

RUNNING BRIEFS

Team Southampton

September 2006

Are We Misnamed?

A recent trawl through old copies of club magazines and newsletters revealed a regular return to one particular topic- why do people join an athletic club? It is still a valid question today.

Do they want to compete? All too often the answer seems to be a firm negative, or at best only a partial affirmative. It seems that competition can be a dirty word and there are endless reasons why it should be avoided at all costs, or least only to be partaken on very limited occasions.

This again raises the question- why in that case did they join an athletic club in the first place? The basic aim of a club is competition and the development of athletic skills. We are not a health club and there are many easier ways of keeping fit if that is what is required. Linked to this reluctance to compete is the worrying factor that a notable minority joins the club, pay their subscription, but never take any further part in its activities.

So is Team Southampton misnamed? Team by dictionary definition implies working together as a group to achieve a common goal. That goal should in its turn benefit everyone. On all too many occasions that has not been the situation during the track season this year. That is not to denigrate the efforts of many enthusiastic and loyal athletes but it does question the attitude of a sizeable minority..

NOTICE IS GIVEN HERE THAT THE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PLUS AWARDS PRESENTATION

OF

TEAM SOUTHAMPTON

WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2006, 7.30PM

AT

OAKLANDS SCHOOL (ART ROOM), FAIRISLE RD, LORDSHILL

THE GENERAL SECRETARY BY MUST RECEIVE NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE,
PROPOSED ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE
AGENDA BY
4 OCTOBER 2006.

PLEASE NOTE ALL NOMINATIONS MUST CONTAIN THE CONSENT OF THE NOMINEE AND THE NAMES OF
THE PROPOSER AND SECONDER. VOTING IS RESTRICTED TO PAID UP MEMBERS OVER THE AGE OF
FIFTEEN ON 18 OCTOBER 2006.

The Track Season

Overall it has been a season of mixed blessings. The senior women held their own in the 2nd Division of the UK Women's league despite having to travel to Liverpool, Wigan and Swansea, whilst they finished a highly creditable 3rd in the 25 strong Southern League 1st Division – well supported in that league by the U15 girls. At international level Emma Duck was outstanding and represented Great Britain in the 400m Hurdles and 4 x 400m at the European Championships in Sweden.

For the senior men it was not such a happy story – the slump of recent years continued largely because of an inability to turn out the strongest squad when it really mattered and they ended 7th in Division 3 of the BAL. That could have meant Southern League athletics next year but a fine team effort in the Qualifying match saw them retain their BAL status.

The B team in Southern League Division 3 West showed the first signs of recovery and finished 8th of 16. Their were further indications of what can be achieved when the Combined Men and Women won their BAL Cup semi final against much more favoured opposition. Unfortunately holidays and unavailability meant a weakened squad and 8th place in the final.

For the Young Athletes there was a solid 7th of 16 in the NYAL Division 1 West plus runners up spot in the Wessex League. Amongst numerous good performances Louise Webb stood as she gained representative honours for the English Schools in the Home International fixture.

At the other end of the age scale Will Macgee and Mike Coker collected a good haul of medals in their age groups at the European Veterans Championships.

Three Evening Open meetings were a successful addition to the track and field programme, although, as mentioned elsewhere, it is a pity that the thought of competition seems to bring some out in a nasty rash.

Final League Standings

British League Division 4 7th

UK Women's League Division 2 5th

Southern Men's League Division 3W 8th

Southern Women's League Division 1 3rd

National YA League Division 2 South 1W 7th

Wessex League 2nd

CLUB HONOURS 2006

Emma Duck

GB Team for European
Championships

Louise Webb

England Team for Schools Home
International

Athletics Needs Officials

Many thanks to all the Officials who gave their time this summer to officiate at our League and Open Meetings.

Well done to the parents and supporters who took the Officials Course in the early part of the summer – they can now go on to take the Level 2 course which will hopefully be held early next year.

We hope that more of you – athletes, coaches, parents – will also now want to get involved as not only does this mean we will not be deducted points in meetings such as the national Young Athletes League but it is also increasingly becoming a requirement to provide only qualified Officials in League Meetings.

The Hampshire AA will be arranging a further course for new Officials – please watch the Team Southampton website for details.

Thank You...

to all those of you who assisted in the unsung parts of running Team Southampton – from manning the portacabin on training nights and matchdays to Officiating on our behalf and dealing with matchday administration and scoring.

WINTER FIXTURES 2006-07

7 Oct	Hants XC League	Farley Mount
8 Oct	Wessex XC League	Millfield School
29 Oct	CC6 League	Denny Wood
11 Nov	Hants XC League	Goodwood
12 Nov	Wessex XC League	Salisbury
12 Nov	CC6 League	Fritham
2 Dec	Hants XC League	Overton
9 Dec	Inter County XC Ch	Parliament Hill
10 Dec	Wessex XC League	Greenham Common
17 Dec	CC6 League	Dibden Inclosure
6 Jan	Hants XC Champs	Basingstoke
13 Jan	Hants XC League	Reading
14 Jan	Wessex XC League	Tbc
21 Jan	CC6 League	Ampfield Woods
27 Jan	SOEA XC Champs	Holkham, Norfolk
10 Feb	Hants XC League	Wimborne
11 Feb	Wessex XC League	Ferndown
18 Feb	CC6 League	Stoney Cross
10 Mar	National XC Champs	Sunderland
11 Mar	Wessex XC League	Tbc
11 Mar	CC6 League	Manor Farm Country Pk

Young Athlete Winter Training Venues

Set out under are the principle training venues the Club will be using this winter

Full details of these and other sessions available can be obtained on application from the Membership Secretary – Carol Dawkins, 11 Blackwater Mews, Calmore, Southampton – or from the Team Southampton website at www.teamsouthampton.co.uk

