



ANNUAL REPORT

2022/23

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 Northern Athletics Executive Board 2022/23	
President	Judith Temperton
Chairman	Tony Wood
Treasurer	Nigel Orr
Cross Country representatives	Steve Gaines
	Arwel Williams
Road Running representatives	Bob Brimage
	Ken Smith
Track & Field representatives	Malcolm Fletcher
	Elaine Williams
Administration staff	Mark Tallon
	Judith Temperton
	Pat Schofield

OBITUARIES

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

Joe Galvin, Kevin Johns, Ken Kaiser, Pete Watson, Alan Barlow, Jon Mason, Jan Lishman

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I would like to begin my report for the year by thanking Northern Athletics for allowing me the privilege of serving as President for 2022/23. It has been a great year to be in this position and being able to oversee the return of 'normal' competition after the disruption of the last few years due to the pandemic.

I have been lucky enough to attend all our events this year apart from one and have been delighted to note that participation numbers are once again on the rise. This is a useful indicator that athletes and coaches are once again realising that area competition is a positive level in the competition pyramid, particularly in giving our young athletes experience in how to negotiate multiple rounds, call rooms and a professional atmosphere led by experienced and dedicated officials. I think looking back over the years many of our most successful international athletes have gained invaluable experience through using area championships as a stepping-stone from local to national events. Area competition is proven to be a necessary learning curve and Northern Athletics continually strive to achieve this by providing relevant competitions for athletes of all levels.

Over the last few years NA has taken great steps forward in establishing our independence and introducing a sustainable financial position through our registration scheme and I would like to thank our clubs and athletes for their support for the scheme. This allows us more independence from national bodies, something that the other two areas are unable to achieve due to their reliance on funding from England Athletics.

On a more personal level I would like to thank the Board of NA for their support over many years, I couldn't have wished for better colleagues. Also to Mark Tallon who has settled into his new post with knowledge, enthusiasm and a high level of competence and sensitivity, I have no qualms regarding his value to NA in the future. Thanks of course also to Pat for her support and loyalty both to me and to NA. The technical officials in the North also deserve thanks for their dedication, without them nothing that we do would be possible and they are an invaluable resource at all levels of competition. One of the most loyal, experienced and knowledgeable of their number is South Yorkshire's Dave Allen who will be my successor as President and I know that you will give him the friendship, thanks and support in this post that you have shown to me.

There is much more I could say and many others I could thank personally but suffice it to say that I am grateful to all associated with Northern Athletics and the clubs of the North for their friendship and support. It has been a very happy and rewarding year which I have enjoyed enormously.

Judith Temperton
President 2022/23

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Being involved with Northern Athletics on a day to day basis certainly keeps you grounded dealing with not only our championship events but also listening to and having a voice for all our affiliated clubs on issues that affect them. One issue so obvious that it cannot be ignored I alluded to in my report last year. Sadly it has not gone away. This is the need to seek out new officials and administrators. Although some parts of the North may be doing better than others the overall picture at times looks gloomy. Club, County and League administrative posts remain vacant and stalwarts, ever increasing in age, prop up competition for athletes because they have the desire, for now, to ensure it continues. We all see regular requests for officials particularly at track and field meetings sometimes made at the last minute in an attempt to ensure it goes ahead.

This is a side of our sport that our governing bodies do not want to talk about too much because in reality it is too difficult for them to turn the tide. Their websites can be as flashy and punchy as they like. Their courses can be as convenient and as quick as they wish. Their incentives can be described as delicious as ever. However the real facts are that recruitment comes from the clubs, persuading and cajoling members and parents into doing that little bit more. This is where we are and to be honest where we have always been. The problem now is that the world has moved on. The distractions everybody has and the pressures we all have means the pool of potential recruits continues to go down whilst the appetite for competition remains the same.

Our sport is under real pressure and this is no better illustrated than by the constant roundabout of well-paid senior figures running our governing bodies. The lack of sponsorship is an indicator of the loss of appetite those out there have for investing in track and field nationally. The losses made by our governing bodies continues despite huge sums of money provided by UK Sport and Sport England even to the extent of subsidising the only Diamond league meeting the UK host. To pay for a high wage bill, England Athletics continue to increase registration fees whilst the population generally struggles with the cost of living.

We are in competition with football, cricket, netball, tennis, golf and boxing to name a few when it comes to exposure to the wider public. Travel down to your local football field or park and you will find junior teams for under 5s fully subscribed. By the time athletics comes into view for these children they have become enmeshed in a football team for 5 years already. By the time athletics is mentioned in school it could be another 5 years or not at all. A sporting day for children or their parents is mostly likely 2 hours at most on a Saturday or Sunday whilst track and field, with travel, can be sometimes a full day. Somehow we all need to get together to at least deal with these timescales. A track and field event is probably the most difficult event to organise successfully and safely. Its staging involves huge numbers of administrators, officials and ancillary positions being filled. One football match requires a pitch, a referee and two team managers.

You, by now, may be thinking here is much pessimism with no vision for the future. The reason for these points being highlighted is because nobody at the top will, and nor will they, suggest a genuine discussion based on this reality because they believe they are running the sport correctly in a 'top down' approach to it. It is not working and has not done so for years ever since the sport has been run by 'professionals' many of whom have no background at all in our sport. The volunteers run our sport let us be in no doubt. Once our governing bodies accept they must make decisions with the consent of the people actually running the sport then progress can really be made.

This top down approach we all have seen in many areas and currently seen with the Home Countries proposing age group changes. Before proposing these drastic changes there had been no consultation and only recently has there been belated discussion by webinars on the proposals they had already

submitted to the UK rules group and a last minute online questionnaire. Is this really a way to keep the grassroots on board? The answer is categorically no. We did consult with our affiliated clubs and the response was an overwhelming opposition to the changes. So you see it can be done if you want to do it. Our opposition to these changes is now with the UKA rules group.

So where is the optimism? Well, for our part, it is here at Northern Athletics and also with the continuing hard graft put in by our clubs, leagues and counties. We run our championships for the benefit of our affiliated clubs and their athletes. We are financed by our clubs and accountable to our clubs. We have existed since 1879 and now we are heading towards our 150th year. We have some of the most experienced Board members in the UK. They are dedicated and passionate about our aims and objectives to provide a full championship programme across all disciplines year in year out. This year has been no exception travelling across the North to venues in all parts of the region. The encouraging detail is contained in this annual report. We are an area association that thanks to our clubs is financially stable enabling us all to proceed with confidence and without worry. We continue to challenge on those issues where genuine support is needed.

We are eternally grateful to our officials who continue to support us as well as mentoring our new up and coming officials in their pathway. Our championships have shown increasing numbers across all disciplines proving that there is still much to be optimistic about. Our clubs, our leagues, our counties and our areas we hope will continue to work together to support our joint efforts to keep grassroot athletics going. I am sure that will be done.

Finally I wish to thank Mark Tallon who has worked tirelessly over the past 12 months ably supported by Judith and Pat.

Tony Wood

Chairman

Northern Athletics

REPORT OF HONORARY TREASURER

For the financial year 2022-23, the income and expenditure account shows a net deficit for the year of £27,938 (2021-22 = £9,409 surplus); and the balance sheet shows that on 31st March 2023 the value of the net assets of Northern Athletics was £258,872 (2021-22 = £286,810).

The Northern Athletics Club Affiliation Scheme continues to be well supported by Clubs throughout the North. The income received from October 2022 was £54,407, which is slightly higher than the £53,591 received from October 2021. These numbers are less than the pre-Covid income levels of £69,048 in 2018 and £67,478 in 2019, which seems to reflect the general fall in Club membership levels following the pandemic. (The income shown in the accounts relating to the financial year 2022-23 is £53,999, which is 50% of the income carried forward from October 2021 plus 50% of the income received from October 2022).

During the year, there was a planned investment in additional staff resources to facilitate the introduction of Mark as Office Manager in April 2022.

In 2019-20 England Athletics provided a sum of £33,000 to be used specifically for a multi-year "Officials' Development" project, the main purpose of which is the training, development and support of new and existing officials. At the end of each year the balance of unspent funds, (£21,616 at the end of 2022-23), 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. Following a break during Covid, this sponsorship deal recommenced from January 2022 and a full year of income is included in 2022-23.

A full range of championship events were promoted successfully during the year. Financial returns from the championship events were generally lower than previous years, largely because costs associated with organising all events continue to increase significantly. 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, Northern Athletics remains in a positive financial position. The excellent support 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.

