



## **OFFICIALS' SECRETARIES REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

### **Officials Committee**

Stan Burton(MBE), Mike Barratt, Alison Friend, Peter Darts, Janet Smith, Pam Rogers

### **Committee Secretaries**

Eileen & Terry Williams, 73 Marrowbrook Lane, Cove, Farnborough, GU14 0AE

Tel:01252 664455 email: [eileenandterry@ntlworld.com](mailto:eileenandterry@ntlworld.com)

This is our 9<sup>th</sup> report to the AGM with 2013 being a little easier after the problems which occurred in 2012. Our Officials continue to be selected for National and International appointments including some who have been invited to the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

### **HA UPGRADINGS**

We are pleased to report that Anne Fletcher has been promoted to Level 3 (Probationary) and Liz Flitcroft, Peter Anthony and Emily Craven have all been promoted to Level 2 Region so our congratulations to them all. We continue to encourage newer Officials to progress up the ladder but are well aware that not all Officials for various personal reasons want to progress and are quite happy just supporting their Clubs where they are really needed. British Athletics are looking to change their Grading system again but there is a great groundswell of opinion that they should leave the Level 2 system as it is. However they will be changing the way they appoint Officials to the various International Groups but all is not clear as yet.

### **HA NEW OFFICIALS**

We held Level 2 Courses in Andover in early October and had a total of 41 over the 4 disciplines with 20 from within Hampshire. Our thanks to Steve Baldwin, Alison Friend and Janet Smith for Tutoring Also our thanks to Ian Oldacre from Andover AC for arranging access to their Track and providing some young athletes to enable to candidates to get some practical experience. However there are still Clubs who are not providing any people on these Courses and sooner or later they will find that they are unable to host meetings due to a lack of qualified Officials. This could have big impact now with the restrictions on officiating long throws. We also ran Courses in Jersey in April for 25 candidates as they have the World Island Games coming up in 2015 and also Terry flew to Guernsey on the Sunday morning from Jersey to deliver a Health & Safety Course. Thanks again to Alison, Steve and Janet for their input. During the year we also did a mop up of those within Hampshire who had not attended a H & S Course with small groups and few one to ones. The percentage of those actually qualifying for their full Licence has increased due to chasing them up to complete the paperwork. All those who attended Courses were included in our annual mail out for availabilities for County events with some success.

### **MEETINGS**

We continue to arrange Officials for the County Track & Field and Multi Events Championships together with the Hampshire Schools events plus DSE Southern Region, Special Olympics, Inter County events and those arranged by Michael Coker. We also covered the two Saucony Grand Prix Events at Basingstoke and Southampton with better weather than the previous year and the Basingstoke event in particular was a great success. The Cross Country Championships were suitably covered although the weather this year was pretty awful. We attend meetings of the South of England Regional County Officials Secretaries (Cofsecs) every six months. Thanks to Richard Dean we have purchased additional two way radios for use at Hampshire events to supplement those we

already possessed. Another thank you to Richard for organising an 'Officials' tab on the website and, apart from other matters, we will use this to publish Officials' Appointments.

#### **ENDURANCE**

There are still continuing problems with the Endurance Pathway but things appear to be slowly improving. We leave our Endurance Tutors, Pam Rogers and Ian Murdoch, to deal with arranging relevant courses and we will give them the backup required. We understand there is one in the Isle of Wight but this has been arranged without any contact with Hampshire and this has been taken up with England Athletics.

#### **OFFICIAL MEETING**

We held our 9<sup>th</sup> 'Get Together' last April at Basingstoke Hockey Club with around 60 attending again but the original Guest Speaker, who was a Table Tennis Umpire from the 2012 London Olympics, had a heart attack a couple of weeks beforehand but David Littlewood stepped in at the last minute to give a super talk on his Officiating career. Once again our thanks go to Michael Coker for all his help and support with the arrangements and the sponsorship of Hampshire & Isle of Wight Athletics Network which meant that there was no cost to Hampshire Athletics. The next gathering will be on 28<sup>th</sup> March at the same venue. Guest Speaker originally was Cherry Alexander from British Athletics but she has had to withdraw as she has to be in Copenhagen for the World ½ Marathon Championships but Malcolm Rogers, Chair of the UKA Technical Advisory Group and who was heavily involved in London 2012, will be coming from Yorkshire to talk about his Athletics career.

#### **DIRECTORY**

The 2014 edition should be ready for circulation to all our Officials and Clubs in April following our next Technical Officials meeting later this month at which selections for all Hampshire and Hampshire Schools events will take place.

#### **SINFIELD AND PHILLIPS TROPHIES**

The Sinfield Trophy was presented to Debbie Percy and the Phillips Trophy to Fiona Brown at the 'Get Together' and County Championships respectively and this year's recipients will receive their presentations on 28th March.

#### **NEWSLETTER**

The bi-annual newsletter continues and Eileen (Editor) is always looking for articles. The majority go by email and we also send to some of our retired Officials who have asked to be kept in touch including Paul Slater in Malta. For those who knew Paul he was diagnosed with throat cancer during the year but he had a successful operation before Christmas and is now recovering well. If anyone specifically would like a copy or contribute an article then please get in touch with Eileen.

Finally, our thanks to all our Officials who have supported us throughout the year and particularly to our Officials Committee whose expert advice is invaluable. As to the future, unless someone else would like to take over, we are quite prepared to continue to stand for another year.

Eileen & Terry Williams  
(Joint County Technical Officials Secretaries)