



Hampshire Athletics

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leading athletics in Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Islands

HAMPSHIRE & IOW ATHLETICS DEVELOPMENT – ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13

HAMPSHIRE ATHLETICS – GENERAL

Emerging from 2012 London Olympics & Paralympics year, Hampshire Athletics comprises 14 Track & Field, 3 Channel Island, and c.30 Running Clubs. The Hampshire Clubs and Hampshire Schools structures remain the healthy ‘lifeblood’ of our sport. The tremendous excitement generated by the 2012 has contributed to a very significant influx of new athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers into our Track & Field Clubs. 2 Hampshire athletes (Chris Thompson & Robert Tobin) were selected for the GB Olympic team, and 2 athletes (Olivia Breen & Bethany Woodward) both medalled at the Paralympics (Bethany silver in the 200m, with both girls gaining bronze medals in the 4x400m relay). There were a vast range of Olympic related activities in the County including 4 days of the ‘torch’ relay, Schools, Clubs and community events. Barry Kitcher, Hampshire Olympic Coordinator will be heavily involved in ‘legacy’ activity until December 2013 to ensure the positive spirit and atmosphere continues. Specifically the Club Sport Makers scheme has been adopted.

1.1 FINANCE & SUSTAINABILITY

The Sub Group met 3 times in the last 12 months. All branches of the sport returned to profitability in 2012, resulting in Hampshire Athletics reporting a significant profit (£5K+). A set of initiatives were implemented including:-

- Successful negotiations with facility providers to reduce hire charges
- Annual Club affiliation fees increased from £50 to £75 in 2013, with a further increase proposed for 2014.
- A Club membership fees analysis was conducted and shared with Clubs.
- 2012 Hampshire competition fees were elevated, following comparisons with other sports. (Athletics had been viewed as a ‘cheap’ participation sport).
- New income streams and funding sources successfully targeted.

1.2 Hampshire Athletics - Saucony Partnership.

The Hampshire Athletics and Saucony 3 Year Partnership Agreement has been in place since 1 February 2012. (Saucony is the UK’s fastest growing running brand). The Business Partnership is progressing well with the Year 2 funding received in February 2013. The Saucony Hampshire Cross Country Championships, Saucony Hampshire Multi Events, Quad Kids & 10K, and Saucony Hampshire T&F Championships were all successful events. The



'flagship' Saucony Hampshire Athletics Grand Prix in Basingstoke (18 July 2012 coincided with the Olympic torch in Hampshire & IOW) and was an immensely successful new innovation with c.480 athletes competing, far exceeding original projections. The meeting was run by many of the 20 appointed 2012 Hampshire Officials, using photo finish and EDM. Both Hampshire Athletics and Saucony benefitted greatly from positive publicity and feedback including 'Athletics Weekly' profile.

Proposed dates for the Saucony Hampshire Grand Prix in 2013 are:- 17 July, Basingstoke; and 15 September, Southampton (in conjunction with the Doreen Old Open). There are ambitious plans to extend the reputation and prestige of these events in the South of England, and Saucony will appoint a Hampshire-based sports retailer for each event.

2. COMPETITION

2.1 Saucony Hampshire Championships – 12/13 May 2012, Portsmouth

640 athletes competed in an excellent competition with many Championship Best Performances. There was a record entry of 64 for the Multi Events Championships, 170 in the Saucony Hampshire 10K with 50 Under 11s in the Quad Kids competition.

2.2 Hampshire Schools Championships – 16 June 2012, Aldershot

The Hampshire Schools Championships were successfully integrated into the Hampshire Games Multi-Sport Festival with 650 Schools participants. The **Year 7&8 Championships, Southampton - 3 July 2012** attracted c.900 athletes, and **Year 5&6 Championships, Southampton– 26 June 2012** had a reduced entry with c.200 athletes.

2.3 English Schools Championships – 6/7 July 2012, Gateshead

Hampshire Schools achieved 14 medals..

2.4 School Games inclusive competition (Parallel), 1 June 2012, Aldershot

120 athletes participated in events for children with Medium Learning Difficulties, Visual Impairments and Physical Handicaps – a good participation level.

2.5 SLD Athletics Festival, 23 May 2012, Portsmouth

130 athletes with severe impairments participated in this event with adapted events.

2.6 Sports Hall

The Hampshire Sports Hall League continues to thrive with record attendances at the 3 2012- 13 League matches to date, and a full complement of Officials. At the **Aviva Sports Hall Finals- 21 April 2012, NEC, Birmingham**, Hampshire U13 Girls won the National title by nearly 200 points, and the U13 Boys finished 3rd ! These were fantastic results, as all 49 English Counties and Counties from Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland participate in the preliminary Regional rounds.

I am pleased to report that the **Hampshire U13 Boys, U13 Girls & U15 Girls** teams won the **S.E. Regional Final, 9 February 2013, Burgess Hill Olympos Centre**, and will compete at the **National Finals at the NEC on 7 April 2013**.

We staged an **Inclusive Sports Hall Festival at Portsmouth – 5 May 2013**, with 80 children from 8 Special Schools participating.

2.7 Cross Country

The Hampshire Cross Country League has continued to attract magnificent support in 2012-13, with a significant increase in finishers in the 5 matches (735, 704, 642, 542, 499) at Farley Mount, Goodwood, Popham and Kings Park, Hudsons Fields). The **Saucony Hampshire County Championships, Fleming Park, 5 January 2013** had a huge entry of 754 athletes and was a well-organised, profitable event.