Once again, my personal thanks and appreciation go to Mark, 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
Honorary Treasurer

Draft Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March 2023

	2022-23			2021-22
	Income	Expenditure	Net Inc. / (Exp.)	Net Inc. / (Exp.)
Income:-	£	£	£	£
Sponsorship - Start Fitness	12,000	0	12,000	3,000
Affiliation Fees	53,999	0	53,999	60,535
Bank interest	2,795	0	2,795	1,337
Hire of equipment / Other	7,655	3,092	4,563	3,499
	76,449	3,092	73,357	68,371
Expenditure:-				
Staffing	0	58,890	(58,890)	(27,161)
Premises	0	10,219	(10,219)	(9,817)
Office expenses	0	16,388	(16,388)	(11,347)
Board expenses	0	1,291	(1,291)	(819)
Equipment and stock	0	10,417	(10,417)	(9,424)
Corporation Tax payable	0	517	(517)	(377)
Depreciation	0	355	(355)	(118)
	0	98,077	(98,077)	(59,063)
Championships:-				
- Track & Field -				
- Senior Outdoors	8,202	14,060	(5,858)	(2,761)
- Junior Outdoors	12,444	11,428	1,016	(1,550)
- Senior Indoors	11,638	14,033	(2,395)	(2,535)
- Junior Indoors	5,238	8,486	(3,248)	(1,302)
	37,522	48,007	(10,485)	(8,148)
- Road Running -				
- 6/4 Stage & Young Athletes	17,523	7,078	10,445	5,422
- 12/6 Stage	0	0	0	353
	17,523	7,078	10,445	5,775
- Cross Country -				
- Championships	17,083	16,447	636	(785)
- Relays	9,382	8,808	574	1,859
	26,465	25,255	1,210	1,074
Teams, Open Events & Matches:-				
- Track & Field	10,652	11,564	(912)	3,385
- Road Running	0	3,309	(3,309)	(2,574)
- ERRA - grant	2,000	0	2,000	2,000
- Cross Country	0	2,167	(2,167)	(1,411)
	12,652	17,040	(4,388)	1,400
Total	170,611	198,549	(27,938)	9,409

Draft Balance Sheet @ 31 March 2023

	<u>31 March 2023</u>	<u>31 March 2022</u>
Net assets brought forward	286,810	277,401
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(27,938)	9,409
	258,872	286,810
Represented by:		
Office equipment at 1 April 2021	355	473
Addition	0	0
Less: depreciation	(355)	(118)
	0	355
Debtors	7,000	2,379
Paid in Advance	3,624	0
Bank deposits		
NatWest Account	21,876	36,939
Insignis - Cash Accounts	277,574	302,048
Imprest balances	141	287
	299,591	339,274
Restricted Fund - Officials'		
Development Project	(21,616)	(22,957)
Receipts in advance - Affiliation Fees	(27,204)	(26,795)
Creditors	(2,523)	(5,446)
	258,872	286,810

Net assets brought forward
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year

CROSS COUNTRY REPORT 2023

Northern Athletics Cross Country Championships Sat 28th January 2023 at Witton Park, Blackburn

The Championship returned to Witton Park, Blackburn after a gap of seven years with the event being last at the venue in 2016.

A lot of work went into this year's event with support from Richard Taylor (Clerk of Course) in planning the course and with the support of George Davies, Tony Wood also from Blackburn Harriers. Members of Blackburn Leisure Services who assisted before and after the event along with Steve Gaines who hired a van and brought over the required 100's of plastic pins for course marking. In addition to Mark Tallon's procurement work in the office.

We agreed with FR Systems the timing company to trial for the first time for NA – chips on the numbers instead of the normal ankle chip. There were no issues on the day and all who ran were accurately recorded.

The conditions varied across various part of the course which as expected was demanding. The weather held out for most of the day although the grey skies looked threatening until the end of the day and during the clear up, when the heavens did in fact open and darkness fell on us quickly.

We had 2,087 entries for the event which compared with Pontefract a year before where there were 2,115 entries. Young Athletes numbers were comparable with 2022 but 377 down on 2020 being pre covid. In 2020 pre covid, total entries at Bedale were 2,714 and 3,060 at Pontefract in 2019. Clearly, we have lost athletes from the sport in 2021/22 due to the pandemic, but hopefully things are turning for the better.

In addition, to those already mentioned thanks must also go to all the officials, marshalls of which some were there for the set up and on the day of the event, without them all the event wouldn't happen. Big thanks also to our President – Judith Temperton who presented the awards.

Results are included on the following page:

Senior Men

1. Joe Steward (Salford Harriers & AC)
2. Carl Avery (Morpeth Harriers & AC)
3. Cameron Bell (Hallamshire Harriers)

Senior Women

1. Phillipa Williams (Hallamshire Harriers)
2. Phillipa Stone (Middlesbrough AC)
3. Scout Adkin (Ambleside AC)

Junior Women

1. Ella Greenway (Cleethorpes AC)
2. Libby Huxley (Preston Harriers)
3. Eve Whitaker (Harrogate Harriers & AC)

U20M

1. Matthew Ramsden (Blackburn Harriers & AC)
2. Jenson Connell (Leeds City AC)
3. Finlay Grant (Chesterfield & Dist AC)

U17 Women

1. Amelie Lane (Wharfedale Harriers)
2. Charlotte Dillon (Durham City Harriers & AC)
3. Lottie Langan (City of York AC)

U17 Men

1. Liam McCay (Liverpool Harriers & AC)
2. Joe Dixon (Morpeth Harriers & AC)
3. Brandon Pye (Houghton Harriers & AC)

U15 Boys

1. George Wilson (Cleethorpes AC)
2. Oliver Calvert (Morpeth Harriers AC)
3. Matthew Clark (Preston Harriers)

U15 Girls

1. Isabella Waugh (Rotherham Harriers AC)
2. Grace Igoe (Rotherham Harriers AC)
3. Holly Cross (Liverpool Harriers & AC)

U13 Boys

1. Thomas Thake (Hallamshire Harriers)
2. Adrian White (Trafford AC)
3. William Delamere (Southport Waterloo AC)

U13 Girls

1. Olivia Murphy (Birtley AC)
2. Maya Schofield (Rotherham Harriers AC)
3. Kitty Graham (Birtley AC)

Teams

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| 1. Leeds City AC | 93pts |
| 2. Sale Harriers | 155pts |
| 3. Hallamshire Harriers | 170pts |

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1. Leeds City AC | 35pts |
| 2. Hallamshire Harriers | 45pts |
| 3. Vale Royal AC | 89pts |

- | | |
|------------------------|--------|
| 1. Vale Roal AC | 38pts |
| 2. Salford Harriers AC | 43 pts |
| 3. Sale Harriers | 53 pts |

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| 1. Salford Harriers & AC | 44pts |
| 2. Wirral AC | 46pts |
| 3. Vale Royal AC | 58pts |

- | | |
|------------------------|--------|
| 1. Trafford AC | 83pts |
| 2. Derby AC | 95pts |
| 3. Salford Harriers AC | 109pts |

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| 1. Morpeth Harriers & AC | 38pts |
| 2. Wirral AC | 109pts |
| 3. Trafford AC | 113pts |

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| 1. Keighley & Craven AC | 66pts |
| 2. Trafford AC | 75pts |
| 3. Rotherham Harriers AC | 149pts |

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| 1. Rotherham Harriers AC | 21pts |
| 2. Salford Harriers AC | 81pts |
| 3. Warrington AC | 122pts |

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| 1. Hallamshire Harriers | 118pts |
| 2. Preston Harriers | 129pts |
| 3. Blackburn Harriers & AC | 140pts |

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| 1. Birtley AC | 36pts |
| 2. Sale Harriers | 64pts |
| 3. Liverpool Harriers & AC | 90pts |

Northern Athletics Cross Country Relay Championships Oct 21st

Sadly we were unable to hold the event due to the impact of storm Babet, which resulted in heavy rain overnight from Thursday the 19th October.

Taff & I met up at Graves park on Friday lunchtime, expecting to see some flooding as the driving conditions on the motorways and roads around Sheffield were horrendous due to the volume of rain that had fallen overnight. I arrived earlier than Taff and was just looking at the flooded area where the changeover holding pens are normally located, and was planning to mark out on a higher bit of ground to avoid the surface water; when the head groundsman met me and told me that Sheffield Council had decreed that No events would be taking place on the weekend in Sheffield Parks, due to the storm impact. I asked whether any visits had been made to Graves Park to assess the situation, but it was made clear that the decision had been taken by the Council.

The other factor that we could not know at this stage was what the driving conditions would be like on Saturday morning as there was another 8 hours of continuous heavy rain forecast for Friday, and it seemed too risky to try and get the event to happen.

We were therefore then having to deal with cancelling all the suppliers who were booked for the Saturday, and frantically working out how to let all the club team managers and athletes know. Thankfully (thanks to the club communications) we had no issues of any competitors turning up on event day.

