this reason we are now actively reviewing our membership database to establish which of our members should affiliate as participating athletes. In the majority of cases this has been very straightforward and we have liaised with coaches and team managers in making our decision.

What do you need to do now?

If you have paid your 2007 subscription; nothing. If you have not then you should now do so as a matter of urgency as our decision re individual affiliation has in some cases been based on whether or not you are up to date with your subs. Equally if you no longer want to be part of the Club, for whatever reason, you should let us know.

What can you expect?

In due course (probably not until after September 2007) you will receive from EA either a competition licence (if you are a participating athlete) or a membership card (if you are a "volunteer"). If you receive neither you should first of all contact us at Team Southampton so that we can check our records for your membership status.

What about the computer database?

We will be providing only the data that EA needs to deal with your membership – name, address, date of birth and status. We are assured that, as currently with Team Southampton, your details will be held securely and be used for internal athletic purposes only. Eventually access to the EA database will be made available to Club Officials and individual members for amendments to be made – this will be password protected.

The future?

There will be teething problems in getting this scheme up and running – the development of the secure database on its own is massive. For this reason there are unlikely to be specific checks for athlete's licences during the coming season. However in the future you will be required to produce your licence when you compete – it is vital therefore that we all take personal responsibility this year to ensure that we get this right to avoid future problems. Please ensure that you pay your annual subscription promptly and let us know of any changes in your personal details including your active status.

More information about England Athletics and Affiliation is available on www.englandathletics.org.uk.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Emma Duck

Who continued her fine form of the 2006 track season with a highly successful 2007 indoor season. Not only did Emma record a big personal best over 400m (52) but also gained selection for the Great Britain team at the European Indoor Championships

Also to

Rebecca Gough

Becky crowned an excellent Cross Country season with Bronze medals at both the National and South of England Cross Country Championships

And on a Club level to

Kay Shafford
&
Sophie Freeman

Who received a full refund of their 2007 Annual Subscription having both been drawn out from the names of all Club members who had paid their subs by 31 January 2007

Hampshire 2007 County Track and Field Championships

These take place as follows;

Multi Events – Monday 7 May, Mountbatten Centre, Portsmouth

All age groups from Under 13 to Senior

Track & Field – Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 May, Mountbatten Centre, Portsmouth

All age groups from U13 to Seniors

Entries close Thursday 26 April 2007-03-28

Forms available at www.hants.org.uk/athletics or from Club portacabin.

Please note these are individual championships and therefore you are responsible for your entry. No entries can be made by Team Southampton

Team Southampton Open Meetings

Provisional dates (all Wednesday evenings);
23 May, 27 June, 18 July & 15 August

Events for all – further details will be available on www.teamsouthampton.co.uk or in Club portacabin

London Marathon

Good luck to our confirmed entrants to this year's race;
Sally Gilbert, Owen Harries, Bethan Kidd, Emyr Morgan, Rebecca Mulley and Louise Steel

CLUB KIT

The committee are aware that there have been on - going problems ordering Club leisure and training kit from our suppliers Hargreaves (www.hargreaves-promotions.co.uk). We recently put Hargreaves to an unannounced test by placing an order with them and to our slight surprise they responded very efficiently and the order was received within two weeks. Hopefully this means that many of the original teething problems have been sorted out.

Please buy kit and wear it with pride! It is good quality and very reasonably priced. Order via the web - site, some samples are available to look at in the portacabin.

If you do have any problems please let Roger Sherliker know - Tel. 01489 577650

Club vests continue to be available from the Club portacabin on Club training nights or from our Membership Secretary – Carol Dawkins (023 80860743). The new Viga supplier has proved to be very popular and at just £17 is very reasonably priced.

If you would like to pass on or sell any old but in good condition Club kit or spikes please drop them off in the portacabin and ensure they are labelled with your name and contact telephone number together with the price you are asking for the item/items.

WE NEED A CLUBHOUSE

Some twenty six years ago, whilst the Club was still Southampton and Eastleigh AC, negotiations with the City Council were well advanced concerning the possibility of building a Clubhouse at the Sports Centre. Ultimately the scheme was dropped because of siting problems. Now with the growth and success of Team Southampton it must be time to reconsider the situation.

Do we need a Clubhouse? The answer must surely be, YES. At the moment we have our own Portacabins which serve as a centre for our summer activities, but space and usage is obviously restricted. During the winter the club is spread far and wide with training carried on at numerous schools in and around Southampton. The system is good but it means there is no central meeting place – in simple terms, no headquarters.

