

**SOMERSET SCHOOLS' ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
JUNIOR (UNDER-13 AND UNDER-14) CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Yeovil Athletics Arena
Wednesday 5 June 2013**

Full details were sent to the 49 eligible schools on Friday 12 April with an URGENT sticker on each envelope. An email to every school supported the hard copy so the information was available at the start of the summer term. This year the four main Track and Field clubs were sent the information so that they might identify their most talented Under-13 and Under-14 athletes and encourage their schools to submit entries. Entries were due by half-term and the Championships Committee of 5 then met on Tuesday 28 May to prepare the event, and final details were sent to all competing schools on Friday 31 May. We continue to make every attempt to enable schools to submit their entries simply and efficiently and year on year we appear to be making some headway in regard to most of the following aspects:

1. **ENTRIES MAY BE SUBMITTED BY SCHOOLS ONLY** – Neither parents nor coaches attempted to enter athletes this year. We appear to have solved this problem.
2. **USE BLOCK CAPITALS FOR ATHLETES' NAMES AND WRITE IN INK** – Two schools submitted entry forms in handwriting which was completely illegible in places. Therefore, some results were inevitably inaccurate.
3. **ENSURE ATHLETES ARE ENTERED IN A MAXIMUM OF 2 EVENTS ONLY** – Only two schools made errors in this area. We are making pleasing progress with this problem.
4. **USE ONLY THE OFFICIAL, COLOUR-CODED ENTRY FORMS** – Only one school ignored this instruction – an improvement on the four from 2012.
5. **ENSURE THE OFFICIALS' FORM IS RETURNED WITH THE ENTRY FORMS** – Every school complied with this basic condition of entry. Several schools offered two (or more) officials which was much appreciated.
6. **INCLUDE ALL ENTRY FEES WITH ENTRY FORMS** – Three schools failed to include entry fees with entries but the money was paid on the day.
7. **DO NOT LEAVE THE SUBMISSION OF ENTRY FORMS TO YOUR FINANCE DEPARTMENT** – No late entries had to be refused this year.
8. **NEITHER SUBSTITUTES NOR GUESTS ARE PERMITTED** – Following embarrassing situations encountered in 2011, these points were emphasised in every communication to schools and we had no problems. One parent wished to change his daughter's event as she had not been entered in her 'specialist' event but the request was refused and the gentleman was directed to the Team Manager.

Weather conditions were pleasant and the customary tremendous enthusiasm of the athletes and tireless efforts on the part of our group of loyal Somerset County AA officials combined to make the event a thoroughly enjoyable occasion. Photo-finish and fully automatic timing were in operation for all track events.

Entries were received from 28 schools (compared to 25 in 2006, 21 in 2007, 26 in 2008 and 2009, 29 in 2010, 28 in 2011 and 29 last year) but we appear unable to break the 30 barrier, let alone approach the 40 target towards the 49 schools which could take part.

Numbers of event entries compared quite well with most recent years. Entries were as follows by age group:

Under-13 Girls – 97 (88 in 2007, 127 in 2008, 137 in 2009, 106 in 2010, 104 in 2011, 111 in 2012).

Under-13 Boys – 122 (92 in 2007, 135 in 2008, 113 in 2009, 101 in 2010, 115 in 2011, 98 in 2012).

Under-14 Girls – 153 (142 in 2007, 127 in 2008, 183 in 2009, 145 in 2010, 156 in 2011, 158 in 2012).

Under-14 Boys – 165 (137 in 2007, 159 in 2008, 173 in 2009, 140 in 2010, 171 in 2011, 188 in 2012).

Total entries – 537 (459 in 2007, 548 in 2008, 606 in 2009, 492 in 2010, 546 in 2011, 555 in 2012).

The general standard was encouraging in most events with three excellent Championship Best Performances:

Under-13 Girls' High Jump: Olivia Handel (Haygrove School) – 1m 41.

Under-14 Girls' 1500m: Amelia Vance (Queen's College) – 5:01.52

Under-14 Boys' 100m: Callum Wells (Court Fields School) – 11.92 (in heats).

Certificates (for the first three in each event) and County Champion badges were available at the end of the meeting – those not collected were sent to the schools by the end of the week.

This meeting surely remains a valuable early experience for our youngest talent.

Five or six of the top performers (who competed well in two events) in each of the four age groups were notified of the Academy of Combined Events by way of an opportunity for structured winter coaching.