We did look at getting another deferred date but the October half term week and the number of XC league meetings scheduled, simply made that not possible.

It was a real disappointment to have to cancel as the entry numbers had been very healthy with the entered teams getting back above 425 (429 teams entered) for the first time since the pandemic, and what could have been a successful event financially, ended up with a sunk cost loss of around £800. All the Entry fees were refunded early in the following week.

Steve Gaines and Arwel Williams
Executive Board Members, Cross Country

ROAD RUNNING REPORTS

RIBBLE VALLEY 10K

Tuesday 27th December 2022 - The Northern Athletics 10K championship 2022 was again incorporated into the Ribble Valley 10K organised by Blackburn Harriers. Regarded as one of the top 10 Ks in the country, the event once again attracted talented athletes from across the country. The established undulating course has the benefit of closed roads, and a history of fast times, as the course records keeps being broken. This year was the 2nd year in succession that a new women's course record was set and George Davies, organiser had to pay out an additional £500.

For the men, there was a strong North East contingent, Gateshead and Morpeth included. For the women, Gemma Steel, Charnwood A.C., travelled up to compete with the local Olympian Jessica Warner –Judd.

The race started off fast, with a strong group of athletes contesting that lead position before going down the hill. Included in that front group was Jessica Warner-Judd. By 1 K, a group of 3 athletes had opened a narrow gap at the front, as Rory Leonard, with his distinctive white cap, worked together with Calum Johnston to maintain the pace. By 3 k the gap from the front 2 had become 40 metres as these two applied the pressure, with the group behind containing Matt Ramsden and Daniel Bebbington, both Blackburn, and Carl Avery, Morpeth. Rory and Calum were still shoulder to shoulder at 5k, but it was the Gateshead Harrier who now took control slowly pulling clear metre by metre from Rory. As they approached 7k Calum had a 40 meter lead which he continued to increase with every stride, but Rory remained ahead of the chasing pack battling it out behind him. Surprisingly at 8k Calum glanced over his shoulder, but he need not have been concerned, as his lead was now approaching 80M and growing. Up the hill to the finishing straight and Calum could now see the finish and won in 29.10 minutes, Rory 2nd ,30 seconds behind, and then the chasing group lead by Matt Ramsden who finished 10 seconds behind Rory, and just 2 seconds ahead of 4th, another Blackburn athlete Daniel Bebbington, with Carl Avery, Morpeth 5th.

The team race was very close, with Blackburn scoring 14 points against Morpeth's 16 and Sale 3rd, Liverpool 4th.

Results. Men.

1 st Calum Johnston Gateshead Harriers	29.10
2 nd Rory Leonard Morpeth Harriers	29.40
3 rd Matt Ramsden Blackburn Harriers	29.50

Team

- 1st **Blackburn Harriers**
- 2nd **Morpeth Harriers**
- 3rd **Sale Harriers Manchester**

In the women's race right from the start it was host club, Blackburn's Jessica Warner –Judd making her intentions clear, as she went not only for a win, but also that course record.

Gemma Steel looked the only possible challenger, but was not in the N.A. event as her club is in the South. Mollie Williams and Carla Davies should, and were, up there in the top finishers.

However nobody, but nobody, could match the Olympians pace as Jessica finished a fantastic 22nd in the men's race and not only comprehensively won the women's event, but also smashed the course record by some 20 seconds. An outstanding performance. Mollie Williams, Stockport, was 2nd over 2 minutes behind the winner with Emily Kearney Wirral 3rd and Carla Davies, Preston 4th.

Results. Women

1 st Jessica Warner –Judd Blackburn Harriers	31.18
2 nd Mollie Williams Stockport	33.32
3 rd Emily Kearney Wirral	34.12

Team

- 1st **Cheshire Dragons**
- 2nd **Wirral A.C.**
- 3rd **Blackburn Harriers**

Thirsk 10 Mile Road Race Sunday 12th March 2023.

The Northern Athletics 10 Mile championship returned to Thirsk for 2023. The event which starts and finishes on the race course was again well supported, with over 800 entries. The cold conditions of the previous few days were replaced by cloud, a gentle breeze, and a temperature of 14 degrees, ideal race conditions for fast times. The course starts on the far side of the race course, opposite the main stand and goes straight out west before turning left and heading straight back into Thirsk. A sharp left turn off the road and into the race course, before crossing the finishing line which is in front of the main stand.

Men

The men's race was not surprisingly dominated by Leeds City A.C Athletes, who had 3 finishers inside the first 7. That was the team winners sorted out straight away.

Graham Rush was the winner in 49.03, over 2 minutes ahead of 2nd place, with his Leeds City team mates Nick Hooker 6th and Matthew Lockyer 7th ALL 3 were hopeful of getting into one of the Leeds City teams for the Northern Athletics Road Relay at Redcar on Saturday April 1st.

Spenborough & District also had 2 athletes in the top 8 finishers, with Joe Sagar 2nd in 51.14 and Simon Bolland-Cage 3rd in 51.52, but they had to wait for their third counter in 43rd position to confirm the bronze team medals.

It was the Red vests of Richmond & Zetland who clinched the 2nd team position as they packed well finishing 5th 8th and 12th. Rob Scott, the younger brother of Mark, was 5th Charlie Stephenson 8th and Jake Stephenson 12th. The 4th team was Hartlepool Burn.

Women

In the women race the Northern Athletics 10 mile champion was Ruth Cole, North East Project, in a time of 1 03.02 . She also led her club to 3rd team spot. In 2nd place was Kim Grimoldby, Gateshead Harriers, some 2 minutes behind Ruth, and Kim was closely followed by Kay Neesam, New Marske Harriers, in 1.04.10 was 3rd.

The winning team was Graham Hall's inspirational team from New Marske Harriers. These three women, all finished in the top ten, and showed they have little regard for age, and a great regard for team spirit.

The 2nd women's team were North Shields Poly who packed well finishing 9th, 11th and 12th.

Northern Athletics 10 Mile Results.

Men

Individual

1) Graham Rush Leeds City A.C	49.03
2) Joe Sagar Spenborough & District	51.14
3) Simon Bolland-Cage Spenborough & District	51.52

Teams

- 1) Leeds City
- 2) Richmond & Zetland
- 3) Spenborough & District
- 4) Hartlepool Burn

Women

Individual

1) Ruth Cole North East Project	1.03.02
2) Kim Grimoldby Gateshead Harriers	1. 04.05
3) Kay Neesam New Marske Harriers.	1.04.10

Teams

- 1) New Marske Harriers.
- 2) North Shields Poly A.C.
- 3) North East Project.
- 4) York Knavesmire.

Northern Athletics 12 & 6 Stage Relays and Young Athletes 5k, Redcar April 1st 2023

6 Stage Report:

INCLEMENT weather failed to dampen the spirits of the competitors who braved the North East elements for the Northern Athletics 12 and six-stage Road Relay Championships hosted by New Marske Harriers on an out-and-back course along the sea front in Redcar.

And it was smiles all round for newly crowned champions Blackburn Harriers and Morpeth Harriers who claimed the women's and men's titles respectively.

And for the Lancashire sextet especially, it was a dream come true for all the backroom team for not only is it the club's first-ever victory it is the first time the blue-and-whites have made it onto the podium!

Morpeth, meanwhile, are no strangers to claiming top spot having a run of success from 2002-2005 then winning again in 2007 and 2011. But back to the women's contest, yes, they had passionate racer Jessica Warner-Judd in the team, but as team manager Angela Davis quickly pointed out after the girls received their awards: "Jess certainly helped the cause – the international was way out quickest over the long course – but we lined up a strong, young team around her and while I had high hopes of a top five place I didn't think we would medal never mind win. It's a great result for the club, however, the only downside is that George (Davis) – the long-time chairman of Blackburn - was not here to see it. This win is especially for him I'm sure it will give him a lift for he was a bit unwell today and couldn't make the trip."

Leeds City, who won in 2015, 2016 and 2018 were the early leaders heading their rivals for the first four stages thanks to Jenny Walsh, Rachel Friend, Alice Leake and Eleanor Curran while Blackburn were back in sixth place at the first changeover behind City of Hull, York Knavesmire, Vale Royal and Steel City Striders while eventual silver medallists Salford, were in seventh spot. On stage two Salford moved into second place behind Leeds City with City of Hull dropping back to third ahead of Knavesmire and Rotherham, who were ninth on the opening stage.

