



### **PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD**

I am delighted to once again welcome you to Middlesbrough for the 2023 U17/U15/U13 Track & Field Championships. Throughout my 20+ years at Northern Athletics, my favourite outdoor T&F Championship has always been the Junior Age Groups. The excitement and enthusiasm of our young athletes always fills me with hope for the future.

Many of our youngsters have progressed from this event through to national and international honours including such as Jessica Ennis-Hill and Keeley Hodgkinson right back to Sebastian Coe amongst many others, hopefully some of the athletes competing this weekend will match those achievements. However, it's not just about winning, its also about doing the best you can, whether that is coming first or simply meeting the goals that you have set yourself and being inspired to greater things.

I wish all the athletes competing today the best of luck, hopefully the weather will be kind and we can all enjoy some great performances.

In addition I would like to thank the staff at Middlesbrough Sports Village for their assistance in the presentation of the Championships and further thanks of course go to our sponsors Start Fitness who for once will be happy to only have a short distance to travel. Please go and check out their stall which will have a wide selection of kit, shoes, accessories and event sweatshirts.

I would also like to express our gratitude to the loyal Northern Technical Officials without whom none of this would be possible, they give a huge amount of time and effort throughout the year so please offer them the thanks and respect that they deserve.

Thanks finally to the athletes and their clubs, families, coaches and supporters who are attending the event this weekend, you are the reason that Northern Athletics exists and your support is invaluable to the future of the sport in the North.

Other thanks are due to:

Bethanie's of Stockton for catering for our officials

AED Medical for our first aid coverage

***Judith Temperton***

President, Northern Athletics