



ANNUAL REPORT

2019/20

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Northern Athletics Executive Board 2019/20

<i>President</i>	Ron Needham
<i>Chairman</i>	Tony Wood
<i>Treasurer</i>	Nigel Orr
<i>Cross Country representatives</i>	Steve Gaines
<i>Road Running representatives</i>	Arwel Williams
<i>Track & Field representatives</i>	Bob Brimage
	Ken Smith
	Malcolm Fletcher
	Elaine Williams
<i>Administration staff</i>	Judith Temperton
	Pat Schofield
	Nichola Skedgel (until March2020)

OBITUARIES

Northern Athletics would like to extend condolences to the families of friends and colleagues who have passed away during the year, including:

Lindsay Dunn
Dr Phil Thomas

Les Kaye

Alan Mason
Malcolm Yardley

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thinking back to this time last year, I remember being extremely proud upon becoming President of Northern Athletics and I was very much looking forward to enjoying a full programme of varied championship events. It goes without saying that it's actually been a very frustrating year, with fewer than a handful of events taking place.

My presidential year actually got off to a wonderful start, with the indoor championships held at the Institute for Sport in Sheffield. I have to admit to being almost a total newcomer to indoor athletics - the only time I have actually taken part in an indoor race was about 35 years ago when I was persuaded by my club to run in a 3,000 metres race. I didn't really enjoy the experience of running almost countless times round a tight, wooden track (I really did lose count of how many laps were left), in a claustrophobic building, so I was quite unprepared for the two weekends, each crammed pack with high quality competition, that were held in Sheffield's absolutely fantastic, spacious facility. In February, we also had a grand day of cross country racing over a typically challenging Northern course. There were some tremendous performances in these three events and I was very much looking forward to the rest of the year, but as we all know, it wasn't to be.

My heart goes out to everyone involved in our sport (and sport generally): the athletes, obviously, who's dreams and aspirations have been shattered, but also the coaches and our officials. I'm especially sorry for the young athletes who have lost so many irreplaceable developmental opportunities as well as being unable to experience the joys of competing. I feel too for those responsible for organising the events. I sat through several lengthy online meetings, where board members agonised for hours over how to maintain the integrity of true championship events, whilst ensuring a Covid Secure Environment, only for plans to be defeated by increased infection rates in the host area, or a local authority/venue objection, or changed guidance on the safety measures required.

During the three events I've mentioned earlier, I was "organised" and kept efficiently in order by Pat Schofield. Pat is retiring from her post on the staff of Northern Athletics, after about ten years of loyal and enthusiastic service. She has also been involved in Athletics via the Leeds City club and the Leeds and West Yorkshire Schools organisations for at least 30 years. I for one have been very grateful for the assistance I've been given by Pat at every championship event I've helped organise over that period of time. I'm sure everyone will join with me in thanking Pat for her efforts over the years, and in wishing her a very happy retirement.

So, we move to another year, with the same uncertainties hanging over us. At least the government has now recognised the value in exercise and declared that "exercising is to be encouraged" during this current period of lockdown. Also, reading this morning's Guardian, it appears that we are getting closer to a vaccine and that there is, therefore, some light at the end of the tunnel. Let's hope that their predictions are accurate and that we can get back to normality in our sport, sooner rather than later. Until then, please everyone, take care and stay safe.

Ron Needham
2019/20 President

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Every year is different and 2020 has been different in the extreme. Not since the Second World War has our sport been put on hold for so long. This worldwide pandemic has gripped every aspect of our lives and there can be no underestimation of the seriousness of what has and is happening to us. For our sport of athletics it eventually became obvious that despite a continuing optimism by some that a return to competition was just around the corner the virus has been something we have not been able to overcome sufficiently. It has been especially so with the championship events in which we specialise. The sheer numbers involved in all our competitions and the government restrictions has meant we cannot hold them for now.

Since our last AGM we managed to have our cross country championships and get in an indoor season but that is where it all stopped starting with the cancellation of our spring road relays. We had a barren track and field season and continued that with the cancellation of the autumn road relays, the cross country relays and now the 2021 indoor season. We can only look with hope towards the spring and summer.

Up to the lockdown we had played a leading role in the Official's Project set up to recruit, support and mentor Northern officials led by Steve Gaines in conjunction with England Athletics. Our Board members are leading lights nationally and have assisted in the drawing up of the guidelines for competition during the period we have been subject to COVID restrictions. Northern officials have also supported clubs whilst they try to hold local track and field competition safely. I want to thank Judith Temperton for the work she has carried out for us as always keeping us all in good spirits and we hope she can return to full speed very soon. We also thank Pat Schofield for her dedication over many years to Northern Athletics upon her retirement this October.

On the other side of the coin there have been negatives in our relationship with England Athletics. We had our concerns regarding the unorthodox extension by one year of Myra Nimmo's period as chair with the votes against that extension reflecting a certain dissatisfaction with the way our sport is being managed. The discord was magnified when it came to the issue of cross country licensing which, since the formation of England Athletics, had been carried out by those of experience within the three areas. The permits were signed by the approving permit officer of each area under the UKA banner. Whilst assisting England Athletics to draw up the cross country COVID guidelines the areas were told that despite all the licensing work continuing to be voluntarily carried out by the areas England Athletics were insisting on having the final say on each permit and wanted their CEO, Chris Jones, to be the person signing off the permit. We were not prepared to proceed on that basis and all three areas told England Athletics that they would withdraw from cross country licensing. An appreciation of all the work done and the fact that it would have continued to be done by those steeped in cross country was not something England Athletics valued enough. They have now lost that expertise and this is another example of a disconnection between our national governing body and its grassroots.