RICHARD BOWDEN

SOMERSET SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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Senior Track & Field Championships' Report 2013

Last year my opening paragraph contained the following " *We, meaning all the very familiar faces, have 'done' this championships for many years and there seemed to be a feeling of quiet, calm satisfaction from the outset as everyone carried out their responsibilities.*" This year was so different.

The timetable remained the same from previous years and comprehensive information and entry forms were sent to area secretaries.

This year this included two new rules:

1. Junior Boys run 300m in place of 400m
2. All Juniors are not allowed to compete in 800m and 1500m.

As previously Dave Cooke would receive entries so everything could be downloaded into his computer programmes linked to field card production, photo-finish, etc. etc. Unfortunately there were a couple of issues in that dates of birth were not always included with entry and a couple of athletes were initially entered into the wrong age group. On the positive side, with the deadline for substitutions scheduled late, there were few hic-cups when athletes actually competed.

Two areas: Yeovil and Sedgemoor utilised the WebForms facility enabling athletes to confirm their availability on line.

The problem to be solved however was, who would be the announcer? Announcing at this, and indeed any schools', meeting is not the normal format for not only have announcements to be made ensuring athletes know what's next and where to go along with the results of these events but presentations made which include championship best performances and standards achieved. There is, then, much interaction between the announcer, the printed pages, the referees, the results service and the presentation area. As someone who knows at first hand the liaison between announcer and presentation and understands the paper trail behind the scenes I decided I would announce.

This left the problem of who should take my position at presentation. Whoever it was would leave a gap in their area of the championships. The ex-chairman is an area team manager, the chairman is the track marksman and thus the vice-chairman, Les, was asked to make presentations. This meant that the meeting was without one experienced field judge.

Behind the scenes the usual results service was also short of personnel, thankfully a twisted arm, high up the back, meant Lewis Tree offered to help: he was most efficient and enjoyed his role.

SOMERSET SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Hopefully on the outside the meeting ran smoothly but I know, in order to keep up with the hectic schedule, I made many calculated omissions!

The printed programme contained a tribute to Bill, from Steve Ladd, whilst at the centre of the day the meeting was halted for a tribute, by the secretary, followed by one minute's silence and then loud applause. (So that a record is kept of these tributes they are at the foot of this report.)

The championships are the 45th under metrification and, in all honesty, it still amazes me that records, this year in great number, are achieved. Perhaps the actual number of competitors has a bearing on this for the entry was higher than in recent years with 544 individual athletes competing in 779 competitor places. This means a large number 'doubled-up' events which could be the cause of the lower than expected number of competitors within each event!

Congratulations to the following athletes whose names will appear on the honours lists:

Junior Boys	300m (New Event)	39.80e	F. King	Taunton
Junior Boys	4x100m Relay	47.65e		Taunton
Junior Boys	Long Jump	6.15	A. Chapman	Taunton
Junior Girls	Sprint Hurdle	11.57e	A. Turner	Taunton
Junior Girls	Javelin	37.21	L. Dawkins	Taunton
Intermediate Girls	Javelin	41.03	J. Loxton	Taunton
Senior Boys	200m	21.98e	E. Rutter	Yeovil
Senior Boys	400m	48.50e	E. Rutter	Yeovil
Senior Girls	Steeple Chase	5:25.22e	H. Rogers	Taunton
Senior Girls	High Jump	1.72	J. Morrish	Mendip

('e' represents electronic timing)

Finally many thanks to **everyone** who this year helped in any way to make these championships not only possible but a success.

BB

SOMERSET SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Chairman's Message 2013

I write my chairman's message with much sadness due to the death of Bill Whistlecroft MBE, on Thursday 30th May. For many, Bill will be that familiar and calm voice we have heard from the announcer's box during area, county, regional, national and international competitions. He announced for more than 40 years but his influence in the world of athletics, and sport, is so much more than that.

Bill had been involved in the Somerset Schools Athletics Association since the early 1960s and during his time had taken on many different roles including Secretary for 26 years. Latterly, from 2004, he was our President. Pinnacles of Bill's years in the Association were the 1981 and 1988 English Schools AA National Track and Field Championships for which he was Organising Secretary. These prestigious events were held here at the Yeovil Athletics Arena and were the lever to improve the facilities whilst Bill was rewarded by becoming ESAA Chairman in 1983.

