

Junior Ilkley Harriers Newsheet



Autumn 2026

Welcome back to everyone and we hope that you have had a good summer. This newssheet is emailed to all juniors currently on our membership list (plus any newcomers) giving all the information that is needed for the term ahead.

1. If your child's contact/medical details have changed, contact Shirley.
2. If you are a newcomer this term – once you know that you would like to continue, please could you send a completed JIH membership form to Shirley for the junior club records. A membership form can be downloaded from the web site.
3. If you no longer wish to do athletics, let Shirley and your lead coach know and we'll remove you from the membership list.

ANNUAL ATHLETICS SESSION FEES (2026/2027)

Our annual fees have increased to **£40 per coaching group** (which includes (Junior) Ilkley Harrier annual membership fee) and is due before October half term. To clarify: if your child attends both a running and SHA group it is £80. For juniors who do not attend any training sessions but wish to compete and register with England Athletics it is **£23**.

All coaching groups will try to do a minimum of 20 sessions over the year, but more are scheduled. As we are cheap compared to other sports there will be **NO REFUNDS** so it is important that juniors are sure of their commitment and newcomers try 2-3 sessions before making any payment. We appreciate it's not a great time for everyone so if session fees prove financially difficult, please contact Shirley. If a junior is unfortunate to be out for any length of time (injury or illness) again contact Shirley.

Payment methods: Contact Shirley

Volunteer concessions: NO FEES ON ANY SESSIONS for children of coaches and adult helpers, race organisers and Primary School XC League coordinators and Junior leaders/ helpers.

NEW WEBSITE

We no longer have a separate junior website. Ilkley Harriers now have a combined Senior/Junior website and the link to the junior element is: <https://ilkleyharriers.org.uk/juniors/>
Rachel Websdale has taken over as the junior web master and she is working hard to get information up to date and in the right place.

SPRINT FELL RELAYS (Ilkley Moor) - Wednesday 2nd September

It would be great to have lots of teams racing so if you can make it they start at 6pm, but get there by 5.40 at the latest. Race HQ is on the grass opposite Darwin Gardens. Teams of 4, between the ages of 6 to 14. You can make up teams from your friends and they don't have to be Junior Harriers. Tessa Freer Has offered to be at the registration tent to make up teams on the night so there's no excuse. Everyone does the same half mile lap and they're a lot of fun.

JUNIOR RACE ORGANISING – Sprint Relays 2027

The junior relays were first organised in 2003 as a low key opener to the autumn term with athletics coaching sessions starting the week after. The current organisers (Rachel Holder and Rachel Carter) have done a tremendous job for many years, and I thank them for all their commitment and support. They are both stepping down after this year and we really need others to take this on. Unfortunately unless other individuals offer to organise them, they will stop which would be a tremendous shame for all local children and our juniors who have benefitted so much from competing in them. If you can commit to organising this event in the future please speak to either of the organisers and they'll give you an idea of the work involved.

AUTUMN COACHING PROGRAMME

NEWCOMERS - for everyone, all abilities and newcomers to athletics.

Wednesday: 'Speed Endurance' running, IGS playing fields, 5.30 to 6.15. Years 4-6. Starts 9th September.

Thursday: Sportshall Athletics, IGS sports hall. 6pm to 7.15 for Years 3-6. Starts 10th September.

SPECIFIC TRAINING for juniors who wish to compete (Year 7 and older). We expect a high level of commitment, motivation, self-discipline and behaviour. Contact Shirley if you are interested in doing either.

Monday: Fell running, sessions on the fells until late Sept => Ghyll Royd field, 6pm to 7pm.

Wednesday: 'Speed Endurance Training', IGS playing fields, 6.15-7.30, Starts 9th September.

WHARFEDALE PRIMARY SCHOOLS XC LEAGUE

We co-ordinate this league and all races are on Saturdays. This season's 6 individual dates are 26th September at Ilkley Lido - All Saints; 3rd October - Ghyll Royd; 10th October at Ilkley Rugby Club - Westville House; 21st November

- Ashlands; 16th January 2027 - Addingham Primary (**KS2 ONLY**); 6th February - Ben Rhydding. The series is concluding with the KS2 relays at Nell Bank on the 13th March. Race details will be on the IH website.