At UKA there have been many changes and Joanna Coates has taken over as CEO. I had a long one to one conversation with her two months ago which gave me some hope she could possibly make positive changes. However, I say that with caution and of course, only time will tell.

I explained my concern that an issue of paramount importance was the safeguarding of young athletes and vulnerable adults and my frustration that there had only been partial disclosure of the recent report on safeguarding at national level. How can the clubs, their athletes and their coaches be sure all the faults of the current system have been identified and dealt with unless they understand fully what those faults were and why they resulted in the much criticised system we currently have?

I stressed the need to consult with the grassroots of our sport, listen to us and act upon our concerns not merely carrying out surveys and consultation meetings and then heading off to make policy decisions in another direction. I explained this has led to a loss of trust and sadly it has been a direction they have been going down for quite some time. She acknowledged those concerns and I hope they will be actioned in the new strategy that has just been announced 'Athletics Unified'. It is a 12 year plan and as part of the plan there will be, in particular, working groups set up which need to dig deep into the reasons why there is much dissatisfaction. Those groups need to speak to the right people, those doing the work on the ground not the same voices within the system locked in offices in Birmingham. One of the issues the plan wants to resolve is the decreasing numbers participating in track and field but I emphasise this must also include a strategy to halt the closure of tracks around the country. Without those facilities track and field will die. We have examples of tracks in the North either closing or being altered so much that effective competition and training is almost impossible. If the decline in track and field continues then this new UKA strategy will have failed.

I said to Ms Coates that our clubs are the source of all the talent that make it to the top. Unless the clubs, the club coaches and the facilities they have are supported and funded then that source will soon disappear as will our future Olympic medallists and finalists. I stated the reality was that our sport is run by the clubs and their volunteers, day in day out, not by remote national bodies. They should be there to support what we do not work against it. It should not be difficult to grasp that both UKA and EA in a joint approach need to support our clubs, counties and areas and it should be the focus of all their energies not just by words and social media hype but by action on the ground. In turn this is a message that all of us should send to those funding our national governing bodies.

When we see tracks disappearing, officials in short supply and club coaches being marginalised there is something seriously wrong. The clubs must try to work together to get the message across and hopefully those views will be counted in the same way they were in the North when supporting Northern Athletics to become financially independent. Your support achieved that independence, so much so, that this year we were able to reach a decision that the fees paid to us in October 2019 can be rolled over to October 2020 so that no further demands will be made on our hard pressed athletes and clubs until October 2021.

Please be assured that, as I said earlier this year, the clubs, the counties and Northern Athletics will survive. After this crisis there will be a rebirth of the tried and tested pathway for all – club, county, area and finally national. Our sport will grow again not from national level down but upwards from the grassroots, where the real ground work is done, as it was after the two World Wars. It will all be made possible by our hard working clubs, our club athletes, our superb officials and by our counties and areas. The future, as before, is in our hands and I am sure we are up to the task.

We will all meet again and I thank you all for your steadfast support for Northern Athletics

Tony Wood
Chairman

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

For the financial year 2019-20, the income and expenditure account shows a net surplus for the year of £5,503, (2018-19 = £28,480) and the balance sheet shows that as at 31st March 2020 the net assets of Northern Athletics were £296,576 (2018-19 = £291,073).

October 2019 was the start of the second year of the Northern Athletics Club Affiliation Scheme, and the level of support from clubs has been sustained at a similar level to the first year. From 1st October 2019 £66,638 was received (2018-19 = £69,048).

England Athletics did not provide any funding in 2019-20 as a competition grant (2018-19 = £33,000). This is a significant loss of funds and highlights the importance of the Affiliation Scheme as an independent source of income for Northern Athletics.

In 2019-20 England Athletics did provide a sum of £33,000 to be used for a multi-year "Officials' Development" project, the main purpose of which is the training and development of new and existing officials. At the end of each year the balance of unspent funds, (£28,886 at the end of 2019-20), is carried forward as a "Restricted Fund" as shown in the balance sheet.

The income and expenditure account includes £12,000 from Start Fitness, an internet and retail-based sportswear supplier and manufacturer, who continue to provide valuable and much appreciated support and sponsorship for the track and field and cross-country championships.

With the exception of the 12 & 6 Stage Road Relay events, (which were the first cancellations related to Covid-19), a full range of championship events were promoted successfully during the year. The financial returns from the championship events were lower than previous years, largely as a result of significantly increased venue costs for track and field and cross-country venues and the loss of the 12 & 6 stage road relay events. The success of the events is primarily down to the great efforts of the teams of volunteers and staff who promote, organise and facilitate the events.

In summary, the net surplus of £5,503 is a welcome outcome of a lot of hard work by a lot of people throughout the organisation. The excellent support and affiliation fees from our clubs for the Affiliation Scheme provides the basis of an independent and sustainable source of income, which provides a significant and sound platform for planning future competition provision and support to clubs, athletes and officials throughout the North.

In conclusion, Northern Athletics is in a relatively positive financial position, which is important as we try to navigate our way through very difficult and uncertain circumstances for everyone.

Once again, my personal thanks and appreciation go to Judith and Pat and a team of volunteers throughout the North who contribute hugely to the smooth running of the financial activities of Northern Athletics.

