



Administering Athletics in Hampshire, Isle of Wight and The Channel Islands
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AGM Report 2026

This is our first report to the AGM, as we took over the Hampshire Athletics (HA) County Officials Secretary (COFSec) baton from Eileen & Terry Williams at the start of December 2025. Their 22+ years at the helm leaves an indelible lustre on the development of athletics officiating. We will try hard to maintain their commitment!

HA UPGRADINGS

During 2025, the following are congratulated for achieving Regional (L3) & National (L4) gradings:

Sean Galpin (Guernsey AC)	L3 Photo Finish
Chris Llewellyn (BMHAC)	L3 Field
Malcolm Wise (Southampton AC)	L4 Field
Maggie Flitcroft (BMHAC)	L4 Field

UKA have started to encourage more UK L4 officials towards World Athletics (WA) Referee Awards. The Bronze Award, covering all WA disciplines, is achieved through a closed book (to the delight of older officials with long memories) on-line examination. In 2025 the following achieved a Pass. They are not holding their breath for European Athletics appointments, as there are many more award holders than opportunities.

Liz Flitcroft (BMHAC)
Steve Snodden (BMHAC)
Charles Bromley Gardner (Army AA)

Since January we have had two officials gain their Level 2 qualifications: Lisa Hollis (BMHAC) as a Field official and Alfie Wells (Fleet & Crookham AC) as both Starter and Starter's Assistant.

HA NEW OFFICIALS

Due to the on-line booking of officials' courses, England Athletics have informed us of three new officials booking onto on-line Level 1 courses since 1 January. We introduce ourselves to them by email, acknowledging that their initial intent may well be to focus at club level initially. We will be there to help if/when they wish to progress.

MEETINGS

In Hampshire we advertise quite a large number of meetings both for the County and Hampshire Schools and this is far more than most other Counties.

Our availability request was sent out to just over 300 registered officials. At the time of writing we have received 143 responses, 112 of which are positive. This compares to last year where we had 156 returns with 126 positives. We note from Eileen & Terry's final report last year pointing out the challenges last year's numbers would present, so you can see we have an even bigger challenge this year with meetings in jeopardy unless we can get more officials helping at County and Schools events. We have sent out an appeal to all officials and hope for some improvement. We are aware of a number of our senior officials who are either retiring or reducing their availability and we are not sure where their replacements are coming from. This shortage is not just in Hampshire and there are increasing calls on social media for officials at meetings.

OFFICIALS' MEETINGS

We are continuing the annual officials 'Get together', which occurs next week on 20th March at Basingstoke Hockey Club. The Guest Speaker is Andy Vernon (AF&D AC), the 10,000m 2016 Olympian and European 5000m, 10,000m and cross country medallist. A good turnout of 40 officials is expected. We are very grateful for the financial support from HA.

TROPHIES

In 2025 the Sinfield Trophy for enthusiasm and dedication to athletics was awarded to David Haines (Fleet & Crookham AC), a L2 Field official. The Lofts Trophy for "Services to Officiating" went to Pam Rogers (Havant AC), who is a L4 Endurance, L4 Timekeeper, L3 PF, L2 Track official and Event Adjudicator! The David Phillips Award is presented to the Young (under 26 years old) Official of the Year, and was awarded to Annie Male (AF&D AC) for her development as a field official.

The selections for this year have been made by the Officials Committee and the presentations will be arranged in due course.

NEWSLETTER

In 2025 Eileen & Terry issued two Newsletters with articles from officials and themselves and all seemed to be appreciated. We would like to continue with this in some form if we can continue to get contributions.

Finally, a really, really big thanks to Eileen and Terry Williams, for all that they have done to progress athletics officiating in Hampshire. They are a very hard double act to follow, and we are rather less grateful that they asked us to succeed them. Obviously that was done with at least half a mind to show how good a job they had done before us.

