

Cross Country Championship Secretary's Report – AGM March 2021

I would usually be delivering a report on the success of the County Championships in January. As you are all aware, I had to take the unprecedented decision to cancel, not one I took lightly. Between us, Richard and I contacted all our ancillary colleagues, the T shirt company in Birmingham, the PA system company, the firm I deal with for our numbers and pins, and the medal providers. We assured them that we were not deserting them, just that the pandemic had overtaken us.

I would like to thank my Committee for their support during the planning stage, when UKA's Guidelines on Covid-safe meetings drove my preparations and the content of my Risk Assessment and Event Plan. Their comments were as useful and wise as ever. In the end, the land-owners made the decision final for me. Our event is just too big and successful, they were concerned about the numbers of athletes, supporters, officials and volunteers on-site at any one time, and the distances that all of those people might have had to have travelled to get to Botley.

One doesn't often hear that one's event is too successful!

So, we move on. I am aware of possible changes in the pipeline as a result of the consultation/survey carried out by UKA in January concerning the equalisation of distances in Cross Country meetings. This may have an effect on the Championships of 2022. We shall have to wait and see.

Since talking to Richard, I have also recently discovered and filled in a questionnaire on the SEAA website concerning Cross Country meetings. Depending on the outcome of that survey, regionally changes may take place. Also there is an implication for the future of the CAU competition, which Hampshire have successfully taken part in for many years. Again, I will keep the Executive Committee informed as and when I know any further details.

Pam Rogers