Leeds City extended their advantage further over the eventual winners on stage three with City of Hull consolidating second place ahead of Rotherham and Vale Royal as Salford dropped back to fifth ahead of Holmfirth with Blackburn now in seventh place. Eleesha Charnley, Katie Buckingham and Amynicola Davies gave Jessica Warner-Judd the platform to attack those athletes ahead of her and she set about her task in determined fashion and after taking over around 4min 34secs adrift of their Yorkshire rivals she managed to cut back the deficit to 1:43 at the penultimate changeover after moving through into second place before passing over to Abigail Stratton. "I really enjoyed myself out there despite the strong wind on the run back to the finish," said Warner-Judd. "It's lovely to be part of the team for it's only on rare occasions that happens. Now I can look forward to the track season and while I don't want to put any pressure on myself I want to get my pbs down especially over 5k," added Warner-Judd. Vale Royal were now in third spot ahead of Salford, City of Hull and Rotherham. It didn't take long for Stratton to work her way into the lead and by the final changeover had given Blackburn a cushion of over a minute before handing over to Ellen Sagarhesketh to run the glory leg.

City of Hull had moved into second place as Leeds City slipped back to third ahead of last year's champions Vale Royal and Salford. Sagarhesketh kept her cool as the weather deteriorated and, to rousing cheers with Blackburn and Northern Athletics chairman Tony Wood among those on the sideline, brought Blackburn home safely though the winning margin had been cut back significantly to 15 seconds as Sinead Bent, with the day's quickest short-course time, brought Salford through into silver medal position with Leeds City finishing a further eight seconds adrift in third place. City of Hull were next home closely followed by last year's champions Vale Royal.

12 Stage Report:

Northern under-20 cross-country champion, Matthew Ramsden switched to the roads to give Blackburn a one-second lead over Hallamshire on the opening stage with Rotherham in third and eventual winners, Morpeth, in fourth. Hallamshire moved to the head of affairs on stage two with Blackburn slipping back to second ahead of Morpeth with Sunderland now in fourth place thanks to the fastest overall short-stage time of the day of 14min 42secs by Joe Armstrong – Morpeth's James Young was second quickest. It was still a Hallamshire-Blackburn one-two a quarter of the way into the contest with Sale now in third place ahead of Salford, Morpeth and Leeds City. Hallamshire still had the upper hand at the end of stage four with Sale now second ahead of Salford, Morpeth and Leeds City. Morpeth hit the front on leg five thanks to the second quickest long stage of the day by Carl Avery, the 2018 NA senior cross-country champion and this year's silver medallist. From that point the Northumbrians were never headed despite plenty action taking place behind them. Following Morpeth at the fifth changeover came Sale, Hallamshire, Salford, Leeds City and Blackburn. Approaching the half-way point Morpeth had just over a minute advantage over Hallamshire with Salford now in third spot ahead of Leeds City, Sale and Blackburn. Leeds City moved into second place on stage seven behind Morpeth thanks to Linton Taylor whose figures of 28:28 was the quickest of the day over the long course. Hallamshire were in third place ahead of Salford, Blackburn and Sale. On stages eight and nine the top six placings remained the same while on stage 10 Leeds City were still in second place as Salford moved up into third relegating Hallamshire to fourth, Blackburn were still in fifth place and Sale sixth. On the penultimate stage Leeds City continued in second place though the gap behind Morpeth had widened. Hallamshire were back up to third, Salford fourth, followed by Blackburn and Sale. On the run to the finish young Philip Winkler had the honour of bringing Morpeth home to a rousing reception from his team-mates and supporters which included former Commonwealth marathon champion Jim Alder.

Euan Brown, with the stage's fastest time and the fourth quickest overall, brought Salford through into second place with Leeds City completing the podium places ahead of Salford, Blackburn and Sale as Liverpool, Sunderland, Border and Rotherham completed the top 10 placings. Morpeth team manager David Swinburne was naturally delighted to see his charges come out on top after a number of lean years. "It's certainly a good feeling seeing the lads win for it's been a while since we won the Northern 12-stage. We didn't have a weak link today, everyone performed well on the day, I'm really proud of them all," said Swinburne, who has been at the helm since taking on the role in 2002.

Junior 5k Report:

Morpeth's William de Vere-Owen claimed victory in the under-17 men's contest crossing the line nine seconds ahead of Rotherham's Jonson Hughes. Then came a trio of de Vere-Owen's Morpeth team-mates Liam Roche, Elliot Kelso and Ethan Phillips which gave the Northumbrian's an overwhelming team victory. Durham City finished runners-up with East Hull claiming the bronze awards.

In the under-17 women's championship it was a day to remember as the leading individual medallists were from the North East. Victory went to NA cross-country silver medallist Charlotte Dillon who was having her first outing for Houghton Harriers.

Greater Manchester cross-country champion Ewan Grime led the field home in the under-15 boys championship, the Salford athlete crossing the line 24 seconds clear of Keighley and Craven's Owen Ashdown with Jack Sanderson (Settle) a further 11 seconds adrift in third place. Grime led Salford to team success ahead of Blackburn and North Shields Poly.

It was a Salford one-two in the under-15 girls' event with victory going to Darcy Slattery by 29 seconds over Jasmine Wright with Durham City's Grace Carter completing the podium places. Salford, with fourth-placed Sophie Nation backing up Slattery and Wright, for a comprehensive team success as Durham City finished in second place.

Results: Young Athletes 5k

Under 17 Men

1. William DeVere Owen	Morpeth Harriers & AC	15:29
2. Jonson Hughes	Rotherham Harriers & AC	15:38
3. Liam Roche	Morpeth Harriers & AC	15:42

Under 17 - Women

1. Charlotte Dillon	Houghton Harriers & AC	17:29
2. Imogen Bungay	Elswick Harriers	17:51
3. Poppy Old	Elswick Harriers	17:57

Under 15 Boys

1. Evan Grime	Salford Harriers & AC	15:42
2. Owen Ashdown	Keighley & Craven AC	16:06
3. Jack Sanderson	Settle Harriers	16:17

Under 15 - Girls

1. Darcy Slattery	Salford Harriers & AC	17:57
2. Jasmine Wright	Salford Harriers & AC	18:26
3. Grace Carter	Durham City Harriers & AC	19:01

Under 17 - Men — TEAM

1	Morpeth Harriers & Ac
2	Durham City Harriers & Ac
3	East Hull Harriers & Ac

Under 17 - Women — TEAM

1	Elswick Harriers
2	Salford Harriers & AC

Under 15 - Boys — TEAM

1	Salford Harriers & AC
2	Blackburn Harriers & Ac
3	North Shields Polytechnic Club

Under 15 - Girls — TEAM

1	Salford Harriers & AC
2	Durham City Harriers & Ac

Women's 6 Stage Results

- 1 Blackburn Harriers & AC 2:20:52
- 2 Salford Harriers & AC 'A' 2:21:07
- 3 Leeds City AC 2:21:15

Fastest of long leg: Jessica Warner-Judd Blackburn 30:51

Fastest of short leg: Sinead Bent SalfordHa A 16:49

Men's 12 Stage Results

- 1 Morpeth Harriers & Ac 4:00:48
- 2 Hallamshire Harriers Sheffield 'A' 4:02:11
- 3 Leeds City AC 'A' 4:02:32

Fastest of long leg: Linton Taylor LeedsCityA A 28:28

Fastest of short leg: Joe Armstrong Sunderland 14:42₁₆

Sunderland 5k Thursday 20th July 2023

The Northern Athletics 5k was again included within this event, and it provided another competitive race on the paths of Silksworth. There are 2 races, one female, one male, but the success of this event, with over 400 entries, meant the male Vet 50 age group started with the women. This still gave over 200 entries in each race. After sunshine all day, there was a heavy downpour just before the first race, but Referee, Archie Jenkins, had the first race away on time. The leading group of 4 women had already established a lead as they passed the finish for the first time, encouraged by the waiting crowd of supporters.

Next time the lead bike was seen it was approaching the finish and Sophie Pikett, Elswick Harriers has a clear lead. She was followed some 21 seconds later by Esme Davies, Border Harriers, with Shona Haston, Gateshead Harriers 18 seconds behind her. The Sale Harrier Helen Warburton was fourth. The team race was always going to be close, but the winning team was Gateshead, followed by North Shields Poly, with Tyne Bridge in 3rd place,

To ensure an incident free start in the men's race, the fastest athletes were at the front and this worked on the narrow downhill paths just after the start. The Blue Morpeth vests were prominent at the front as they passed the finish, and with 5 finishers in the top ten Morpeth dominated the race from start to finish.

It was Dan Dixon who finished 1st followed by club colleague William De Vere Owen, with Houghton Harrier Chris Coulson just squeezing out Morpeth's Sam Hancox for 3rd place by just 1 second. The team race was never in doubt with Morpeth having 3 in the top 4, but it was host club Sunderland that were 2nd, ahead of Gateshead.