Nigel Orr
Treasurer

Draft Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 2020

	2019-20			2018-19
	Income	Expenditure	Net Inc. / (Exp.)	Net Inc. / (Exp.)
	£	£	£	£
Income:-				
Sponsorship:-				
- Start Fitness	12,000	0	12,000	12,000
Affiliation Fees	67,843	0	67,843	34,524
EA Competition Grant	0	0	0	33,000
Bank interest	678	0	678	348
Hire of equipment / Other	13,278	2,736	10,542	8,164
	93,799	2,736	91,063	88,036
Expenditure:-				
Staffing	0.00	44,669	-44,669	(38,585)
Premises	0.00	9,975	-9,975	(9,759)
Office expenses	0.00	12,716	-12,716	(20,575)
Board expenses	0.00	3,694	-3,694	(2,463)
Equipment and stock	0.00	7,674	-7,674	(10,613)
Corporation Tax payable	0.00	129	-129	(66)
Professional Fees	0.00	280	-280	(2,030)
Depreciation	0.00	211	-211	-229
	0.00	79,348	-79,348	-84,320
Championships:-				
- Track & Field -				
- Senior Outdoors	6,922	9,911	-2,989	279
- Junior Outdoors	11,023	11,070	-47	2,686
- Senior Indoors	8,702	12,665	-3,963	-2,273
- Junior Indoors	5,261	6,504	-1,243	2,227
- Inter-County	0	3,196	-3,196	-2,455
	31,908	43,346	-11,438	464
- Road Running -				
- 6/4 Stage & Young Athletes	13,880	4,430	9,450	11,984
- 12/6 Stage	0	1,588	-1,588	2,979
- Junior 5k	0	255	-255	1,354
	13,880	6,273	7,607	16,317
- Cross Country -				
- Championships	24,824	25,685	-861	7,068
- Relays	10,231	5,799	4,432	5,075
	35,055	31,484	3,571	12,143
Teams, Open Events & Matches:-				
- Track & Field	12,059	12,469	-410	2,578
- Road Running	2,020	3,938	-1,918	-14
- Cross Country	3,659	7,283	-3,624	-6,724
	17,738	23,690	-5,952	-4,160
Total	192,380	186,877	5,503	28,480

Draft Balance Sheet @ 31st March 2020

	31 March 2020	31 March 2019
Net assets brought forward	291,073	262,593
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	5,503	28,480
	<u>296,576</u>	<u>291,073</u>
Represented by:		
Office equipment at 1 April 2019	842	1,071
Addition	0	0
Less: depreciation	<u>(211)</u>	<u>(229)</u>
	631	842
Debtors	4,482	6,995
Bank deposits		
NatWest Account	359,387	335,719
Imprest balances	<u>696</u>	<u>856</u>
	360,083	336,575
Restricted Fund - Officials' Development Project	(28,886)	0
Receipts in advance - Affiliation Fees	(33,319)	(34,524)
Creditors	<u>(6,415)</u>	<u>(18,815)</u>
	<u>296,576</u>	<u>291,073</u>

CROSS COUNTRY REPORT

Northern Cross Country Championships; Camp Hill Estate, Bedale.

This was the first time the Northern Championships had used this venue, and the first time for 8 years that the event had returned to the North East sector of the North Territory. The total number of entries was lower than recent years at 2714 (the last 4 years had all seen total entries over the 3000 mark) the main reduction was in the senior men's race, where entries were down by over 300. I am unsure as to why this should be so marked for that one group

The event organisation and delivery was very difficult – due to the extremely wet winter weather prior to the event. This necessitated several changes to the course route (from that planned back in September) and it meant that we had to change the whole layout of the start finish area with just 3 days to go to allow the grass car parking areas to use the driest ground available (which was the original start straight). I would like to record my special thanks and appreciation to Robert Ropner and the Camp Hill team for all their help in making these changes and allowing the event to happen, as we were very close to having to cancel due the saturated nature of the ground.

Thanks also to the two Clerks of Course (Dave Paver & Bob Jackson) and their valued team of course setters and marshals for making the last minute changes and ensuring that all athletes got round the course routes safely

Despite the wet nature of the ground the car access, parking and egress all went without any problems, and we were blessed with good weather on the day.

The young athletes in the U13 and U15 course routes were restricted to the start finish fields, and therefore enjoyed dry underfoot conditions. However for those who were using the red route out to the west (around the wooded part of the estate) it was a complete contrast as they battled through almost knee high mud to finish. One thing is sure it certainly helped prepare the runners for the wet National event at Wollaton Park the following month, as the first 3 home in The Northern senior men's race were on the National podium in the same order!

The event continues to be popular with young athletes; this year we attracted 1244 entries & 1000 finishers and it is encouraging that the event is proving popular with younger developing athletes. Complete team numbers were down slightly but 76% of entered runners finished (This figure has increased every year since 2007 when it was 49%). Another encouraging statistic was that no major injuries or accidents were reported with a single figure numbers of runners reporting minor strains / injuries.

A change was made (at the 2019 AGM) to the number of team scorers in the U20 men's race, last year we only had one complete team of 4, and the team scorers were reduced to 3 this year; & eight complete teams finished.

All the races were of the usual high standard, and the event programme ran perfectly to time, a testament to the goodwill of, and teamwork between all those involved in the event.

