

2016 AGM report from Junior Ilkley Harriers

Key points

- Junior membership of 338 (6 less than 2015)
- 32 x 16-18 year olds are training at junior led sessions/Junior Leaders (increase of 20)
- 9 sixteen year olds moving into the senior section October 2016
- England vests gained by Jemima Elgood, Sarah Pickering and Bethan Morley
- Yorkshire vests gained by Poppy Anderson, Bethan Morley, Euan Brennan, Jemima Elgood, Sarah Pickering and Lucy Williamson
- 56 juniors competed in 2 or more West Yorkshire cross-country events
- Harry Maslen ranked 4th in country for U23 Decathlon
- 35 juniors competed at an athletics meet over the summer
- 'Team Ilkley' finishes joint 5th in the FRA Junior fell Championships (out of 59 clubs)
- 95 juniors receive awards at the annual awards evening in March
- 75 volunteers (35 adults and 40 Junior Leaders) coach at sessions every week
- Coach Education: Katrina Kennedy, Elizabeth Raven, Jane McCarthy, Jane Mumby (Assistant Coach); Rachel Websdale (Coach Award), Wondimu Keno Wodajo (Level 2 Endurance & Sprint)

It's been another outstanding year - well done and congratulations to everyone concerned.

Cross-Country report from Gaenor Coy

The cross country side of Junior Harriers has continued to grow from strength to strength.

We started the season back in October with the **West Yorkshire Cross County league**. This year a record 66 sign up with 56 competing in at least 2 of the races in the series. Some fantastic running was seen over the 4 races. We had 5 athletes gain overall series prizes. U13 girls - 2nd Charlotte Elston, 6th Isabella Moran, U15 boys - 3rd Euan Brennan, 4th Dominic Coy and U17 ladies - 4th Jemima Elgood

For the second year running we had 7 of the 8 possible categories finishing in the overall team results and podium team places 5 of these teams. U11 girls finished joint 1st team along with Keighley team and the U15 boys only getting pipped into silver after runner positions were applied after their tie break with York and Keighley. Silver medals were also awarded to the U11 boys and U17 women and the bronze going to U13 girls.

The **PECO** league started at the end of November. We had 17 runners enter at least one race with 6 runners completing 4 or more races. A few junior harriers in the overall prizes including Archie Budding 3rd year 4-6 boy, Dominic Coy 1st year 7-9 boy and Poppy Anderson 3rd year 7-9

Championship Races - we had 27 junior runners competing in the **Yorkshire Championships** on 9th January. We had team placings in 5 out of the 6 junior's races with the U15 boys coming home with bronze medal team. Great individual results too.

Poppy Anderson, Bethan Morley, Euan Brennan, Jemima Elgood, U20 ladies Lucy Williamson and senior Tom Adams earning what must be a club record of 6 Yorkshire vests won on the day.

On January 30th 20 juniors raced in some horrendous ground and weather conditions for the **Northern**

Championships at Witton Park in Blackburn. Well done to Poppy and Charlotte who carried on despite losing a shoe or 2. We had 3 teams in the final placings for U13, U15 and 6th place for U17

Outstanding results from Bethan Morley who was 6th U15 girl and Jemima Elgood 11th U17 ladies.

Finally the **English National Championships** on February 27th. We had 15 juniors completed the course at Donnington Park. As always a fantastic experience for all and some great results including 54th Jemima Elgood, 86th Cameron Reilly, 75th Lucy Williamson and a fantastic 30th for Bethan Morley. 19th Team for U17 ladies. It's great to see such commitment from our athletes throughout the season.

Off the back of a very strong XC season Bethan Morley, Euan Brennan and Jemima Elgood were selected to compete for Yorkshire and Humberside in the mini London Marathon. What an amazing experience for them all.

In addition to Gaenor's report the massively popular Wharfedale Primary Schools League which we coordinate is now in its tenth year and has provided the ideal starting point for most of these athletes. Over 450 children from 12 local schools competed in 4 league races organised by Ashlands, Ben Rhydding, Ghyll Royd and Westville House Schools.