Thornden School (Chandlers Ford), Tues & Thurs for Sprints/Hurdles (Coaches Pete Wareing, Roger Sherliker, Sara MacDonald, Robert Chatting)

Tauntons College (Southampton), Tues & Thurs for Middle Distance (Coaches Pete Haynes & Bill Tindell)

Oaklands School (Lordshill), Thurs for Sprints, Hurdles & Jumps (Coaches Janet Smith & Clive Fogg)

Southampton Sports Centre, Tues, Thurs & Sunday mornings for Middle Distance (Coaches Manuel Framil, Steve Tanner, Alan Odell)

& Tues & Thurs for throwing (Coach Paul Chamberlain)

Mountbatten School (Whitenap), Tues for Throws (Coaches Bill Bushnell & Dave Callaway)

West Hill Park School (Titchfield Common), Weds for Multi events (Principal coach Mike Coker)

Please note that fees may be charged for the above sessions to offset the cost of the hire of the facilities, which are subsidised by Team Southampton

Multi event sessions are available to children aged 10 or under on Wednesdays at Wyvern School (6pm – 7pm) – contact Brian Fisher (023 80695938).

Key to Cross Country Leagues

Hants Cross Country League

All Ages Male & Female

Wessex Cross Country League

All Ages Male & Female

CC6 League

Minimum age 15 on day of race. Restricted to athletes running slower than 6 min miles (Men) or 6.30mins (Women)

WANTED

Assistance with marshalling at the

Rose Bowl 5km

Sunday 8 October 2006

Contact John McInnes on 023 80768031

Hampshire Sportshall League

2006-07 Venues

Sun 22 October – Fleming Park, Eastleigh

Sun 19 November – Winchester Riverside Leisure Centre

Sun 7 January - Mountbatten Stadium, Portsmouth

Team competition for under 11 and under 13 Boys and Girls (up to a maximum of 8 athletes per group) plus individual competition for under 15's. Points are awarded for 3 events from the 3 matches.

Events to cover all athletic disciplines, for example:

2 & 4 lap runs, Standing Long Jump, Vertical Jump, Shot and Speed Bounce

Cost £2 per athlete, payable on the day.

Contact Terese Swain on 023 80738873 for the under 13 and under 15 age groups and Brian Fisher on 023 80695938 for the under 11s

Visit

www.teamsouthampton.co.uk
for news, results and photos

Betty Tabor

The AGM marks the retirement Betty Tabor as club fixtures secretary, but that is a bald statement which does no justice to the part that she has played in athletics both in the Southampton area and much wider throughout the south.

Before the merger Betty was secretary of Southampton City A.C. as well as being closely associated with various athletic governing bodies. Not only that but she has, throughout the years, also been an active coach and official. It is not regarded as polite to indicate a woman's age but it is no secret that her active career in athletics started as a competitor over sixty years ago- although it is not true to suggest that her running days go back to the time of knee length bloomers.

Never afraid to speak her mind, always willing to help and always having the good of the club at heart, she will be difficult to replace. Fortunately though she still hopes to officiate at club home fixtures and that means we have not heard the last of her candid comments yet.

In Brief

Norman Coupland

Mrs Jean Coupland would like to thank all those who contributed to the memory of her late husband Norman and who sent her cards of sympathy. This has been very much appreciated and has been a great comfort to her.

The sum collected for Norman's chosen charity, The Church of England Children's Society, was 827.50

Our website now contains a comprehensive ranking and athlete progression section. To make this more accurate it is preferable to display an athlete's date of birth. If you do not want that date displayed please let us know.

Congratulations to our newly wed members Gavin and Victoria Hodgson, Becky & Nick Tune, Adam and Heather Richardson and also to Helen Lynham on the birth of Oli.

UK Council elections – these are part of the modernization of athletics in the UK. A new UK Members Council (UKMC) is being established and is seeking elected members from within Clubs, Officiating and Coaching. All of you who are licensed as Coaches or
Cont aside

Officials will have received ballot papers and it is important that you exercise your right to vote and make a direct contribution to the way in which our sport is run over the next few years.

Club Subscriptions

We are faced, at our AGM on 18 October, with the prospect of having to vote on an increase in Club Subscriptions as from 1 January 2007. Why?

Principally this will be a reflection of the increasing costs we have to face – training facilities, track hire, affiliation fees, travel costs and so on. Our subs have stayed at the levels set well before the merger of Southampton City and Team Solent and if we are to continue to cover our basic running costs we must be realistic about the income we need to raise from subscriptions.

Worryingly though, as has already been highlighted on the front page, there are still a small number of our members who fail to support us by paying their Club Subscriptions either within an acceptable time frame or in some cases at all. Quite why they think that others should subsidise their membership of the Club is beyond me - I can only assume they take the same casual approach to paying their way in life generally and are used to red demands and threats of legal action.

If you are one of the few, and you will certainly have been notified more than once if you are, then please do the decent thing and send your subscription to our Membership Secretary straight away

Memories of Track & Field 2006

Not having to take wet weather gear to matches in July, having to remember to pack wet gear, gloves, suncream and fleeces the rest of the season. The anger at Justin Gatlin's failed drugs test, the surprise at Marion Jones B sample. The queues for sweets in the portacabin, the lack of queues of athletes wanting to compete. The points awarded by Dave Collins to the GB team in Gothenburg, the points won by Ben Richardson, Maurice Hicks, Sam Dereham, Vicki Burgess and Anna Stevens. The mature performances of 12 yr old Freya Jones, the excitement of 30+ year old John Turner in discovering Shot, Discus, Javelin and the friendship of athletes.