Results are included below

Steve Gaines and Arwel Williams

Executive Board Members, Cross Country

NORTHERN ATHLETICS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS -Results
Camp Hill Estate 25th January 2020

Senior Men

1 Callum Johnson (Gateshead H &AC)
 2 Joe Steward (East Cheshire H & AC)
 3 Linton Taylor (Leeds City AC)

Teams

1 Sale Harriers Manchester 148pts
 2 Salford Harriers 176pts
 3 Leeds City AC 230pts

U/20 Men

1 Joshua Dickinson (Leeds City AC)
 2 Joseph Buckley (Warrington AC)
 3 Cameron Allan (Houghton H & AC)

Teams

1 Preston Harriers 45pts
 2 Chesterfield & District AC 53pts
 3 Vale Royal AC 60pts

U/17 Men

1 Archie Lowe (Middlesbrough AC Mandale)
 2 Matthew Knowles (Lancaster & Morecambe)
 3 Fraser Sproul (Kendal AAC)

Teams

1 Vale Royal AC 90pts
 2 Houghton H & AC 147pts
 3 Morpeth Harriers & AC 150pts

U/15 Boys

1 Christopher Perkins (Birtley AC)
 2 Jake Wilson (Vale Royal AC)
 3 Josh Geary (Chorley Athletic & Tri)

Teams

1 Wirral AC 53pts
 2 Sale Harriers Manchester 64pts
 3 Morpeth Harriers & AC 136pts

U/13 Boys

1 Alex Boyer (Darlington AC)
 2 George Wilson (Cleethorpes & District AC)
 3 Freddie Meredith (Sale Harriers Manchester)

Teams

1 Sale Harriers Manchester 58pts
 2 Wirral AC 95pts
 3 Ilkley Harriers & AC 139pts

Senior Women

1 Jessica Judd (Blackburn H & AC)
 2 Georgia Taylor- Browne (Sale Harriers)
 3 Mhairi MacLennan (Preston Harriers)

Teams

1 Leeds City AC 35pts
 2 Sale Harriers Manchester 82pts
 3 Ribble Valley Harriers 88pts

U/20 Women

1 Olivia Mason (Border Harriers & AC)
 2 Becky Briggs (City of Hull AC)
 3 Katie Palfreeman (Hallamshire Harriers Shef)

Teams

1 Rotherham Harriers & AC 46pts
 2 Gateshead Harriers &AC 47pts
 3 Sale Harriers Manchester 55pts

U/17 Women

1 Lara Crawford (Sale Harriers Manchester)
 2 Esther Rowe-Towle (City of Sheffield & Dearne)
 3 Alice Jones (Wharfedale Harriers)

Teams

1 Salford Harriers & AC 96pts
 2 Sale Harriers Manchester 156pts
 3 Hallamshire Harriers Sheffield 177pts

U/15 Girls

1 Grace Roberts (Vale Royal AC)
 2 Jessica Balley (Leven Valley AC)
 3 Ella Greenway (Cleethorpes & District AC)

Teams

1 Vale Royal 39pts
 2 Sale Harriers Manchester 154pts
 3 Holmfirth Harriers AC 160pts

U/13 Girls

1 Maisie Bellwood (Keighley & Craven AC)
 2 Eden Creasey (Middlesbrough AC Mandale)
 3 Freya Murdock (Stockport harriers & AC)

Teams

1 Stockport Harriers & AC 61pts
 2 Rotherham H & AC 102pts
 3 Sale Harriers Manchester 148pts

Northern XC Relay Championships: Graves Park Sheffield

The event was planned for the 17th October, but due to the Covid measures introduced it was clear that it could not take part in the format used for the last 10 years.

Extensive work was done to model whether we could safely deliver some form of relay event, but even reducing the team numbers to a maximum of 35 in each race did not mean that we could be confident of organising an event which would be fully Covid secure.

We appreciate that post lockdown clubs and athletes are keen to return to some form of competition, and we had to sadly conclude that we could not hold the 2020 event.

As I write this report (18th Sep) Sheffield (like many areas) is showing an increased level of infections (up by 45 on the previous week) and has an infection rate of 43 per 100,000.

Cross Country Representative Teams report

Stirling Cross Challenge XC & Home Countries International – 8th December 2019

A great day for the North of England at the with all teams placing in the top Four
Day started with fantastic performance with the U20 men taking 2nd place behind England with Scotland 3rd. Great individual performances from our young men led home by Josh Dickinson in 3rd, Alex Ediker 6th and Joshua Cowperthwaite in 9th

Our Junior Women took 3rd team, behind England in 1st and Scotland in 2nd. Individually our girls packed well with Holly Smith leading them home in 8th, Martha Calton Seal in 12th and Neve Hardcastle in 14th.

As the Senior Women lined up the wind dropped, but by this time the course was well churned up, but this didn't deter our Northern Women who came home as 3rd team behind England in 1st and Scotland 2nd. Individually Georgia Malir came home in 10th followed by Caroline Lambert 17th, Amelia Pettit 21st, Becky Briggs 34th and Lucy Erin Hunter in 72nd place.

Our Senior Men lost Rob Warner to an England call up in the morning, but the team went on to secure 4th place behind a strong Scottish team in 1st, Wales in 2nd and England 3rd two points ahead of the North with 44points to 46.

Individually Cameron Allan led our men home in 13th, closely followed by Linton Taylor in 16th, Gavin Hill 17th, Rob Warner (England in 31st) and Alfie Manthorpe 47th.

A big thanks to Kevin Hussey and Charlotte Slack as our team managers alongside myself on the day.

Belgian Cross Cup – Rotselaar- 9th February 2020

A great weekend trip to the Cross Cup in Rotselaar Belgium. With the forecast from hell and a possible last minute cancellation pending as we boarded our train South we were all set for a fun weekend.