Finally thank you to Gaenor and Steve Coy for team managing and supporting the juniors throughout the Cross-Country season.

Fell Running report from Kim Anderson (joint fell captain with George Elmes)

During the season 27 juniors completed at least one race in the English FRA Junior championships (number of races in brackets).

Under 8 - Lola Stead (3) Oscar Shinn (1)

Under 10 - Dylan Carr (5) Archie Budding (4) Max Stead (4) Jonathan Archer (1) Nicholas Archer (1) Thomas Campbell (1) Charlie Macina (1) George Morley (1) Dylan Shinn (1)

(U12, 14, 16 & 18 include individual league position)

Under 12 - Lewis Carr 12th (5) Phoebe Worrall 10th (5) Harry Stead 38th (4) Robyn Anderson 35th (2) Ivy Cooper 63rd (1) Oliver Holmes 90th (1) Isobel Macina 59th (1)

Under 14 - Poppy Anderson 9th (4), Ben Morley 65th (1)

Under 16 - Euan Brennan 4th (5), Robbie Matthews 35th (3), Bethan Morley 16th (2)

Under 18 - Sarah Pickering 1st (6), Lucy Jacques 9th (3), Jemima Elgood 10th (2), Lucy Haines 11th (2)

Congratulations to Bethan Morley, Euan Brennan and Sarah Pickering who gained their Yorkshire vest and Jemima Elgood and Sarah Pickering their England vest.

Overall Ilkley came 5th out of 59 clubs.

Juniors also took part in BOFRA races and the BAN league as well as the Ilkley Fell league. Quite a few made the most of sporting events at village galas and came away with prizes in sprints, egg and spoon, skipping, sack races etc! It's always great to see Dave and Eileen Woodhead at fell races giving support, encouragement and taking their amazing photos.

Finally a massive thank you to Kim for stepping up to the mark to cover the fell scene this season and sending regular fell reports and keeping the JIH league tables up to date.

We continue to develop our **Track and Field Athletics** programme and when we have facilities this will really take off. Currently our prime aim is to have more juniors taking part in competitions and we encourage them to attend entry level competition such as the Burnley U11 open and the York Summer League. The ESSA awards scheme which was introduced last season has been popular and we hope that this will encourage and reward juniors of all levels to compete. Over the summer 35 individuals competed at a meet (6 first timers at the

Burnley U11 meet; 27 at the York Summer League and 2 at the Yorkshire championships). One of these was Bethan Morley who went on to compete at the ESSA in Gateshead over 800m.

Juniors ranked on the Power of 10 in Yorkshire are: U23: Harry Maslen (2nd in decathlon, 6770); U17: Will South (16th long jump), U15: Bethan Morley (2nd 800m), Nathaniel Richardson (41st 200m), Joe Bramham Butts (27th 300m, 38th 800m), U13: Rohan Smith (41st 200m).

In 2016 190 juniors took part in weekly **Sportshall Athletics** sessions and at the annual Sportshall Athletics awards presentation evenings we gave an impressive number of Gold awards. The Regional trials were of the highest standard and attended by 26 of our juniors with 7 being selected for West Yorkshire regional teams; Sam Bentley, Jack Ezard, Harrison Oddie, Will Spencer (U11), Thomas Dover, Maddie Hicks, Tom Jackson (U13)

We have organised 4 events this year - Wharfedale Primary Schools' XC relay event, junior fell races, junior trail races, the sprint fell relays and supported the Ilkley Aquathlon. Many thanks to Jane McCarthy as the organiser of the February fell races and Sprint fell relays; to Rachel and Bryan Websdale for organising the trail races and Gaenor and Steve Coy for the Ilkley Aquathlon.

We deliver 12 hours of athletics to juniors each week - that's pure contact time and not the preparation that goes into each session. Thank you to all lead coaches for their planning, preparation and organisation of their sessions - Ros Blackburn, Sally Westlake, Malcolm Pickering, Sue Williamson, Sally Malir, Kate Lofthouse, Christine Reilly and Sally Judkowski.