Bill was probably the best coach I have ever had the privilege to work with and he was someone I would always seek advice from and whose opinions I respected. What I always loved about Bill was the fact that despite having coached athletes who competed at the Olympics he would always be at the track, every week, working at grass roots level with any young athlete who wanted to learn how to hurdle.

Bill will be sadly missed by everyone that knew him. He is a great loss to the world of athletics, especially in Somerset, and leaves a void that I'm not sure can be filled - a true legend!

Senior T&F Tribute

I am sure everyone here today will be aware of the extremely sad news the Association suffered last week when the death of our President, Bill Whistlecroft MBE, was announced.

For those of us at the heart of the Association the news was a great shock for Bill had been an, if not the, integral part of the Association since the late 1950s.

He was the catalyst and the backbone of the Association. Our small county's standing and success within the national framework is due directly to Bill's foresight and determination.

In 1960 Bill was elected secretary of Somerset Schools Athletic Association, a post which he retained until 1988. During that time he organised, in 1973, a match here for teams from Somerset Schools AA, Somerset County AA and Kenyan Schools. In 1977 the SIAB Track and Field International was held here. These two events were preliminaries to the ESAA Track and Field Championships here in 1981, which are still and often talked of as 'the best'. He organised the same event in 1988 and these two events secured the installation of a synthetic surface for the arena. Quite simply without Bill this arena would not be what it is today.

Bill's foresight, determination and infectious wit affected countless individuals across the county, the region and nationally; some of whom have paid tribute to him since his passing. Past and present members within the association know how much of our lives, and the direction we have taken during our lives, are due to Bill.

It is only fitting that at the very centre of the Association's flagship championships we should stand, honour and remember Bill with one minute's silence and reflection followed by a tumultuous round of applause.

SOUTH-WEST SCHOOLS' AA TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Exeter Arena
Saturday 15 June 2013

Following the Somerset Schools' AA Track and Field Championships, the Selection Committee met at Wellington School on Sunday 9 June to select the team for the South-West Championships. We enjoyed the customary superb hospitality and, as usual, the meeting took almost six hours as is the norm when we are due to travel 'away from home' for the South-West Championships. In total, 110 athletes were selected to fill a possible 130 places and this year (as in 2012) we managed to fill 128, including a full Intermediate Girls' team - the gaps coming in the Senior Girls' Pole Vault and Hammer. There were minimal team changes during the week leading up to the Championships and only one or two adjustments on the day. 31 schools and colleges were represented (Mendip 4, Sedgemoor 5, Taunton 10, Yeovil 12) compared with 32 in 1996, 32 in 1997, 33 in 1998, 33 in 1999, 34 in 2000, 33 in 2001, 33 in 2002, 35 in 2003, 29 in 2004, 32 in 2005, 32 in 2006, 28 in 2007, 31 in 2008, 33 in 2009 and 2010, 30 in 2011 and 34 last year. The consistency of these figures serves to re-emphasise the fact that there remains a fair number of huge schools and colleges which fail to take part significantly at Area or County level – invariably some athletes of potential South-West standard are not afforded even the earliest opportunity to demonstrate their ability.

Schools and colleges with selected athletes were notified on the Sunday evening by email and on the Monday or Tuesday by letter. With the team posted on the website immediately after selection, communication to pupils and students was considerably improved again this year and hardly any had to be 'chased' for confirmation of availability on the Thursday afternoon. Of major assistance, once again, was our email confirmation system – a method of communication which I estimate saved me at least thirty telephone calls.

Following the success of our system of independent travel for the South-West Schools' AA Cross-Country Championships at Blaise Castle, we adopted a similar policy for the Track and Field Championships. This proved a great success and was far cheaper for the athletes. Another plus point in 2013 has been the relatively prompt payment of monies owed. In 2008 the last payment arrived in mid-September, beating the 2007 performance by three weeks, but in 2009 at the time of writing the report for the Annual General Meeting there was still £97.00 outstanding, despite three reminders. The figure in 2010 was £36.00 despite two reminders to the schools or colleges and a personal letter to the athletes' homes. The amount owing in 2011 was £105.00 from athletes in four establishments – despite clear instructions on the selection notice and reminders sent on 23 June and 6 September. Last year the total outstanding was £97.50, though I was assured that the money was being sought. That aspect had been such a frustrating element of my role over the years that I proposed the following at the 2011 Annual General Meeting – **“On the day of the Somerset Schools' AA Annual General Meeting, any monies still owed by any athlete who represented the Somerset Schools' AA during the previous year shall render all athletes from his or her school or college ineligible to participate in any Somerset Schools' AA Championships for the ensuing year”**. I am very pleased to report that the final 2013 payment was sent to the Treasurer by the end of August.