A two word text confirming the go ahead from Race director Jos and we were London bound at 8.15am on Saturday morning, still wondering if we'd get home Sunday night!!

As I type we sit delayed on Eurostar in Brussels waiting to head home!

More about the race.....

First off were our Senior Women who were led home by Ribble Valley's Caroline Lambert in 14th place, followed by Vale Royal's Amelia Pettit in 18th, Kate Palfreeman of Hallamshire 25th and Becky Briggs Kingston upon Hull AC in 27th.

In the Men's race Dan Haworth (Matlock AC) on his North debut led the team home in 18th, followed by Cameron Bell Hallamshire 19th, Tom Adams Ilkley Harriers in 27th and Chris Laws of Holmfirth Harriers completing the team in 31st.

Rob Cameron
Team Manager

ROAD RUNNING REPORT

Unfortunately all Road running Championships for the current year have fallen victim to the Corona virus pandemic and therefore we are unable to publish our usual comprehensive report of our activities.

The 12 & 6 Stage Road Relays and Young Athlete's 5K was the first event to be hit by the virus. It had been scheduled for 28th March – just a week after the national lockdown was imposed. The event had originally been planned to held at Catterick Garrison in North Yorkshire but the event had to be moved due to building works on the Army estate and would have once again been at the popular venue at Birkenhead Park where the 2019 hosts had kindly offered to step in and save the day – alas it was not to be the Covid 19 virus arrived and athletics stopped.

On the positive side New Marske Harriers have offered to host the 2021 Championships at Redcar which will be a new location by for Northern Road Relays. The planned course will be mainly held along the sea front and is flat, fast and almost entirely traffic free. Hopefully we will be able to hold the event (in March 2021) and resume our activities. Thanks to New Marske Harriers for their generous offer to host this event. We look forward to seeing you there.

Combined Autumn Relay.

Once again this highly successful and popular event was booked for Sportcity Manchester in September but predictably was also cancelled due to the virus.

One new feature of the planned event was the equalization of distances in the senior events. The course had been simplified so that both the men and women ran the same course. We hope to maintain this equalization for this event in future and will continue to look at new innovations wherever possible.

We hope to return to Sportcity in 2021.

Individual Championship Road Races

All three individual Championship events ie: 5k, 10k and 10 mile championship were cancelled in 2020, and we intend to return to the 3 planned venues – Sunderland 5K, Preston 10 Mile and Ribble Valley 10K for 2021.

We would like to thank our affiliated clubs and their athletes for their patience and understanding of the decisions that we have had to take in cancelling events this year – your co-operation has been very much appreciated and we look forward to the return of road competition next year.

Bob Brimage & Ken Smith
Ken Smith

Executive Committee members (Road Running)
Championship Secretary

Road Running Representative Teams report

Whilst several of the events to which we had planned to send Northern teams were inevitably cancelled, we did manage to attend one event prior to the emergence of the pandemic, this being the Age UK Leeds Abbey Dash 2019

Team manager (and Elite Race Director) Rob Cameron submitted the report:

The chants were 'Smash the Dash' from Tom Gayle (radio 5 live commentator) and today many did just that.

Headlines read

Men's Elite Race.

29 men under 30min

9 men under 29min

41 under 30.30

Women's Elite race

7 athletes under 33min

26 athletes under 35min

41 athletes under 36.30min

Today was the day when we saw pack advantage and athletes committing to a fast race, and when eventual winner Omar Ahmed hit 2m.40 for the first 1k we knew it was going to be special.

Conditions suited a fast race as the Dash returned to its natural out and back course, a tail wind on the return spurred on many to crack their PBs.

Individually we saw Omar Ahmed win in 28.38, chased home by Ross Millington in 2nd place in 28.39, with the 2018 winner Adam Craig in 3rd in 28.45.

In the team event England took the men's Tudor Shield (Rob Tudor) with Wales 2nd and a strong Loughborough team 3rd.

4th Midlands, 5th Scotland, 6th North of England, 7th Northern Ireland, 8th Leeds Combined Univ, and 9th the UK Armed Forces

A strong women's field saw Charlotte Arter of Wales win in 31.35, followed by Abbie Donnelly 2nd in 32.02 and Beth Potter 3rd in 32.06.

In the team race a strong Welsh team took 1st place to win the Women's Tudor shield (Rob Tudor) with England 2nd, North of England 3rd, 4th Northern Ireland, 5th UK Armed Forces, 6th Midlands, 7th Leeds Combined Universities.

A big thank you to all the athletes who took part today, your contribution to one of the UK fastest 10k was awesome and I hope to see you in 2020. Thanks to my team of Kevin Hussey, Jerry Watson, Mike Baxter, and all the team managers.

Thanks to our hosts Victoria and the Commercial Hotel, and of course to the main man, Alex Grant, his event has to be the UK's premiere 10k. Thanks also for your support to Age UK.

Rob Cameron

Team Manager / Co-ordinator

TRACK AND FIELD REPORT

Just about 12 months ago Northern Athletics were opening our Indoor season with the Indoor pre-Christmas Open Meetings, which as ever proved popular, attracting athletes from up and down the country and even a party from abroad, Malta. However, being extremely popular inevitably throws up problems, which as ever the Seeding team sorted out on the day.

On the Field timetabling was not the only problem. The venue had made the usual site for Shot unavailable as they were building a low ceiling over the Shot site, but after negotiations with the venue we found an alternative site in the Table Tennis hall. It was very quiet in there, and the athletes grunts as they released the Shot did make quite a loud echo!!