Results

Women

1 st Sophie Pikett Elswick Harriers	16.41
2 nd Esme Davies Border Harriers	17.02
3 rd Shona Haston Gateshead	17.20

Teams

- 1 Gateshead Harriers
- 2 North Shields Poly A.C.
- 3 Tyne Bridge Harriers

Men

1 st Dan Dixon Morpeth Harriers	14.35
2 nd William De Vere Owen Morpeth Harriers	14.50
3 rd Chris Coulson Houghton Harriers	14.52

Teams

- 1 Morpeth Harriers
- 2 Sunderland Harriers
- 3 Gateshead Harriers

Northern Athletics Combined Autumn Relay 2023

Location Birkenhead Park Wirral

Date Sunday 24th September 2023.

Birkenhead Park is a superb location for road relays. Wide, good condition, tarmac paths, with plenty of choice to arrange distances around this flat park. The weather was also favourable with a constant threat of rain, which fortunately never materialised.

Under 13 Boys: Two of last year's podium teams were again on the podium with just Wirral slipping down to 5th position. The lead changed hands on each of the 3 stages but it was Liverpool's Lucas Guyett on the last leg who produced the fastest leg of the day, 11.05, to overtake both Warrington and Preston and win the gold medal.

Results

1) Liverpool Harriers 33.58 2) Warrington A.C. 34.18 3) Preston Harriers 34.49

Under 13 Girls: Only Birtley from last year event managed a podium position dropping from Gold to Bronze. It was Rotherham, Haley Bacon, who were judged to be first across the line at the end of the first leg, but given the same time as Birtley's Nell Graham.

After that it was Warriors Pentathlon who took control of the race as first Evie Beddow hit the front on the 2nd leg with the 2nd fastest time of 11.11, and then Isobel Beddow ran 1 second faster on the final leg as Warriors won from Sale, with Birtley third.

Results

1) Warriors Pentathlon 34.40 2) Sale Harriers 35.42 3) Birtley A.C 36.08

Under 15 Boys: Fastest time of the day, and only athlete to break 10 minutes was Salford's Evan Grime, 9.52 as he moved his team up 14 places into 4th place but they fell away after that, finishing 15th. It was left to their near neighbours Trafford to hit the front on leg 2 a position they retained through to the finish, with Southport & Waterloo 2nd and Rotherham 3rd

Results 1) Trafford A.C. 31.01 2) Southport Waterloo A.C 31.41 3) Rotherham Harriers 31.47

Under 15 Girls: Last year's bronze medal winners Liverpool Harriers turned those medals gold this year, with 5 team in the event. They had 2 out of the top 4 fastest times and only Wakefield on leg 1 got in front of them. Lincoln Wellington pushed them hard on the final leg with Ellarose Whitworth producing the only sub 11 minutes time, 10.50

Results 1) Liverpool Harriers 33.50. 2) Lincoln Wellington 34.0 3) Sale Harriers 34.17

Under 17 Men: Three different club headed each stage of the race but it was the blue vests of Blackburn Harriers, under the watchful eye of George Davies, that were at the front at the finish, with Daniel Smith recording the 2nd fastest time 11.44.

Leg 1 had Rotherham at the front with Jonson Hughes's fastest time of the day 11.36, then City of York on leg 2 before Blackburn Harriers overtook them to win by just 3 seconds, with Morpeth passing Wirral for 3rd place.

Results 1) Blackburn Harriers 36.09 2) City of York 36.12 3) Morpeth Harriers 36.32

Under 17 Women: The major surprise of the day with the first 4 team to finish on leg 2 all being disqualified for going the wrong way on the course. Leg 1 had the black vest of Rotherham Harriers at the front with the fastest time of the day from Isobella Waugh 13.21 closely followed by the 4 disqualified clubs, Salford A & B, Warrington and Derby.

The disqualifications resulted in a last leg where Rotherham maintaining their lead and went on to win the gold medal, Warriors Pentathlon moved past Vale Royal for Silver.

Results 1) Rotherham Harriers 41.54 2) Warriors Pentathlon 44.39 3) Vale Royal 45.14.

Senior Women: It was the same 3 clubs on the podium as in 2022 just a different order, with Leeds City regaining their crown from Salford who finished 3rd with Vale Royal 2nd, Hallamshire 4th, Rotherham 5th, Liverpool 6th.

Hallamshire were the first club back on the first leg with Lauren Hayes producing the fastest time of the day 16.13, Warriors Pentathlon 2nd and Leeds 3rd. However it was on leg 2 that the Leeds machine took over. Eleanor Curran, the slowest of the Leeds City quartet, moved two places to the front and that was the competition over for the day. The Leeds team had 3 of the top 7 fastest times for another superb winning performance.

Salford held 2nd place for legs 2 and 3 but Vale Royal's Holly Weedall, 16.41 and 4th fastest, who overtook Salford's Samantha Mason to give Vale Royal 2nd place by 29 seconds.

Results 1) Leeds City A.C 1.07.32 2) Vale Royal 1.09.14 3) Salford Harriers & A.C. 1.09.43

Senior Men: Championship holder Leeds City usually play the long game at Championship relays and Sunday was no different, with their 2 fastest legs being on leg 4 and 6.

The early leaders were City of York for the first 2 legs, Blackburn doing well in 2nd place after the 1st leg. Leeds slowly moved up being 4th on that 2nd leg. Leg 2 also saw Warrington A.C hit their highest position with Brandon Quinton moving them up 3 places to 4th with 14.52 and 3rd fastest time of the leg.

Leg 3 saw an inspired run by Liverpool Harrier Jonny Mellor, 14.01, to move those famous yellow vests up 5 places to 1st. Mellor was however not the fastest time on leg 3. That belongs to Rory Leonard, who moved Morpeth up an astonishing 11 places, to 3rd with the only sub 14 minute time of the day, 13.55. Leeds of course were not far behind in 4th, and ready to strike after the fireworks of the third stage.

Stage 4 was when it happened and Leeds City hit the front as Richard Allen moved them up 3 places to top spot, Liverpool 2nd Morpeth 3rd and City of York 4th.

Leeds with Graham Rush on 5th leg and then Linton Taylor on the glory leg were never going to relinquish their championship crown, winning by 1 min 27 seconds from Liverpool Harriers with Hallamshire pushing out Morpeth from 3rd spot on the last leg Vale Royal 5th and Salford 6th.

Results 1) Leeds City 1.28.15 2) Liverpool Harriers 1.29.42 3) Hallamshire Harriers 1.30.05

It was good to see the championship return of Tom Lancashire for Bolton, as he finished 18th on the 1st leg. Just as the Leeds City machine continues its winning ways, the stunning individual performances of both Rory Leonard and Jonny Mellor, were highlights of the 6 stage event.

Leeds men have finished 2nd behind Aldershot in the last two ERRA 6 stage championships, last year by just 5 seconds, with Leeds women finished 5th in last year's 4 stage ERRA Championship.

Bob Brimage & Ken Smith
Ken Smith

Executive Committee members (Road Running)
Championship Secretary

TRACK AND FIELD REPORT

As with the previous year, it is pleasing to report that NA were able to continue with a full programme of Track and Field events this year, both Indoors and Outdoors.

The traditional start to the Track and Field Calendar is both the Senior and U20 Indoor Championships in January and the Age Group Indoor Championships at the beginning of February. Both competitions took place, as normal, at the EIS in Sheffield. A venue that has served us well over the years, with excellent facilities and equipment to cater for the needs of both Championships.

The Senior Championships went very well overall with events being completed by the scheduled end time. There are inevitable clashes with some events for some athletes, in particular the Multi eventers. However, as this is an issue that NA is aware of from previous meetings there is a system in place to identify those affected athletes to ensure that they can compete in their chosen events and all Officials are aware of the clashes. Whilst time consuming, the feedback from athletes and officials was positive and there were no hold ups or chasing of athletes.

Once again, the Stadium staff were praised for their commitment to maintaining a smooth transition of events during the weekend. Unfortunately, the location of the shot put is a concern as it impacts upon the space for the athletes in the warmup area. The circle cannot be located at the far end of the warmup area as the ceiling is too low for the Senior throwers. It may be possible to slightly move the call room into the netted area, which would allow better access for the track athletes at the start of the home straight, rather than needing access at the end of the back straight. This is a consideration to be looked at for future events.

New technology was used on the Horizontal jumps for the first time, with a take-off review screen linked to a camera at the board. This worked well and allowed for greater accuracy at the take-off board, providing both the athlete and the officials greater clarity when judging potential fouls. Thanks must also go to the Officials who worked extremely hard over both days and ensured that the timetable ran smoothly on what was a busy weekend.

