

SOMERSET SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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Report of Senior Track and Field Championships 2003

This year after a two year gap the championships returned to the Yeovil track. This meant that areas could return to their normal format of 4 athletes per event. However, as the first large event at the new arena we were unsure if the proposed field programme would work!

Fewer than usual colleagues attended the planning meeting prior to the event itself, which meant that although the lane draw was completed I completed the field cards. In consultation with Rodger Lee it was decided that the field programme could stay as programmed with only a slight adjustment to the pole vault timings.

Fortunately we also knew that one long throw would be measured using an EDM system. On the day the field event programme was completed on time with the usually last event (discus) finishing before the relays thanks to EDM. This must be used in future events.

Overall there was a lack of officials but as is now always the case we all mucked in and the individual events were completed successfully. However, from my position at presentations I know that the meeting would run more smoothly if athletes who finish in the first three report immediately to presentation. Without physically 'dragging' athletes how many times do we have to remind them to report? This year one possible county representative simply vanished from the arena!

Championship best performances, as in all our championships, are now of a high standard. This year only one was bettered. That being by L Therin (Mendip) in the senior girls discus.

The ESAA have moved to electronic entry and results while the southwest track and field utilise a spreadsheet for results. I transferred event scores onto a spreadsheet after the event, which could in future years be used during the meeting. (Enclosed)

Taunton area won the overall championship.

My thanks to all involved in the running of this meeting. It is the largest in the county each year, without the help from so many (but never enough) our athletes would not progress to the next stages.

BB