At the two Open meetings the officials volunteer without expenses and we feed and water them, but this year for the first time, at both meetings each official received a small token of our gratitude, which was appreciated by many.

We began the New Year very quickly, with the first weekend of 4th/5th January being our Senior and U/20 Combined Championships, alongside the MCAA and England Athletics Championships. The U/15 and U/17 Combined Championships on March 14th/15th are also run alongside the Midlands and England Athletics Championships. Athlete numbers in these events are increasing annually, particular in the female sections.

Our Senior U/20 and U/17 Championships were held on the 11th/12th January. Once again, the Shot site proved to be a problem. However, we used another new site this time, the Basketball Court. As this floor is wood and rather springy the EDM's had to be repositioned on a concrete storeroom floor. The Shot competitions progressed well until the Senior Men's event. Unfortunately, due to the nature of the event indoors the Circle started to shift. Thanks to the efforts of the Stadium staff and Officials and with a bit of ingenuity they managed to minimise the shifting movements to allow the event to proceed.

Several lessons were learnt at this meeting. Timetabling has to be carefully considered in order to determine which Sprint and Hurdles events can take place on the 60m track on each day. This has to be carefully coordinated with the timing of the High Jump taking place in the centre of the Arena. The distribution of Timetables tends to be a problem as athletes and some coaches want them sooner rather than later. More planning time before an event is needed, and also the vital input of experienced Officials in various disciplines. However, this is an issue that is already being addressed in preparation for future Indoor competitions.

On the day athlete no shows can cause gaps which means some Heats go straight to Finals or Semis. Numbers are reducing in some events in the Championships, but are stable and even increasing in the Open events, however there is no standard to enter these Championships. We do think being a Northern Champion is a title worth holding.

The one-day U13/U15 Championships were held on 2nd February. This is seen as a great springboard for young athletes to organise their schedules on one day. As always, many young athletes like to enter several events and fitting everything in causes problems with several athletes experiencing clashes. We are acutely aware of this and we work hard to ensure the disruption is minimised and that the young athletes can move between their events. This event was the last event we were able to promote during 2020.

Sadly, due to the unprecedented circumstances of which we are all aware, all of our NA Outdoor events had to be cancelled, these being Senior/U20 Championships at Liverpool, Junior Championships in Hull, and the Inter Counties at York.

We look forward to next year and being able to welcome everyone back at the earliest opportunity and with more enthusiasm than ever. If this year has taught us anything it is that we must strive to support competition as it is a bleak landscape without the anticipation and excitement of athletics championships.

Malcolm Fletcher Elaine Williams

Executive Board members Track & Field

AAA STANDARDS SCHEME REPORT

Unfortunately the cancellation of Track 7 Field competition over this summer season has meant that there have been almost no sales of Standards this year.

However there are a couple of important items to mention, these being that the current standards will continue to be used until 31st March, 2023 and that due to increased postal and manufacturing costs the price of a badge will rise to £4 on 1st April 2021. Clubs and/or individuals can still buy badges (clubs can do this in bulk) and if done so before March 31st, 2021 will get them at the current price.

Edwin Bellamy
Hon Secretary

NORTHERN TRI-REGIONAL OFFICIALS' GROUP (T&F)

Report from Hon Secretary 2020

This is the 12th year of operation for the Northern Tri-Regional Group (NTROG), which has responsibility for the following areas:

- (a) Appointment of officials to Northern indoor and outdoor events
- (b) Nominations of officials for National indoor and outdoor appointments
- (c) Nominations of candidates to sit on National Discipline Peer Groups
- (d) Recommendations to Peer Groups for upgrading candidates to Level 4.

The group currently consists of:

Chairman: *Finlay Galloway* (NW)

Championship Sec: *Malcolm Fletcher* (YH)

Hon Sec: *John Driscoll* (NW)

Selectors – Field Group:

Mick Frazer (NE)

Malcolm Rogers (YH)

Dean Williams (NW)

Selectors – Starting and Marking Group

David Brown CBE (NW)

Malcolm Dewell (NE)

Clive Young (YH)

Selectors – Timekeeping Group:

Roger Everton (YH)

Michael Brown (NE)

Ron Scott (NW)

Selector – Photo-finish Group:

Margaret Rushton (NW)

Selectors – Track Group:

Finlay Galloway (NW)

Dr Moira Gallagher MBE (YH)

Tony Livingstone (NE)

State of the Nation – Northern Officials

The total number of active officials on Trinity affiliated to the Northern Group is 1349 (Nov 2020). This is 17 more than a year ago. The total includes 212 trainee officials (those who have completed a L1 course but not yet achieved the qualifying experiences) and 111 Assistant Officials. The breakdown of disciplines is as follows:

Discipline	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	TOTAL
Endurance	169	40	71	29	309
Field	249	199	66	51	565
Photo-finish	22	5	16	7	50
Starter	20	19	12	11	62
Starter's Assistant	31	30	13	15	89
Timekeeper	68	75	31	19	193
Track	101	65	37	33	236
Race-Walking	11	5	9	7	22

NB These numbers total more than the overall number of officials as many are qualified in several disciplines.

Officials' Training and Development

During the Spring and early Summer of 2020, a large number of Northern officials participated in (and in some cases delivered) a series of development webinars organised by England Athletics.

Sometimes with audiences of more than 60 each evening, the webinars covered a range of topics from *The Role of the Technical Manager* to *Radio Procedures for Athletics Events*. In addition to providing technical inputs, the webinars gave officials the chance to meet virtually during what for many was a time of isolation.