The Age Group Championships once again proved to be a busy, very competitive day with good attendance from athletes, parents and coaches. Due to the intense nature of a one-day competition there are inevitable clashes for the younger athletes, as mentioned before with the Seniors. Even more so with the Age Groups as the junior athletes tend to want to enter several different events. However, the timetable worked well, and the officials in the various disciplines again collaborated well together to try and ensure that all athletes were given the opportunity to compete in their chosen events.

The timetable was well organised, and there were some excellent performances from the athletes, with many competing at a regional competition for the first time. The positive support from officials, parents and coaches was appreciated by the participants, and they made the most of the opportunity given to them in competing at this level. Again, a mention must be made of the stadium staff at the EIS who showed a willingness to help with any issues that arose on what was a busy but enjoyable day. The Outdoor season again saw a full complement of Northern athletics competitions, and this year the venues were spread throughout the Northern region, Manchester, York and Middlesbrough.

The Inter Counties in York in May was again a fitting event to kick start the Outdoor programme this year. Once again, this event has received many plaudits for being an appropriate venue for the athletes and spectators alike, the consensus being that the stadium was well equipped with suitable facilities for all. All 10 Counties participated, and there was a full complement of Officials in all disciplines, ensuring that it was a very competitive but successful day for both participants and spectators alike. Congratulations to Yorkshire, who were worthy Inter County champions.

As normal, this competition does not incur any fees for the competitors, and no gate fees for spectators. All costs are met from Northern athletics funds.

For the **Senior Outdoor Championships** Northern Athletics returned to Manchester SportCity and took place on the 3rd and 4th June after a break of several years at this venue.

There were increased entries overall compared to last year, particularly for the long throws and the timetable appeared to work well on both days. As ever, there were several no shows of athletes throughout the weekend which meant that some field events did not take as long and some track heats were lost or went to straight finals.

The field events on day 1 started earlier than the track and finished just before 100m finals as the last events on. However, the number of long throws timetabled for day 2 meant that the field finished considerably later than the track, which is not ideal as officials and participants have had a busy weekend and have to travel home.

Whilst the venue itself is ideal for a Northern Championship, with extensive car parking and ample warm up space for the athletes, there was some concern regarding the standard of some of the stadium facilities and lack of suitable equipment at several event sites. Several Chief Judges in the various disciplines expressed concern regarding the PA system, the photo finish equipment and field event sites. The stadium staff helped wherever they could but were thin on the ground during the weekend. This is something that Sport City have been made aware of and hopefully this will be remedied in the future. Despite these issues, all events were able to start on time on both days.

Thanks must go to the Officials, particularly those who provided their own personal equipment over the two days to ensure that the competition ran as smoothly as it did. All teams were extremely well organised and professional throughout the two days, to allow the athletes to compete to the best of their ability in all their events. Congratulations must go to all participants in all events, as they produced some extremely exciting performances and competed well in what were extreme weather conditions on that weekend.

Following a break of several years, the **NA Age Group Outdoor Championships** returned to the Northeast in August at Middlesbrough Sports village.

As with the Seniors, the Junior Championships also proved to be a successful weekend.

Middlesbrough is a good venue for these Championships, and a little investment in equipment would make it excellent.

Entry numbers were good, and as usual with this meeting it is impossible to avoid all clashes, particularly with the U13 and U15 girls age groups and multi-eventers. A list of all possible clashes had been prepared and was given to the call room managers so that clash athletes could be pre-warned of any problems. The major clashes were between the 100m/long jump and the U13G shot/200m. Officials were on hand to escort the athletes between events if needed, but in a couple of cases the field event had finished before the athlete was required to be on track so clashes were actually at a minimum. The Track timetable ran to schedule, and the Field timetable ran well and started on time both days, all events starting on time or a few minutes early. Virtually all field events finished early apart from a pole vault and a couple of throws which only over-ran by a couple of minutes. The early finishes were helped by the earlier starts, i.e., less warm-up time.

Following last year's disparity between the track and field finishing times, as mentioned in the previous report, it was decided to change the U13 entry days for both boys and girls and this proved to be much better this year, with only 30mins difference on Day 1 and 15mins difference on the Sunday. There was a good mix of experienced and less experienced officials, and all teams maintained a

thoroughly professional attitude to deliver the best Championships they could for the athletes, despite a mixed couple of days weatherwise.

Thanks must go to the stadium staff who gave very good support to the Tech team to ensure that all event sites were prepared beforehand and ready for use on the day. Congratulations again must go to all the Junior athletes who participated in these championships, as the standard of entries were good and their performances over both days lent itself to producing a very successful meeting.

Following a successful year of competition, both Indoors and Outdoors, once again Northern Athletics are committed to increasing the opportunities for all Athletes, Officials and Coaches in this region. The new technology deployed on the Horizontal jumps proved successful and the choice of venues for this years competitions allowed NA to reach different areas of the North and provide accessibility for a greater number of participants. This will continue to be a consideration when deciding on venues for next season. Well done to all our Northern Athletics champions, their names are to be found at the end of this report.

Malcolm Fletcher Elaine Williams
Executive Board members Track & Field

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

Report from Hon Secretary 2023

This is the 15th year of operation for the Northern Tri-Regional Group (NTROG), which has responsibility for the following areas:

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

The group currently consists of:

Chairman: (NW)	<i>Finlay Galloway</i>	Selectors – Field Group: <i>Mick Frazer</i>	(NE)
Championship Sec:	<i>Malcolm Fletcher</i> (YH)	<i>Malcolm Rogers</i>	(YH)
Hon Sec:	<i>Cath Hickey</i> (NW)	<i>Dean Williams</i>	(NW)
Selectors – Starting Group		Selectors – Timekeeping Group:	
<i>David Brown CBE</i>	(NW)	<i>Craig Barrett</i>	(YH)
<i>Malcolm Dewell</i>	(NE)	<i>Michael Brown</i>	(NE)
<i>Clive Young</i>	(YH)	<i>Ron Scott</i>	(NW)
Selector – Photo-finish Group:		Selectors – Track Group:	
<i>Margaret Rushton</i>	(NW)	<i>Finlay Galloway</i>	(NW)
		<i>Dr Moira Gallagher MBE</i>	(YH)
		<i>Tony Livingstone</i>	(NE)

Craig Barrett is a new appointment in 2023 following the untimely death of Kevin Johns.

State of the Nation – Northern Officials

The total number of active officials (including Endurance and Race Walking not covered by NTROG) on Trinity affiliated to the Northern Group is 1166 (Oct 2023). The total includes 110 trainee officials (those who have completed a L1 course but not yet met the requirements to be licensed) and 32 Assistant Officials.

The breakdown of disciplines is as follows:

Discipline	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	TOTAL	2022 totals
Endurance	126	48	53	22	249	280
Field	269	187	53	48	557	575
Photo-finish	27	12	18	5	62	58
Starter	33	20	13	16	82	86
Starter's Assistant	18	11	12	12	53	58
Timekeeper	70	62	26	16	174	178
Track	117	59	31	32	239	236
Race-Walking	9	4	7	4	24	28
TOTALS					1440	1499

NB These totals are higher than the actual number of officials, as many are qualified in several disciplines.

It is difficult to draw comparisons to previous years as the England Athletics Portal has had some refinements during the year. However, the latest figures do suggest there are fewer officials and that the requirement to complete safeguarding training for license renewal is having an impact, albeit quite small at the moment. A close watch is also being kept on the number of Level 1-3 officials who are now covered by England Athletics and who haven't yet signed the revised T's & C's, currently there are 144. EA are continuing efforts to gain acceptance and the individuals will remain licensed under a grace period up to the end of 2023.

Officials' Training and Development

Level 1 courses are offered both face-to-face and virtually. The blended delivery is popular as it provides the candidate with choice. Having completed the Level 1 course, each candidate has to provide evidence of having officiated at a minimum of four meetings, so the progression from course attendance to a full licence is delayed for many.

At the other end of the officials' pathway, three Northern officials are currently awaiting the outcome of their submissions for Level 4. These are assessed by the Peer Groups each autumn and, if successful, will join the 81 Northern Tri-Region Level 4 Officials on the National List.

Northern Championships 2023

As is usual, the U17s were combined with the Seniors and U20s in a two-day event at EIS Sheffield in January while the U15s and U13s had their one-day championship at EIS in February. This year saw an increase in withdrawals from 21 to 38 officials across the three days of competition. The main reason remained ill health..

The outdoor season included five days of scheduled Regional Championship competition - one day for the Northern Inter-Counties at York, two days for the Senior/U20 Championships at the Manchester Regional Arena and two days for U13/U15/U17 athletes at Middlesbrough. Officials were selected and appointed in January to the technical roles required. This did prove challenging because of a clash between the Inter-Counties and EA Senior Combined Events held in Manchester. In addition, a total of 100 officials withdrew from the three events, some at short notice and with no stated reason. The largest category was "no longer available".