Having won 8 of the 12 trophies in 1997, 4 in 1998 and 9 in 1999, I reported in 2006 that the twenty-first century had yet to be as fruitful. Devon are invariably formidable opponents and dominated for the first few years. 2000 saw us claim 2 titles, with 3 in 2001, 2 in 2002, 2 in 2003 and the same number in 2004. Sadly, 2005 saw us slump to just a single piece of silverware, the Overall Boys' shield. We recovered a little in 2006 with 3 victories but even the most optimistic amongst us could not have predicted the wonderful team performance we were to witness on home soil in 2007 when we took 9 of the 12 titles. That was always going to be a hard act to follow (especially in Devon), nevertheless, we found ourselves returning to Exeter in 2009 bearing the 7 trophies captured in 2008. After claiming only 3 items of silverware in 2009 it was hoped that we were not heading for another slump but our fears were dispelled when we doubled that haul in 2010 with 6 victories. A truly magnificent team performance in 2011 saw us equal our best-ever haul of 9 trophies, setting up the daunting sequence of 3, 6, 9. Could we complete the sequence in 2012? That would mean taking every title; a feat that proved out of reach. Nevertheless, 8 victories still represented a tremendous day's work and we were only one short of that number this year as Somerset won: Intermediate Boys, Senior Girls, Senior Boys, Overall Boys, Track Events, Field Events and Overall Champions.

Our 2013 South-West Champions were:

Junior Girls – 4th - 51 points (Devon 58)

Javelin	Laurie Dawkins	(Taunton School)	35m 82
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Junior Boys – 2nd - 89.5 points (Devon 113)

Long Jump	Aaron Chapman	(King's College)	6m 35
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Intermediate Girls – 5th - 73 points (Wiltshire 103)

Javelin	Josie Loxton	(Queen's College)	41m 43
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Intermediate Boys – 1st - 106 points

400m	Elliot Scott	(West Somerset College)	50.27
3000m	Oliver Fox	(King's College)	9:01.04

Senior Girls – 1st - 108 points

1500m	Lilly Hawkins	(Strode College)	5-21.04
3000m	Harriet Rogers	(Taunton School)	11:28.89

1500m Steeplechase **Emily Smith** **(Wells Cathedral School)** **5:11.90 (CBP)**

High Jump	Jordanna Morrish	(Millfield School)	1m 69
Triple Jump	Shelby Baker	(Millfield School)	11m 46

Senior Boys – 1st - 128 points

100m	Jacob Amadi	(Wellington School)	10.83
400m	Elliot Rutter	(King's School)	49.43
110m Hurdles	Alex Walker	(Millfield School)	14.69
Shot	James Catlin	(Millfield School)	13m 17
Javelin	Charlie Granville	(Richard Huish College)	55m 24
Hammer	Daniel Ogden	(Yeovil College)	35m 23

16 individual victories represented our lowest total in over ten years, our 'normal' tally being 17 (in 2001, 2004 and 2006), 19 in 2008, 20 in 2009 and 2011, 21 in 2007, 24 in 2010 and 23 last year. That suggested we might not be as strong as usual on the National stage, nevertheless, the team performance at South-West level in Exeter was entirely pleasing.

None of these performances would have been possible without the excellent work of a dedicated, loyal group of Team Managers. In mid-April I had invited 28 male colleagues and 13 ladies to work with our teams at South-West and National level and a total of 13 declared their desire to work with the team in Exeter. Despite three late withdrawals we were still able to provide two members of staff for three of the six age groups: Caroline Lewis and Hayley Mortimer (Junior Girls), Adrian Palmer (Junior Boys), Julie Harrison (Intermediate Girls), Norm Ridgway and Jason Allen (Intermediate Boys), Charlotte Fisher (Senior Girls) and Richard Llewellyn-Eaton with Gary Jennings (Senior Boys). All the athletes would wish to thank them most sincerely, I am sure.

A large number of our officials were on duty, with other members of the Association involved with Presentations, so we can be proud of the contribution made by Somerset personnel to ensure the smooth running of what is a huge meeting.