2020 has also seen developments in the training of new officials. The UKA Level 1 Field, Starter/SA and Race-Walking courses were quickly adapted from face-to-face to online delivery and more than a dozen have already been held, delivered by tutors from the Northern Region. These have been extremely positively received by more than 120 candidates. As candidates are able to use past experience to qualify at L1, 12 accreditations on online courses have been completed to date. Conversion of the other disciplines to online delivery is underway, and expected over the Winter.

Northern Indoor Events 2020

As in previous years, the U17s were combined with the Seniors and U20s in a two-day event in January 2020. Similarly, the U15s and U13s had their own one-day championship in February. Reports from each of the Chief Officials were prepared and sent to the Committee.

Northern Outdoor Events 2020

The planned outdoor season was for five days of Championship competition - two days for the Senior / U20 event at Wavertree, one day for the Northern Inter-Counties at York and two days for the U13 / U15 / U17 event at Hull. Officials were selected and appointed in January to the technical roles required for these meetings, but all meetings had to be cancelled.

National Events 2020

Selection of officials for National events is managed by national Peer Groups, to ensure a balance of experienced officials from each Tri-Region. Northern officials were well represented from January to March 2020 at the Muller Indoor Grand Prix and the Muller British Indoor Championships (both in Glasgow) and the England Senior, Age Group and Age Group Combined Events Championships (all in Sheffield). Held on the same weekend in March as the England Schools Cross-County Championship, the Age Group CE Championship was the last event before the sport came to a halt.

When the Muller British Championships was finally held at Manchester on 4-5 September after two postponements, Northern officials worked effectively within the British Athletics safety protocols to deliver one of the few major events of the 2020 season.

Forthcoming Season 2021

At the time of writing, dates and venues for 2021 events have not been confirmed. When they are, NTROG can start the process of inviting availability and selecting officials. Availability invitations will be sent to L1-L4 officials, except those who have opted out of mailings.

Acknowledgements

Although I'm the contact listed in the UKA Rulebook, the difficult task of selections is handled effectively by the Northern Tri-Regional Group. I'd like to thank Finlay Galloway and the NTROG members for their help and advice. I'm grateful to Judith Temperton at the Northern Athletics Office for the administrative help I have received.



John Driscoll
Hon Secretary

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONS 2020 (No outdoor events held in 2020)
*(New Championship Best Performances are shown in **bold**)*

Senior Men

Indoor

60m	James Williams	Liverpool Harriers & AC	6.79
200m	Andrew Morgan-Harrison	Kingston upon Hull AC	20.95
400m	Jason Hoyle	Oldham & Royton H & AC	47.92
800m	Harry Russell	Sheffield Union of Students	1:55.34
1500m	Jonathan Kay	Bolton Utd Harriers	3:51.58
3000m	Mark Bostock	Wakefield District H & AC	8:45.26
60mH	Curtis Mitchell	Preston Harriers & AC	8.37
Long Jump	Daniel Walsh	Gateshead Harriers & AC	6.88
Triple Jump	Oluwaseun Okome	Sale Harriers Manchester	15.27
High Jump	Steven Jones	Liverpool Harriers & AC	2.00m
Pole Vault	George Heppinstall	City of Sheffield & Dearne AC	4.70m
Shot Putt	Craig Charlton	Morpeth Harriers & AC	15.32m
Heptathlon	Harry Maslen	Ilkley Harriers & AC	5377pts

U20 Men

Indoor

60m	Henry Nwoke	Liverpool Harriers & AC	6.88
200m	Henry Nwoke	Liverpool Harriers & AC	21.61
400m	Isaac Rushworth	City of Sheffield & Dearne AC	49.25
800m	Daniel Preston	Liverpool Harriers & AC	1:57.14
1500m	Daniel Preston	Liverpool Harriers & AC	3:54.37
3000m	Rory Leonard	Morpeth Harriers & AC	8:47.83
60mH	Oliver Dakin	Chesterfield & District AC	8.57
Long Jump	Archie Yeo	Kingston upon Hull AC	6.90m
Triple Jump	Jacob Booth	Trafford AC	14.21m
High Jump	Shane Connell	Liverpool Harriers & AC	2.03m
Pole Vault	Karran Kapur-Walton	Leigh Harriers & AC	4.21m
Shot Putt	Shaun Kerry	Kingston upon Hull AC	14.32m
Heptathlon	Jamie Hopkins	Liverpool Pembroke & Sefton H & AC	4031pts

U17 Men

Indoor

60m	Jerel Livingston	Trafford AC	7.08
200m	David Chapman	City of Sheffield & Dearne AC	22.28
400m	David Chapman	City of Sheffield & Dearne AC	50.65
800m	Jonny Stock	Trafford AC	2:00.44
1500m	Samuel Bryan	Salford Harriers & AC	4:23.41
60mH	Morgan Williams	Leeds City AC	8.59
Long Jump	Jerel Livingston	Trafford AC	7.41m
Triple Jump	Scott Sinclair	Blackpool, Wyre & Fylde AC	13.17
High Jump	Sam Coupland	Southport Waterloo AC	1.85m
Pole Vault	Alfie Edwards	Wakefield District H & AC	4.00m
Shot Putt	Jack Halpin	Gateshead Harriers & AC	16.24m
Heptathlon	Djavam Pedro	Sale Harriers Manchester	4620pts

