

## **MAY 2008**

### **"England Athletics Competition Licences - have you received yours?"**

Some members may have received their new Competition Licence from England Athletics in the post during the last few weeks. The Competition Licence replaces your old GAT number issued by the North of England Athletics Association and will be needed when you enter competitions.

We are required to affiliate and pay £5 to England Athletics for every competing athlete over the age of 11 years. England Athletics have spent the last 8 months or so working through a backlog of affiliation data from every running club in England and are issuing the Competition Licence cards in batches. They have yet to finish issuing some Competition Licences, but plan to clear the backlog in the near future.

With an affiliation fee of £5 per competing athlete and over 500 members in the Club, the cost is quite significant. To reduce the cost to the Club all under 11s and non competing members have been affiliated free of charge as "volunteers" - this is why some England Athletics cards have "volunteer" printed on them. When under 11 members reach the age of 11, they will be registered as a "Competing Athlete" and issued with a Competition Licence. Any coaches who compete for the Club will also need to be affiliated and issued with a competition licence. If you still compete and have been issued with a "volunteer" registration card, please call into the Harriers Office on a club night and we'll rectify the problem.

Please note that if you have not renewed your subs this year or failed to pay for the last few years, the Club has not affiliated you to England Athletics and you will not be eligible to compete for the Club in any competition. To rectify this, please call into the Harriers Office on a club night and pay your subscriptions, which, of course, cover more than simply your own Affiliation fee, they are needed to pay for all the competitions the club enters on your behalf [the entry fee for the senior men's 12-stage was £76, for example] and all the other costs in running a competitive athletics club. *Edwin James, Treasurer*

### **Hardship Fund**

The club committee want every member to be able to enjoy their athletics and to participate fully in the sport, and not to have to reduce their participation due to financial considerations. Therefore a hardship fund exists as part of the club finances to assist any such member unable to afford essential athletics-related expenditure.

Details of the fund can be found on the club or an application form can be obtained from the office.

All requests for assistance are considered by the Chair (Janice Kaufman), Secretary (Mary Liddell) and the Treasurer (Edwin James) in absolute confidence and identity of the recipients are not identified in the club's published accounts. *Edwin James,*

### **Helpers required!!!!**

Being based at the International Stadium, the club and it's members are being asked more and more to help at the various events being put on at this iconic stadium. The Chief people are always selected in advance by who ever is promoting the event, but there is always a requirement for other volunteers to help in all sorts of ways – manning the gate, collecting programme money, distributing meals, conducting the competitors to their starting point, etc etc. Plus, of course, the committee members are always thinking of extra things to put on!! Could you help at...

**North East Counties Track and Field Championships** – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May??

**English Schools Association Championships** (000's of competitors !) Friday 12<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July??

**Our Minor Athletes meetings** – 18<sup>th</sup> May, June 15<sup>th</sup>, July 20<sup>th</sup>, August 10<sup>th</sup>?? 9.00 – 12.30 Sunday mornings??

### **Turin Marathon**

Rejected by London?? Do Turin instead !! That's what one of our members, Jennifer Bradley, did when she received the news that her application to run London had been turned down. She improved on her personal best by no less than nineteen minutes, and also did the qualifying time so that she can run in New York as well!!!! Here is her account:

'It was a beautiful bright sunny day, about 8 degrees at 8am when I headed from my hotel to the start of the 2008 Turin Marathon. Having feasted on authentic pasta the night before, one of northern Italy's best kept secrets for a great city break, I was looking forward to sampling Turin's history as the birth place of chocolate, though after the run!

The start, and finish, was in the stunning piazza Castello in front of the majestic palace and castle. The organisation was exemplary – from the expo the day before with goody bag (including timex watch!) picked up beforehand to the easy finish and good medal. The course was traffic free and well marshalled, water stations every 5km, sponges in between those and support throughout the route.

As the course wound through the suburbs of Turin the shouts of 'forca!' and 'brava!' with even a few 'bellissima!' kept the enthusiasm high, the locals pouring out of church services taking delight in cheering on the runners. Especially uplifting were several village bands on route and the course made for a great marathon with only one substantial hill (albeit at about 20km) that meant the final half was either flat or slightly downhill.