As the club grows the need for a headquarters becomes more and more necessary if we are to maintain our position as the premier club in the south of England. With this in mind we intend to explore again the possibility of building a clubhouse at the Sports Centre.

At the moment there is one simple way in which you can help show our need for a central headquarters – during a very busy track season turn out and compete, or give your help, so that Team Southampton is seen to be a club that deserves the very best facilities.

Saturday 28 April

7.00pm for 7.30pm

Team Southampton Quiz Night

Pirrie Park Bowling Club, Wilton Rd, Shirley, Southampton

Team of up to 8 people, all age groups, prizes for first and second teams plus spot prizes.

Athletics, sport and general knowledge questions

Tickets from Des & Fiona Webb or from Club Portacabin on Club nights from 17 April

Numbers limited – early application advised

£3 per adult, £1.50 Student/U16

Bar available

Road Runners 10 Fixtures

Date	Time	Venue
18 April	7.00pm	Royal Victoria Country Park Netley
2 May	7.15pm	Longdown Inclosure, Ashurst
16 May	7.30pm	Wilverly Inclosure New Milton
30 May	7.30pm	Deerleap Inclosure Ashurst*
6 June	7.30pm	Itchen Valley Country Park
20 June	7.30pm	Recreation Ground, Blackfield
4 July	7.30pm	Manor Farm Country Park
18 July	7.30pm	Janesmoor Pond Stoney Cross
1 August	7.30pm	Stoke Park Woods Bishopstoke
15 August	7.15pm	IBM Hursley

* Co hosted by Team Southampton and the Running Sisters

Well done to **Sam Derham** who capped some very good Sportshall performances this winter by winning the South Area "All rounder" title for Under 15 Boys and led the Hampshire team to overall victory.

Not to be outdone **Ellen Cranstone** finished 2nd overall and also contributed a fine points haul to the winning Hampshire team.

And finally....

Are we sometimes too concerned with times, distances and heights in athletics? So much so that the magazine, Athletics Weekly, fills many column inches with ranking lists which cover every conceivable event and age group from Under 11 through to 70+ veterans. This with the younger age groups can be to the detriment of real enjoyment.

Looking through a copy of the Southampton Club magazine printed in November 1970 we publish again a tongue in cheek extract of an article on the Southampton Nursery School Sports held on September 31st of that year;

"Mile U5 Boys the Blue riband event of the afternoon – Harold Wichboy who has been miling since the age of two soon set a cracking pace and only Mervyn Tuxtable, who had never previously run more than 50 yards, was able to stay with him. Wichboy reached the bell at the end of the 3rd lap in an impressive 10.30.8 where unfortunately Tuxtable left the track apparently to buy an ice cream and so was disqualified. Undaunted Harold unleashed a last lap kick of 3.20.2 to set a new world best. After the race Wichboy's coach – Horace Floggett – said he was pleased as Harold had been suffering from a particularly bad bout of nappy rash. He also hoped this would now be seen as a vindication of his training methods where potential champions are encouraged to run at least 2 miles a day from the time they first walk. As Harold is not five until next May there is every hope that he will improve on this record".

Leading Cross Country Results

Hampshire League

Senior Men	Team 3 rd Division 1 Neil Phillips overall 1 st
Under 17 Men	Team 2 nd Jamie Knapp 4 th overall
Under 15 Boys	Team 4 th Simon Nimmin 9 th overall
Under 13 Boys	Team 4 th Martin Campbell 9 th overall
Under 13 Girls	Team 2 nd

Hampshire County Champs

Senior Men	Neil Phillips 3 rd
Under 17 Men	Jamie Knapp 3 rd Team 2 nd
Under 20 Women	Hayley Pointer 3 rd
Under 17 Women	Rebecca Gough 3 rd Team 2 nd
Under 13 Girls	Team 1 st

South of England Championships

Under 17 Women	Rebecca Gough 3 rd
Under 13 Girls	Team 6 th

National Cross Country Championships

Under 17 Women	Rebecca Gough 3 rd
----------------	-------------------------------

English Schools

The following Club members represented Hampshire;

Louis Gates, Rebecca Gough, Jamie Knapp, Simon Nimmin, Hayley Pointer, Mhairi-Clair Stewart & Louise Webb