Unfortunately the 10,000 m event due to be held at Leigh was cancelled.

Withdrawals were a major issue during 2023 however, good liaison between the Northern Athletics office/NTROG, combined with the goodwill of many officials meant that the events were essentially fully staffed. A withdrawal report has been sent to NTROG and NA T&F Executive Board members for consideration. To try and combat some of the issues a further four "Admin" reserves will be appointed for 2024.

National Events 2023

Selection of officials for National events is managed by National Peer Groups on recommendations from the Tri-Regional Officials Groups. The Peer Groups aim to ensure a balance of experienced officials from each Tri-Region at these major events. Northern officials were well represented at the UK Athletics Indoor Championships in Birmingham in February and the various EA Championships at Sheffield. Outdoor events were based at Manchester for UK Athletics Championships and both Combined Events Championships, Age Groups at Alexander Stadium and the Senior and U23/U20 Championships at Chelmsford. Unfortunately the Manchester International was again cancelled. Our officials were also selected for the WIT event in Birmingham and the Anniversary Games on its return to the London Stadium.

Forthcoming Indoor and Outdoor Seasons 2024

The process to recommend officials for the various Indoor Championships is well underway with those for Northern Championships due to be finalised by mid-November. This exercise has seen the implementation of the revised Selection Policy which was approved and distributed to all Northern Track & Field Officials in July. This process will be repeated for the 2023 outdoor season in December/January 2023.

Cath Hickey
Hon Secretary

31 October 2023.

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONS 2023

Event	U13 Boys		
60m	Aiden Hilton	West Cheshire AC	8.46
200m	Charles Reilly	City of Sheffield & Dearne	27.67
800m	Ollie Wright	City of York	2:20.92
High Jump	Fabian Smith	Harrogate Harriers	1.43
Long Jump	Daniel Wells	Sale Harriers	4.60
Shot Putt	Benjamin Compton	Blyth Running Club	7.46
Event	U15 Boys		
60m	Thomas Robson	Hartlepool AC	7.56
200m	The Shepherd	West Cheshire AC	24.09
800m	Thomas Thake	Hallamshire Harriers	2:04.49
60mH	Liam O'Brien	Sale Harriers	9.61
Long Jump	James Howarth	Crewe & Nantwich	5.19
High Jump	Carter McQue	Sunderland Harriers	1.79
Pole Vault	Edward Moore	Wirral AC	2.20
Shot Putt	Harry Beard	City of Sheffield & Dearne	13.46
Event	U17 Boys		
60m	Charles Unsworth	Blackburn Harriers	7.16
200m	Charles Unsworth	Blackburn Harriers	22.65
400m	Ruben Stovell	Hallamshire Harriers	51.19
800m	Oscar Schofield	Sale Harriers	1:56.22
1500m	Cole McAndrew	City of York	4:15.87
60mH	Corey Beechall	Liverpool Harriers	8.36
Long Jump	Regan Corrin	Manx Harriers	6.44
Triple Jump	William Rusling	Kingson Upon Hull	11.74
High Jump	Jack Oliver Holmes	City of Sheffield & Dearne	1.90
Pole Vault	Rudi May	City of Sheffield & Dearne	4.00
Shot Putt	Corey Beechall	Liverpool Harriers	12.73
Event	U20 Men		
60m	Leighton Barber	Gateshead Harriers	6.92
200m	Samael Lunt	Wirral AC	21.86
400m	Samael Lunt	Wirral AC	48.23
800m	Kristian Green	Holmfirth Harriers	1:55.97
1500m	Dexta Thompson	Blackburn Harriers	3:59.36
3000m	David Holman	Blackburn Harriers	8:50.29
60mH	Morgan Williams	Leeds City	8.17

Long Jump	Matthew Liu	Liverpool Harriers	6.63
Triple Jump	Daniel Akinradewo	Trafford AC	14.89
High Jump	Will Jackson	Leeds City	1.95
Pole Vault	William Lane	City of Sheffield & Dearne	4.60
Shot Putt	Isaac Delaney	Preston Harriers	16.72
Event	Sen Men		
60m	David Morgan-Harrison	Kingston Upon Hull	6.75
200m	Lee Thompson	City of Sheffield & Dearne	21.13
400m	Lee Thompson	City of Sheffield & Dearne	47.63
800m	Ted Chamberlain	Holmfirth Harriers	1:59.55
1500m	George Phillips	Doncaster AC	4:05.28
3000m	Matt Ransden	Blackburn Harriers	8:36.99
60mH	Curtis Mitchell	Preston Harriers	8.61
Long Jump	Harvey Darroch	Wirral AC	6.82
Triple Jump	Seun Okome	Sale Harriers	15.35
High Jump	Kaya Walker	City of Sheffield & Dearne	2.04
Pole Vault	Adam Hague	City of Sheffield & Dearne	5.20
Shot Putt	James Taylor	City of Sheffield & Dearne	14.38
Event	U13 Girls		
60m	Gabriella Idoko	Bury AC	8.62
200m	Lois Wormald	Bury AC	27.66
800m	Beatrix Soper	Sale Harriers	2:27.46
High Jump	Juliette Callau	City of York	1.40
Long Jump	Clara Elizabeth Edwards	Altrincham & District	4.33
Shot Putt	Rebecca Kingston	Leeds City	9.12
Event	U15 Girls		
60m	Allyssia May	Bolton Utd Harriers	7.94
200m	Renee Adams	Southport Waterloo AC	25.76
800m	Layla Roden	Rotherham Harriers	2:16.09
60mH	Molly Mills	Stockport Harriers	9.05
High Jump	Matilda Hall	Bolton Utd Harriers	1.45
	Olwen Isherwood	Hallamshire Harriers	1.45
Pole Vault	Grace James	City of Sheffield & Dearne	2.55
Shot Putt	Molly Mills	Stockport Harriers	10.27
Event	U17 Girls		
60m	Queenivette Nguta	Preston Harriers	7.65
200m	Niamh Le Gall	Wirral AC	24.94

300m	Kara Dacosta	Blackburn Harriers	39.89
800m	Caitlin McCloy	Rotherham Harriers	2:09.40
1500m	Lilia Harris	Rotherham Harriers	4:41.73
60mH	Thea Brown	Sale Harriers	8.56
Long Jump	Emily Maude	City of York	5.87
Triple Jump	Amber Brown	Trafford AC	11.52
High Jump	Emily Marshall	Kingston Upon Hull	1.68
Pole Vault	Francesca Santus	Wigan & District	2.70
Shot Putt	Leila Thompson	Gateshead Harriers	11.67
Event	U20 Women		
60m	Joy Eze	Gateshead Harriers	7.37
200m	Sophie Walton	Horwoch RMI Harriers	23.86
400m	Emma Holmes	West Cheshire AC	57.13
800m	Abigail Stratton	Blackburn Harriers	2:08.39
1500m	Abigail Stratton	Blackburn Harriers	4:34.23
3000m	Gabrielle Phelan	Wirral AC	10:23.42
60mH	Meg Corker	Liverpool Harriers	8.42
Long Jump	Stephanie Jones	Sale Harriers	5.72
Triple Jump	Michelle Yalekhue	Amber Valley & Erewash	12.15
High Jump	Gabrielle Garber	Leeds City	1.75
Pole Vault	Amy Scott	City of Sheffield & Dearne	3.10
Shot Putt	Annabel Amadin	Sale Harriers	13.05
Event	Sen Women		
60m	Trinity Powell	Manchester Harriers	7.38
200m	Ella Blakey	Derby AC	24.42
400m	Ella Blakey	Derby AC	56.71
800m	Jodie Martin	Kingston Upon Hull	2:13.03
1500m	Molly Hudson	Derby AC	4:36.02
3000m	Samantha Mason	Salford Harriers	9:45.40
60mH	Chelsea Walker	City of York	8.62
Long Jump	Lucy Robinson	Trafford AC	5.72
Triple Jump	Jasmine Hlland	City of Sheffield & Dearne	12.21
High Jump	Emily Madden Forman	Trafford AC	1.83
Pole Vault	Hayley Fox	Lincoln Wellington	2.10
Shot Putt	Shaunna Thompson	Sale Harriers	14.83

OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONS 2023

Event	U13 Boys		
100m	Joe Moss	City of Sheffield & Dearne	12.49
200m	Charles Reilly	City of Sheffield & Dearne	26.20
800m	Ollie Wright	City of York	2:17.99
Long Jump	Joe Moss	Amber Valley & Erewash	5.09
Shot	Joe Moss	Amber Valley & Erewash	10.28
Event	U15 Boys		
100m	Finley McKittrick	New Maske Harriers	11.11
200m	Lorton Curnow	Seaton AC	23.23
300m	Rowan Whittaker	City of York	36.38
800m	Thomas Thake	Hallamshire Harriers	2:06.60
1500m	Alex Fraser	Sale Harriers	4:18.35
80mH	Matejus Varnelis	Leeds City	11.80
High Jump	Elliott Griffiths	Liverpool Harriers	1.80
Pole Vault	NA		
Long Jump	Thomas Robson	Hartlepool Athletics Club	6.27
Triple Jump	Ben Foulger	City of York	11.73
Shot	Harry Beard	City of Sheffield & Dearne	16.29
Discus	Harry Beard	City of Sheffield & Dearne	46.22
Hammer	Alfie Dodds	Leigh Harriers	46.88
Javelin	Willson Parnell	Preston Harriers	43.67
Event	U17 Boys		
100m	Charles Unsworth	Blackburn Harriers	10.94
200m	Charles Unsworth	Blackburn Harriers	21.82
400m	Henry Parker	Rotherham Harriers	50.48
800m	Gabriel Mullen	St Helens Sutton	1:59.67
1500m	Ben Stratton	Blackburn Harriers	4:12.92
3000m	Jonson Hughes	Rotherham Harriers	8:46.25
1500m s/c	Jay Hutchinson	Trafford	4:49.04
100mH	Corey Beechall	Liverpool Harriers	13.25
400mH	Peter Gardner	Bury AC	57.58
High Jump	Jack Oliver Holmes	City of Sheffield and Dearne	1.90
Pole Vault	Rudi May	City of Sheffield and Dearne	4.30
Long Jump	Luke Pichler	Blyth Running Club	6.19
Triple Jump	Tejean Wesseh Nah Konteh	City of Sheffield and Dearne	13.19
Shot	Alfie Carter	Crewe & Nantwich	11.36
Disucs	Bryce Farmer-Beasley	City of York	40.07

Hammer	Joshua Reibbitt	Carlisle Aspatria	47.19
Javelin	James Briers	Leigh Harriers	47.14
Event	U13 Girls		
100m	Caris Peter-Thomas	Blackburn Harriers	12.67
200m	Caris Peter-Thomas	Blackburn Harriers	26.10
800m	Olivia Murphy	Birtley AC	2:21.98
Long Jump	Juliette Callau	City of York	4.16
Shot	Rebecca Kingston	Leeds City	9.03
Event	U15 Girls		
100m	Celine Obinna-Alo	Sunderland Harriers	12.23
200m	Celine Obinna-Alo	Sunderland Harriers	24.86
300m	Ruby Phillips	Wirral AC	41.16
800m	Maya Schofield	Rotherham Harriers	2:17.05
1500m	Molly Carvell	Liverpool Harriers	4:42.55
75mH	Olivia Crawford	Warrington AC	11.34
High Jump	Victoria Chapman	Border Harriers	1.50
Pole Vault	Daisy Roberts	Liverpool Harriers	2.70
Long Jump	Charlotte McKenzie	Kingston upon Hull	5.12
Triple Jump	Chloe Law	Holmfirth Harriers	10.41
Shot	Bethany Pendlebury	Trafford	11.55
Discus	Bethany Pendlebury	Trafford	37.65
Hammer	Alexandria Hodgson	Morpeth Harriers	42.19
Javelin	Skye Marshall	Gateshead Harriers	31.81
Event	U17 Girls		
100m	Cherie Ufuoma	Bolton United Harriers	12.05
200m	Niamh Le Gall	Wirral AC	24.47
300m	Niamh Le Gall	Wirral AC	39.06
800m	Eden Creasey	Middlesbrough AC	2:14.30
1500m	Lottie Langan	City of York	4:38.73
3000m	Charlotte Dillon	Houghton Harriers	9:53.02
1500m s/c	Katie Gard	Derby AC	5:06.42
80mH	Kira Jones	Kendal AC	11.49
300mH	Senna Gorvett	Blyth Running Club	44.00
High Jump	Emma Sedgwick	Middlesbrough AC	1.58
Pole Vault	Martha Hewitt-Chapple	Gateshead Harriers	3.00
Long Jump	Eve Drury	Leeds City	5.38
Triple Jump	Amy Hewitt	Wigan & District	11.01

Shot	Alani Dumbuya	Leigh Harriers	13.07
Disucs	Matilda Wright	Kingston upon Hull	34.76
Hammer	Kaitlyn Waddell	North Shields Polytechnic	49.89
Javelin	Lily Oldale	Sale Harriers	43.11

Event	Senior Men		
100	Marcus McLean	Sale	10.63
200	David Chapman	City of Sheffield & Dearne	21.22
400	Lee Thompson	City of Sheffield & Dearne	47.16
800	Ted Chaimberlain	Holmfirth	1:52.95
1500	Jonothan Kay	Bolton United Harriers	03:52.4
5000	Philip Winkler	Morpeth	15:02.95
110 Hu	David Naylor	Crewe & Nantwich	15.06
400Hu	Benjamin Schofield	Gateshead	52.99
3k s'chase	Benjamin Makin	Blackburn Harriers	09:55.2
HJ	Kaya Walker	City of Sheffield & Dearne	2.05
LJ	Archie Yeo	Kingston upon Hull	7.45
TJ	Oliver Goldthorp	Wigan & District	13.91
PV	Adam Hague	City of Sheffield & Dearne	5.30
SP	Scott Jones	Trafford	14.44
DT	James Taylor	City of Sheffield & Dearne	48.38
JT	Sam Dean	Sale	61.06
HT	Shaun Kerry	Kingston upon Hull	55.61
Event	U20 Men		
100	Corey Nealon Richards	Sheffield Hallam University	10.87
200	Jacob Hockin	Harrogate Harriers	22.14
400	Adam Fox	Kingston upon Hull	49.57
800	Harry Ross-Hughes	Wirral AC	1:53.15
1500	Tommy Shaw	City of York	03:54.4
5000	Liam McCay	Liverpool Harriers	15:22.15
110 Hu	Joel Elphick	Blackpool Wyre & Fylde	14.29
400Hu	Samael Lunt	Wirral AC	51.46
3k s'chase			
HJ	Will Jackson	Wigan & District	1.95
LJ	Scott Sinclair	Preston Harriers	6.95
TJ	Daniel Akinradewo	Trafford	14.83
PV	William Lane	City of Sheffield & Dearne	4.70
SP	Isaac Delaney	Preston Harriers	17.24
DT	Caden Uzoigwe	Trafford	50.10
JT	George Lowe	Preston Harriers	52.26
HT	Aaron Holliday	Carlisle Aspatria	43.71

Event	Senior Women		
100	Trinity Powell	Manchester Harriers	11.59
200	Ella Blakey	Derby AC	24.49
400	Ella Blakey	Derby AC	54.43
800	Jodie Martin	Kingston upon Hull	2:09.94
1500	Jacqueline Penn	North Shields Polytechnic	04:42.7
5000	Mya Taylor	Rotherham Harriers	17:26.59
100Hu	Chelsea Walker	City of York	14.05
400Hu	Chelsea Walker	City of York	58.66
2k s'chase	Kate Meeson	Trafford AC	7:57.34
HJ	Hollie Smith	Kingston upon Hull	1.72
LJ	Suzanne Palmer	Derby AC	5.77
TJ	Jasmine Hulland	University of Sheffield	11.87
PV	Sophie Ashurst	Sale Harriers	3.85
SP	Shaunna Thompson	Sale Harriers	14.66
DT	Freya Dooner	Trafford AC	41.59
JT	Vikki Adams	Leeds City	41.18
HT	Hannah Blood	Sale Harriers	55.1
Event	U20 Women		
100	Lily Murphy	East Cheshire & Tameside	12.00
200	Sophie Walton	Horwich RMI	23.81
400	Charlotte Kelsey	Middlesbrough AC	55.13
800	Abigail Stratton	Blackburn Harriers	2:09.27
1500	Evie Jasmine Brooks	Lincoln Wellington	04:30.5
5000	India Barwell	Lincoln Wellington	17:26.94
100Hu	Meg Corker	Liverpool Harriers	13.90
400Hu	Hermione Mason	Sale Harriers	01:02.0
2k s'chase	Gabrielle Phelan	Wirral	6:52.21
HJ	Thea Brown	Sale Harriers	1.74
LJ	Stephanie Jones	Sale Harriers	5.83
TJ	Michelle Yalekhue	Amber Valley & Erewash	12.27
PV	Amy Scott	City of Sheffield & Dearne	3.10
SP	Annabel Amadin	Sale Harriers	12.72
DT	Annabel Amadin	Sale Harriers	39.96
JT	Beth Moodie	Kingston upon Hull	38.75
HT	Jasmine Richardson	Sale Harriers	46.97