RICHARD BOWDEN

E.S.A.A. TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Alexander Stadium, Birmingham
Friday and Saturday 5 and 6 July 2013**

Although the Somerset team of 110 athletes had shown strength in depth, bringing home plenty of South-West silverware from Exeter, the relatively small number of 16 event wins (compared with 24 in 2010, 20 in 2011 and 23 last year) and a single Championship Best Performance (compared with four in each of the past four years) indicated that we might not be quite as strong at National level this year. Nevertheless, we set about the selection of our 25 athletes on the morning of Sunday 16 June, enjoying the superb hospitality of Wellington School.

61 athletes at or around the required standard were considered in 65 events in 2004, whereas in 2005 we found ourselves considering 'only' 39 across 48 events. The 2006 'cast' consisted of 39 athletes once again, across 45 events, but our strength in depth was reflected in 2007 when we considered 51 athletes over 59 events. In 2008 41 athletes were under the spotlight across 49 events and in 2009 the figures increased to 54 athletes over 66 events. Although the 2010 numbers were considerably smaller (47 athletes in 49 events) the quality was never in doubt, the results in Birmingham bearing that out. In 2011 we debated 53 athletes across 69 events with the same number last year considered in 59 events. The 2013 figures were 60 athletes and 71 events though frustratingly, five of those athletes were unavailable (one having performed at NES level, the other four at NS).

More frustration ensued following selection and notification as there were two withdrawals this year. That through injury was unavoidable but the other - a change of heart due to 'work commitments' - was deeply disappointing (and something we have never encountered before). Huge credit must go to Brett Harrison (Stanchester Academy) and Harry Close (Millfield School) though, for showing the loyalty we have come to expect from Somerset athletes as they gleefully accepted their chances to advance from the list of nominated reserves - Harry at a single day's notice! Transport arrangements ran smoothly, with Berry's Coaches, as usual, the pick-up points being Taunton and Dunball, and only two athletes travelled independently and met the team in Birmingham.

We were delighted to hear that our allocated accommodation would mean a return to the Crowne Plaza Hotel (NEC) which had proved to be superb, with delicious food, in 2010. Our packed lunches were again provided by King's College and Queen's College and were far superior (and better value) than those offered by the organisers.

The tremendous team performance at Gateshead in 2012 (which included a record points score) was always going to be a hard act to follow and the figures below bear that out. The highlights were our two gold medals - from Laurie Dawkins (Taunton School) who withstood the pressure of being the favourite for the Junior Girls' Javelin title by producing a PB despite a heavy cold prior to the competition, and Elliot Rutter who played the captain's part in storming to victory in the Senior Boys' 400m with a magnificent PB of 47.57 (having already set a PB of 48.31 in the heats). Elliot's performances secured his selection for the Great Britain team in the 4x400m Relay squad at the European Junior Championships in Rieti, Italy, where Richard Llewellyn-Eaton, Rhys Llewellyn-Eaton and I were proud to witness him receive a bronze medal as he competed in the heats.

We took the Senior Boys' team title (The Ernest Champion Trophy) for the first time in over a decade by just two points from local rivals Gloucestershire (and by four points from Dorset in third place) though the outcome was in doubt until the final event, the 4x100m Relay, in which seventh place (thanks largely to Richard's coaching but in part to a South Yorkshire disqualification) earned Somerset that crucial brace.

Our overall performance is analysed below:

	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13
Personal Bests	9	10	12	3	12	8	8	6	9	7	3	4	10	7	14	8
Entry Standard	9	9	6	7	6	8	6	6	7	7	7	6	7	9	9	6
Nat Standard	6	8	6	2	8	3	5	4	7	8	9	8	12	4	14	9
Top-8 Places	12	12	13	7	11	9	11	11	12	13	15	16	15	9	18	11
Scorers	16	17	15	11	17	12	14	12	14	16	18	17	19	14	23	15
Total Score	85	78	87	44	68	40	78	57	83	98	98	85.5	106.5	55	125	80.5
Trophies	SG	-	SB	-	JB	-	SG	-	JB	IG	IB	-	IB	-	JB	SB
	SB		IG		SB				SG	Ov	SG		SG		IB	
													Ov		Ov	

The team scores and positions for each age group were:

Junior Boys	2 nd	13 points	(Winning Total = 24 - Dorset)
Intermediate Boys	14 th	6 points	(Winning Total = 51 - Warwickshire)
Senior Boys	1 st	27 points	
Junior Girls	2 nd =	19.5 points	(Winning Total = 21 - Northamptonshire)
Intermediate Girls	No Athletes		
Senior Girls	4 th =	15 points	(Winning Total = 34 - Wiltshire)
Aggregate Total	6 th	80.5 points	(Winning Total = 105.5 – Bedfordshire & Luton)