CLUB CROSS-COUNTRY EVENTS

Juniors doing any of our training sessions are automatically a member of **Ilkley Harriers** but you must be registered with England Athletics and have an **URN** (unique reference number) to compete. If you are planning to compete for the first time or not sure whether you are registered with EA contact Shirley as soon as possible and she will sort you out. The club will pay your EA membership fee. Club vests should be worn at races (**must** be worn at WY XC events). This season we are continuing to make a big drive to get more juniors competing in the Ilkley colours at the **PECO XC league** events (www.pecoxc.co.uk). Unfortunately the race dates are not available yet so I will send a separate email to everyone when they are (they usually run from November to March). The series of 5 races is ideal for the first-time competitor who is not sure about racing and they are incredibly user-friendly so give them a go. There are two races - a 1 mile race for school years 2 to 6 and a 2 mile race for years 7 to 11. Boys and girls race together and the cost is £8 (tbc) for the whole series (parents should enter their child online when it becomes available). Once you have your race number you bring it to every race.

West Yorkshire X-C League (www.westyorkshireathletics.org.uk) is a series of 5 races for U12, U14, U16 and U18. The races are generally of a higher standard but our juniors have competed at this level with much success for many years. Entry and payment are **online** and up to the parent to do themselves (further details and on line entry are now available - deadline for first race is 4th Oct). It's £25 for the series of 5 races. Original style red/green vests must be worn. 2026/27 dates are: Sun 11th Oct, Cliffe Castle, Keighley; Sat 14th Nov, Thornes Park, Wakefield; Sat 5th Dec, Middleton Park, Leeds; Sun 17th Jan, Nunroyd Park, Guiseley; Sun 14th Feb, Oulton, Rothwell.

JUNIOR ILKLEY HARRIERS CROSS-COUNTRY and FELL LEAGUE 2026

Junior Ilkley Harriers 2026 Fell League: Emma and Gawain Moore are about to take on the coordinating of the league. There are 4 more races in the series this year so even if you haven't done any of the others why not give these a try. They are: 6th September, Burnsall; 11th October, Withins; and PECO 1 & 2 (dates tbc).

The **BAN Junior Fell & Terrain League 2026** can be found at www.banfellterrainleague.wordpress.com

CLUB RUNNING VESTS

We have a small stock of the original style red/green club vests in various sizes. If you need a club running vest speak to either Nicola Budding (Monday fell session) or Kate Lofthouse (Wednesday older session) or send me an email. We'll sort something out for you. The junior section subsidise the cost and they will be available to purchase for £10.

CLUB DISCOUNTS

This is a benefit for Ilkley Harriers only (to which your child is a junior member). Please do not share this code with non-members as this could damage our relationship with the retailer. The code changes every month so contact Shirley for future months.

15% DISCOUNT at Yorkshire Runner (38 Bondgate, Otley) instore and online: Contact Shirley for the September code. Yorkshire Runner stock a full range in store so recommend people come and see and try on a range of options, take a short test run, to help find what works best for the way they run. www.yorkshirerunner.com

CONTACTS

Shirley Wood: JIH admin and co-ordinator:

Elizabeth Raven: Mon fell session and Welfare Officer-U18's training in the junior section:

Nicola Budding: Mon fell session:

Rachel Websdale: Wed younger running group and web master:

Katrina Kennedy: Thurs SHA and Welfare Officer-U18's training in the junior section:

Kate Lofthouse: Wed older running group & Welfare Officer-U18's training in the junior section:

Emma and Gawain Moore JIH Fell League coordinators.

THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

Notice from Shirley: This statement is to make it clear to all parents/guardians that information we gather from you about your child is limited to what we collect from the JIH membership form and what we actually need for administration and necessary to run our training sessions safely. The only individuals who have access to this information are qualified lead coaches or those who enter children for races. If a junior competes regularly, we have to affiliate them to England Athletics and we pass on certain information to register them (as written on JIH membership form). We retain your JIH membership form for the period of time you are actively training or volunteering in the junior section (up to age 18) and this information is also held securely (password protected) on a computer. It is shredded/removed when you leave. At 16 when a junior officially moves into the senior section your personal details are securely passed on to the senior membership secretary. In the junior section we apply a common sense 'need to know' policy with your child's information - if you have any queries/questions please get in contact with me.