In the Men's race Stephen Kibiwott gained the second Turin Marathon win of his career clocking 2:10:12 in a close battle in the final kilometers with Oleksandr Sitkovsky from the Ukraine who took the runner's-up spot in 2:10:17 qualifying for the Olympic Games in Beijing, together with his compatriot Vasyl Matvichuk, who finished fifth in 2:10:36. The women's race saw another athlete get her berth for this summer's Olympic Games - Italian Vincenza Sicari took the honors in 2:29:50. I came in as ninth woman (possibly a reflection on the few numbers of Women running!) in a time of 3:22:05 – getting a guaranteed entry for the New York Marathon in November by 55 seconds!  
 [Could we manage a women's team of three for London 2009, I wonder?? Ed]

### **Sainsbury's Futures Seminar, Loughborough, April 23rd**

Rebecca Liddell and Jessica Read were invited to attend the above by the ESAA following achieving National Standards in their events, Sprint Hurdles and Long Jump respectively, at last summer's Schools' Finals. Bill Read (sprints coach to Jessica) says : 'I was able to attend the warm-up conducted by Jason Gardener which I found very useful and interesting from a sprint coaching point of view. In his closing address, Jason made great emphasis on ATTITUDE, the need to set Goals and the need to focus on those Goals all the time if you want to reach the top in your event. It was a fascinating day, from which I learnt a lot and which I hope to be able to impart to the athletes'

**New Level One Officials:** Congratulations to: Tracey Newton, Amanda Healey, Bob Stobbs, Melanie Murphy, Jason Stobbs, Sarah Morden, Paul Collins, and Carol Pringle – who attended a course led by Linda Schofield.

**Northern 12-stage Relay** – Catterick Garrison. With the event being local, for the first time the club managed to field TWO teams in this event, the 'A'-team qualifying for the final in 20<sup>th</sup> position (25 teams qualify). Also for the first time ever, the ladies team actually LED in their 6-stage event, unfortunately after Mary Ferrier, Jess Trowbridge and Kim Simpson had done their stints, there were not three more to carry the team home. A pity!!!!

Robert West (39) 32:04	A Carmichael (30) 15:51	K Flannery (22) 15:57
M Thompson (24) 31:29	Chris Paton (20) 16:12	Andrew Teate (15) 15:46
John Gibson (24) 35:17	Simon Statton (25) 17:40	Marc Elliott (18) 17:01
C Hainsworth (22) 33:16	John Larkin (22) 18:43	P Branston (21) 17:56

#### **'B--team**

Kevin Connelly (54) 35:45	Andrew Pulham (53) 18:59	Chris Burrows (50) 17:51
Steven Medd (50) 36:40	Martin Slater (48) 15:23	Richard Hall (47) 18:09
P Hindhaugh (47) 37:31	J Stephenson (47) 22:35	R Weightman (47) 19:37
Andrew Smith (46) 39:06	K Alnwick (42) 14:58	M Thirlaway (44) 23:41

### **National 12-stage Road Relay – Sutton Coldfield, Midlands.**

The senior men were one of only two clubs from the North East to complete a team in this prestigious event, finishing in 39<sup>th</sup> position:

Chris Parr (10) 26:43	Adam Carmichael (17) 15:47	Jakko Leinonen (22) 29:18
Marc Elliott (27) 17:08	Chris Paton (29) 30:03	Richard Hall (31) 18:01
Stephen Rhodes (35) 33:11	Martin Slater (36) 17:43	Chris Hainsworth (36) 32:23
Geoff Smith (37) 18:46	Conrad Franks (37) 30:58	Malcolm Thirlaway(39) 18:39

### **Track News**

The track season is now upon us, there have been a number of Open meetings at which our members performed with distinction. Next week (10/11<sup>th</sup> May) sees the North East County Championships at the stadium, in which we hope our members do well.

**'Cleveland Land Services Open Medal Meeting'** – another successful Open meeting hosted by us, our traditional 'early-season opener'.

**Minor Athletes Open Medal meet'** – this inaugural event which is completely new to the North East for athletes aged 8,9,10 or 11 years went well, with parents acting as officials and helpers on the day. Lots of youngsters went home happy, with medals jangling from their necks for their efforts!!!

**The National Junior league** meeting at Leeds began with a very close team result, and the club in 7<sup>th</sup> position.

Sale Harriers Manchester:	500	Team Edinburgh	495	Liverpool	443
Leeds City	429	Kingdom	418	City of York	397
Gateshead Harriers	392	Trafford	228		

Our event winners were: Lauren Dewdney 100mH, Vicky Holmes 400mH, and Emma Pringle SP

## **Chris Betts**

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