Although we achieved four medals - the two golds already mentioned and silver for Aaron Chapman (King's College) in the Junior Boys' Long Jump with a bronze for Jordanna Morrish (Millfield School) in the Senior Girls' High Jump – there were agonising fourth places for another quartet of athletes. Evie Gubb (Millfield School) missed the podium in the Junior Girls' High Jump by one height (three centimetres); Emily Smith (Wells Cathedral School) trailed by just 5.19 seconds in the Senior Girls' 1500m Steeplechase; Rowan Preece (Richard Huish College) was only 1.74 seconds adrift in the Senior Boys' 2000m Steeplechase and Charlie Granville (Richard Huish College) fell short by a mere 24 centimetres in the Senior Boys' Javelin.

I must conclude this report with a tribute to the work carried out throughout the week-end on the part of the Team Managers. I certainly feel that all the athletes would agree that they were prepared as thoroughly as possible, particularly in the final lead-up to competition. Having taken 7 team managers to Gateshead in 2006 (rather than our stipulated 5), 8 to Birmingham in 2007, 8 to Gateshead in 2008 and 7 to Sheffield in 2009, we took 6 to Birmingham in 2010 and were up to 7 in Gateshead in 2011. The 6 from last year went up to 8 this time, with Adrian Palmer making an outstanding debut at ESAA level following several years of South-West 'apprenticeship' during which he has been an excellent asset, contributing significantly to Somerset's success. The care, loyalty, reliability and attention to detail maintained by this group must surely be viewed as an outstanding feature of our Association.

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Middle Schools Championships 2013

This year's championships were the 35th since the first in 1976 with a couple having to be cancelled due to either track renovation or very severe weather.

For those who have been to all(!) the championships we know the weather is more often inclement at best; thus this year's weather of blue skies, bright sunshine and little wind was a 'shock to the system'. Not only that - from my position in the announcer's box it seemed as if the stadium was empty as all teams took to the shade under the trees. It really was that hot!

It is though a continual disappointment, even though the date of the meeting is well publicised, two schools did not participate. Their absence not only deprives pupils of success but also puts great strain upon the organisation of the meeting. If it were not for the services of eleven extra officials, not including myself, and additional pupil help from my old school the meeting simply could not take place! I realise that restraints within schools make it difficult to release staff but more staff are needed in future years!

Having said that the meeting ran (almost) to time and I must certainly congratulate athletes on getting to events before the due time thanks to schools' prior administration. At the events I hope athletes achieved personal success and enjoyment although this year only one best performance was set and that in the new event: Congratulations to –

S Harley (Danesfield) for the inaugural year 8 boys' 300 metres record – 42.1 secs.

With two teams missing I did not produce team results; certificates to the top three in each event were sent to schools so that presentations could be made before the end of term.

The date of next year's championships has already been circulated to the nine middle schools. In fact the date was unanimously decided upon by schools who responded to my email query! Hopefully next year's event will again be in bright sunshine and with a full complement of enthusiastic young athletes.

BB

Report for the Somerset Schools' A.G.M. 2013

E.S.A.A. Schools' Track and Field Cup 2013

County round

Thirty-seven teams from fourteen schools entered this year (up from thirty-three teams and thirteen schools last year) and two venues were used (see appendix A for details of venues for each of the three rounds). Both events were contested keenly, see appendix B for results.

Regional final

Seven Somerset teams (one more than last year) qualified for the Regional 'A' Final at Millfield, organised by Rob Furlong and Gary Jennings.

Millfield (IB & IG)
Millfield Prep (JB & JG)
Queen's College (JG & IG)
Taunton School (IG)

Six Somerset teams qualified for the Regional 'B' Final at Exeter Arena, Exeter, organised by Liam Trivett.

Queen's College (IB)
Haygrove (JG, IG)
King's (IG)
Taunton (JB, JG)

See appendix B for results.

National final

Two Somerset teams qualified for the National Final.

Millfield Prep (JG)
Millfield (IG)

Millfield Prep finished a well placed 5th and Millfield 2nd, narrowly losing the title to a very strong Southend High School.

See appendix B for results.

My sincere thanks go to all organisers, school staff, coaches and pupils for their hard work and effort to ensure everything, once again, ran smoothly.

Rob Furlong - E.S.A.A. Schools' Track and Field Cup County Secretary.