7 Hampshire Club athletes (from a team of 36) represented Great Britain in the **Spar European Cross Country Championships in Budapest (9 December 2012)**. Louise Damen (Winchester), Emilia Gorecka, Lily Partridge, Andy Vernon, Emily Wicks, Jonny Hay, & Ian Bailey (all Aldershot, Farnham & District) all achieved team or individual medals.

2.8 London Mini Marathon – 22 April 2012

The South East Regional team were overall winners of the London Mini Marathon with many Hampshire Club representatives.

2.9 2012 League Competition

Hampshire Clubs enjoyed generally good seasons in National League competition with both Basingstoke & Mid Hants and Southampton being promoted to Division 1 and 2 of the British League for 2013 (regrettably Channel Islands A.C. were relegated to Division 4). Southampton, Portsmouth and Aldershot had good seasons maintaining their positions in the UKWL Divisions 1,2&3 for 2013.

3. COACHING

3.1 National and Local Coach Development Programmes (NCDP/ LCDP).

10 Hampshire & IOW coaches now attend the England Athletics NCDP. The Local Coach Development Programme managed by Christine Benning for Hampshire and South Surrey continues its success with regular, well-attended coaching workshops.

3.2 County Coaching Days

The first 2 Hampshire Coaching Days for Winter 2012-13 both had record attendances. **Portsmouth (17 November 2012)** had 103 athletes registered including some new athletes linked to Clubs; **Andover (8 December 2012)** had 65 athletes registered and focused on strength & conditioning. The final day is at **Winchester Stadium (March 23 2013)**, with a pre-season planning theme.

These are high quality coaching days covering physical preparation/ strength conditioning, event-specific work, pre-season planning, and linking athletes to Clubs. The Days have attracted excellent feedback, and a considerable number of unaffiliated Schools athletes have now joined Clubs.

3.3 Coach Education

Hampshire & IOW have successfully hosted a whole range of England Athletics Coach Education programmes in 2012/13, including Athletics Leader, Assistant, Coach, and Leadership in Running Fitness courses, with Clubs needing to increase capacity to meet the influx of new athletes.

4. EDUCATION

Hampshire Athletics continues to support Hampshire Schools AA and the 10 Schools Districts organisation to stage a number of events. We are now working with 14 School Games Organisers (SGOs) and 11 newly appointed College Sport Makers to continue the good work in Hampshire Schools athletics.

5. OFFICIALS

5.1 Officials Evenings

75 Hampshire & IOW Officials attended an Officials Evening at Basingstoke Hockey Club on 30 March 2012. The keynote speaker was Chris Cohen, International Paralympic Chairman and 2012 Paralympics Meeting Manager 2012 Technical Director. The 2013 evening is planned for 12 April.

A number of Officials Education courses have run during 2012/13 in Hampshire, IOW and the Channel Islands.

5.2 2012 Officials

A magnificent total of 20 Hampshire Officials were appointed to work at the 2012 Olympics/ Paralympics. Most also attended the two 2012 'test' events (British Universities Championships and UK School Games) at the new Olympic Stadium.

6. DISABILITY ATHLETICS

6.1 Wheel Chair Racing

The Hampshire Wheel Chair Race Group has continued with modest numbers at Winchester Stadium since the August 2011, using the 3 racing chairs purchased with Accentuate grant aid. The group now meets monthly, with newly qualified coaches operating with great energy and enthusiasm. Consideration is being given to extending the activity to Portsmouth and Aldershot.

6.2 County Athletics Assessment Day (CAADs)

Approximately 50 disabled young sportsmen attended an assessment day in Portsmouth – October 2012. A number have now been linked with Athletics Clubs, and have attended Hampshire Coaching Days.

7. GENERAL

7.1 Hampshire Talented Athlete Scheme (HTAS)

55 Hampshire athletes had submitted applications to the Hampshire Talented Athlete Scheme (HTAS), run by Hampshire County Council from 252 applicants across all sports. Successful applicants will be in receipt of a variety of support services including:- free access to leisure centres, discounted physiotherapy, free bus travel cards, sport science support and financial grants.

7.2 Hampshire & IOW Sports Awards – 20 March 2013 – St Mary's Stadium

A number of nominations were submitted against the various Award categories for athletes, coaches, officials. 5 have been shortlisted for Awards.

7.3 Social/ Recreational Running

Sport England have awarded Sport Hampshire & IOW £35,000 to introduce 1100 new recreational runners to the sport by April 2013. A part-time coordinator, Claire Wareham started work in May 2012, and has been initiating new beginners courses with Clubs, Leisure Centres, Local Authorities and other providers. From February 2013, Michael Coker has worked 1 day per week on this project.

7.4 England Athletics 2013- 2017 Whole Sport Plan.

MGC/ CG/ MN attended an England Athletics 2013- 2017 Planning Meeting in London in November 2012. The emphasis was largely on 'evolution' rather than 'revolution' and building on the successful National/ Local Coach Development Programmes, and Athletics Networks. The role of the County was perceived as critical. England Athletics have been successful in securing c.£22m funding.

Michael Coker – Athletics Coaching & Performance Officer - March 2013



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