U15 Boys

Indoor

60m`	Joel Brown-King	Gateshead Harriers & AC	7.44
200m	Alex Leadbeater	Leigh Harriers & AC	22.95
800m	Louis How	City of York AC	2:06.92
60mH	Ryan Rawlinson	Amber Valley & Erewash AC	9.17
Long Jump	Jack Hilton	Wigan & District H & AC	5.87m
High Jump	Regan Corrin	Manx Harriers	1.65m
Pole Vault	Rudi May	City of Sheffield & Dearne AC	3.00m
Shot Putt	Jack Halpin	Gateshead H & AC	13.50m
Pentathlon	Morgan White	Sale Harriers Manchester	2845pts

U13 Boys

Indoor

60m	Kelly Aru	Liverpool Harriers & AC	8.21
200m	Alec Williamson	Liverpool Harriers & AC	27.58
800m	Ruben Stovell	Hallamshire Harriers Sheffield	2:25.24
High Jump	Arthur Reilly	City of Sheffield & Dearne AC	1.30m
Long Jump	George Connelly	City of Sheffield & Dearne AC	4.80m
Shot Putt	Joseph Perkins	Birtley AC	8.85m

Senior Women

Indoor

60m	Katy Wyper	Blackpool, Wyre & Fylde AC	7.72
200m	Jazmine Moss	Gateshead Harriers & AC	24.45
400m	Rachel Crocken	Wakefield District H & AC	56.11
800m	Tamsin McGraw	Amber Valley & Erewash AC	2:11.36
1500m	Emily Simpson	City of Sheffield & Dearne AC	4:30.17
3000m	Jennifer Walsh	Leeds City AC	9:31.13
60mH	Danielle McGifford	Wigan & District H & AC	8.68
Long Jump	Emily Gargan	Gateshead Harriers & AC	4.72
Triple Jump	Naomi Ogbeta	Trafford AC	13.62
High Jump	Abby Ward	Wakefield District H & AC	1.80m
Pole Vault	Fiona Hockey	Blackpool Wyre & Fylde AC	3.70m
Shot Putt	Hannah Molyneaux	City of Sheffield & Dearne AC	13.50m
Pentathlon	Amy Hodgson	Rotherham Harriers & AC	3634pts

U20 Women

Indoor

60m	Trinity Powell	Manchester Harriers & AC	7.52
200m	Tamara Miller	Wakefield District H & AC	24.29
400m	Natasha Harrison	Stockport Harriers & AC	56.42
800m	Stephanie Moss	Sale Harriers Manchester	2:10.42
1500m	Ty Brockley-Langford	Salford Harriers & AC	4:29.28
3000m	Samantha Mason	Salford Harriers & AC	10:07.14
60mH	Abigail Pawlett	Stockport Track & Field	8.77
Long Jump	Abigail Pawlett	Stockport Track & Field	5.80m
Triple Jump	Holly Aitchison	Stockport Track & Field	11.91m

<i>High Jump</i>	Abigail Pawlett	Stockport Track & Field	1.70m
<i>Pole Vault</i>	Jasmine Carey	Blackpool Wyre & Fylde AC	3.30m
<i>Shot Putt</i>	Hannah Molyneaux	City of Sheffield & Dearne AC	13.54m
<i>Pentathlon</i>	Ella Rush	Amber Valley & Erewash AC	3665pts

**Under 17
Women**

Indoor

60m	Joy Eze	Gateshead Harriers & AC	7.54
200m	Success Eduan	Sale Harriers Manchester	24.23
300m	Ashley Nemits	Warrington AC	39.72
<i>800m</i>	Keira Brady-Jones	Wirral AC	2:12.29
<i>1500m</i>	Ruby Simpson	Hallamshire Harriers	4:39.87
<i>60mH</i>	Meg Corker	Stockport Track & Field	8.82
<i>Long Jump</i>	Melissa Booth	Sale Harriers Manchester	5.83m
Triple Jump	Lucy Robinson	Stockport Track & Field	12.16m
<i>High Jump</i>	Callie Coates	Doncaster AC	1.65m
<i>Pole Vault</i>	Amy Hunt	Wakefield District H & AC	3.20m
<i>Shot Putt</i>	Holly Adams	Kingston upon Hull AC	13.02m
<i>Pentathlon</i>	Ella Rush	Amber Valley & Erewash AC	3865pts

Under 15 Girls

Indoor

<i>60m</i>	Mehitabelle Angelo	Leeds City AC	7.85
<i>200m</i>	Evie Noblett	Preston Harriers & AC	25.70
<i>800m</i>	Hattie Davies	Hallamshire Harriers	2:17.76
<i>60mH</i>	Emily Rankin	Preston Harriers & AC	9.36
<i>Long Jump</i>	Kelsey-Lili Ogedengbe	Wirral AC	5.27m
<i>High Jump</i>	Thea Brown	Sale Harriers Manchester	1.60m
<i>Pole Vault</i>	Lottie Hall	Chesterfield & District AC	2.50m
<i>Shot Putt</i>	Annabel Amadin	Sale Harriers Manchester	11.06m
<i>Pentathlon</i>	Georgina Mabbott	Gateshead Harriers & AC	3176pts

Under 13 Girls

Indoor

<i>60m</i>	Millie Wilkinson	Blyth RC	8.33
<i>200m</i>	Hannah Wilson	Blyth RC	27.05
<i>800m</i>	Katie Betts	Scunthorpe & District AC	2:26.94
<i>Long Jump</i>	Zara Ogedengbe	Wirral AC	4.77m
<i>High Jump</i>	Amber Hughes	Southport Waterloo AC	1.38m
<i>Shot Putt</i>	Zara Ogedengbe	Wirral AC	9.39m