Our **Coach Education programme** is sound with new parent helpers coming into it all the time. Four coaches qualified as Assistant Coaches - Katrina Kennedy, Elizabeth Raven, Jane McCarthy, Jane Mumby. Rachel Websdale gained her Coach Award having done the course a few years back and we were able to transfer Wondimu Keno Wodajo Ethiopian qualifications over to a Level 2 Endurance & Sprint Award after being assessed by Jamie French. Three Assistant coaches (Katrina Kennedy, Elizabeth Raven and Sally Westlake) have signed up to do their Coach Award before the end of the year. Our Junior Leader courses are oversubscribed and capped at 16 per course. A group of 8 completed their Level 2 Sport Leaders Award in December 2015 after volunteering for 15 months and our current group of 20 will qualify in December 2016. We have used the England Athletics 'Leading Athletics' award with this group.

Our **Coach Development programme** is available to all coaches to further their knowledge and support their coaching qualifications. Sally Judkowski (jumps), Kate Lofthouse (endurance) and Ros Blackburn & Shirley Wood (throws) attended the Regional coaching day in Leeds in November. And this year 18 coaches completed a First Aid course in April and 14 a Child Protection course in June. Thank you to Ros Blackburn for organising the later.

Approximately 160 juniors, parents and volunteers attended the annual **Junior Presentation of Awards evening** in March with just over 95 juniors receiving awards for Sportshall Athletics, Track & Field Athletics, Cross-Country, Fell Running to recognise their achievement and commitment to training and competing for the club.

In addition we presented Level 2 Sports Leaders certificates to 8 Junior Leaders as well as **Volunteer Awards**. For many of our volunteers it is a small amount of recognition and reward for many years of commitment, enthusiasm and support. For the 2015/16 season we changed tack a little and decided to choose up to 12 individuals who had made a difference over the previous 12 months to be 'honoured' by attending the annual junior presentation evening and receiving their awards. The recipients were: Junior Leaders: Sophie Clarke, Ed Muirhead, Nathan Spiller, Elizabeth Westhead, Joanne Williamson and Lucy Williamson. Adult coaches/helpers: Kim Anderson (compiling fell results), Juliet Hammond, Annette Jackson, Richard Joel (all commitment to coaching), Sally Westlake (coaching and for taking on the endurance coordinators role), Wondimu Keno Wadajo (coaching and for inspiring the young athletes)

Each week 75 individuals (35 adults and 40 Junior Leaders) give up their time to coach athletics and without their commitment and dedication we could not run our programme, so many thanks to everyone who has supported the junior section this year. It is an absolute pleasure to work alongside such dedicated individuals.

For me the last 12 months has been very busy with meetings to discuss the **Compact Athletics Training facility** and I would like to thank Hilda Coulsey, Paul Stephens, Rob Cunningham, Martin Archer, Steve Maslen and Terry Jones for their considerable expertise and support with a whole range of issues that you can't imagine. Although progress appears to be slow we are so much closer to getting these facilities. As has been reported on the JIH web site we were granted planning permission in May and now need to raise £300k to make it happen. The plan is that half will be raised through a member's investment loan, £100k by applying for funding which is the uncertain element and £50k through local fundraising by the junior section. I would like to say thank you to everyone who has supported any of our fundraising initiatives to date.

As many of you know I have been handing over the running of parts of the junior section to others. The endurance programme (including race organisation) is now run by the coaches, endurance coordinators and XC and Fell captains. Last year I announced that I would be stepping down from co-ordinating the Wharfedale Primary Schools XC League and I am pleased to say that Felicity Tomblin, Rachel Websdale and Sally Westlake have offered to take this on. I will be working alongside them this season.

Finally thank you to everyone for their continued enthusiasm, support, commitment and motivation and for sharing the workload. It is important that we continue to plan with vision and to bring in new ideas and continuing to strive onwards and upwards.

Shirley Wood
Junior Co-ordinator

Junior accounts for 2015/16 will accompany this report at the AGM. Thank you to Margaret Kleppen for auditing our accounts again this year.