



SCAA ANNUAL REPORT for 2025/2026

The County Athletic Association provides an important step in the Athletics development pathway. It is the bridge between Club competition and Area then International competition.

Surrey Athletics organises 14 separate days of competition during the year. Our main track and field championships over 2 days in May attract over 1,000 entries. They have become so successful that we cannot fit them all into the two-day meeting. We have had to move some events to the earlier Disability meeting and others to the later Masters championship meeting. We recognise that this is not convenient for everyone, but we really have no alternative. We are victims of our own success and the enthusiasm for the sport in the County.

We are lucky to have access to the indoor facility at Sutton. Very few Counties are able to put on an indoor championship within their own borders. Our Disability Championship is also exceptional.

When it comes to Cross Country, our championships are by far the best supported in the South-East of England. In 2026 we had over 1,000 entries. And can there be a better venue for cross-country than Denbies Wine Estate on a crisp sunny morning in early January?

The Association also supports Surrey teams competing in regional and national inter-counties competitions. And our teams are frequently successful. Our youngsters in 'Sportshall' again had six Surrey teams at the South-East Regional Final and came away with 5 first places and a second. Best of luck to them at the Nationals. At the other extreme our women mountain running team took third place in the 2025 UK Inter-Counties leaving many teams from more mountainous counties than Surrey in their wake. There is more information about these and many other representative events later in this report.

Not only do we have big events and lots of them, but we also do them well. We have been using photo finish at our track and field championships for at least two decades. We have our own kit and some of the best officials in the south-east. Our equipment and photo finish team are in great demand across the Home Counties and beyond. The income from hiring helps us to run our own competitions to the highest standards but at modest cost.

Finally, we must acknowledge the army of volunteers who make this all possible. We have over 350 licensed technical officials in Surrey and probably as many licensed club coaches. The Team Managers of our county teams are all volunteers, and we have a small but effective management structure to manage the organization and to make sure it remains financially solid.

At the head of this organization is the Chair of the Surrey Athletics Management Committee, Frances Ratchford. Frances deserves a special mention in this report because she will step down at the AGM after 9 years in the role. As well as County Chair, Frances appears regularly as a track judge in summer and a cross-country referee in Winter. Surrey athletics are hugely grateful for the time that she gives freely to the sport.

As it happens no one has yet come forward to take on the role. We have an excellent support structure which means that the work is spread across many people and does not all land on the shoulders of the Chair. We would very much welcome new faces to take roles within the management team. Contact the Hon. Secretary if interested.



COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

TRACK AND FIELD

We mentioned above that some events had to be moved from the main 2 days in May. Overall, this has been a success but a little more tweaking of timetables will be needed for 2026.

SCAA Disability County Championships 2025, Kingston, 12 April 2025

The 2025 entries saw representation from five clubs across Surrey. Wheelchair racing continued to see the events dominated by the Weir Archer Academy. Mathew Houghton of Epsom and Ewell Harriers, and Leo Johnson of Hercules Wimbledon, continue to race each other across the middle-distance events. Field events saw Jasmin Musgrove, Crawley AC in the shot put and Max Fiore, City of Portsmouth in the seated shot and javelin.

Plans are in place to encourage other Surrey athletes to take part in the event in 2026.

SCAA Masters County Championships, Kingston, 18 May 2025

The 2025 championships were only open to Surrey athletes in 2025, rather than Surrey, Sussex and an Open Masters event as it has been in the past. The event was part of the three-part Surrey County Championships with the long hurdles; middle and long distances races moved from the main championships to join the Masters. The Championships saw Surrey Masters athlete entries across all the track and field events and ranged in age from 35 to 80 yrs old.

SCAA Main Track and Field Championships

The usual two days in mid-May were as busy as usual. We had both quantity and, in many events, quality of performance. A few field events had such large entries that we had to introduce a system of qualifying pools. This was unprecedented but it worked well.

Combined Events

The Combined Events meeting always ends the season the T&F season on a high. Over the years we have been joined by Sussex but in 2025 it was Surrey only with Guests (the only SCAA Competition where guests are allowed). The Guests appreciate the opportunity for more competition. There were 3 CBP's – 2 in the relays and 1 in the heptathlon.

Indoor Championships

The 2025 event saw 3 new Championship Best Performances.

The 2026 event took place on 14 & 15 March using the new age groups for young athletes. In the past it had been a joint event with Sussex but this time it was a Surrey only event.



INTER-COUNTY MEETINGS

Track and Field

Derek Crookes U13 Inter-Counties, Walton, 3 August 2025

This event, always hosted and organized by Surrey, attracts teams from a dozen Counties across the South-East of England. It is much enjoyed by all and is currently held at Walton Athletic Track where everyone appreciates the easy parking and site facilities. The 2025 event was the last year for the Derek Crookes U13 event with a super and excellent day with Surrey Girls 2nd and Surrey Boys 4th.

In 2026 the event will again be held at Walton, but with the new age groups it will be titled the Don Turner U14 inter-Counties. It will be named for Don Turner an international athlete in the 1960s and leading Surrey official ever since, who sadly died in February 2025.

SEAA Under 20 and Senior Championships, Oxford, 13 September 2025

This meeting is always a challenge for our U20/Snr Team Managers as it is held just as athletes have returned to University. Also, due to the change in the rules only allowing people to compete in their age group even within the same competition, it restricted our ability to field full teams.

Congratulations to the U20 Women's team who won scoring a total of 89 points. The Men's team came third with 63 points only 16 points behind first.

The Senior men's team came third scoring 69 points only 14 points behind first and the Women's team also came third scoring 46 points only 19 points behind first.

SEAA Under 17 and Under 15 Championships, Oxford, 14 September 2025

The Under 15 boys team came third scoring 57 points only 0.5 of a point behind second and the girl's team also came second scoring 65.5 points only 7.5 points behind first.

The Under 17 boys team came equal sixth scoring 47 points and the girl's team came second scoring 66 points 18.5 points behind first.

I would like to like to thank Team Managers James Vancliff, Gloria Marshall and Anthony Mayhew for their continued support of the County teams.

Cross Country

South of England Inter-Counties

After the previous two South of England Inter Counties Cross Country Championships were cancelled on the day, it proved third time lucky on the last Saturday in November 2025 at Horsenden Hill, a regular venue for the Metropolitan League and site of a number of recent Middlesex Championships.



Surrey had a successful day, returning home with medals of one sort or another from each of the eight races that took place:

Under 13 Girls	2 nd team	3 rd individual (Sienna Lange)
Under 15 Girls	1 st team	3 rd individual (Poppy Guest)
Under 17 Women	3 rd team	
Under 20 Women		1 st individual (Anna Bloomfield)
Senior Women	3 rd team	
Under 13 Boys	1 st team	
Under 15 Boys	3 rd team	
Under 17 Men	2 nd team	

Aside from the individual and team successes, arguably the biggest result from the day was that these Championships actually took place. The strong support from counties and athletes proving that this fixture still has a future.

CAU Inter-Counties

The CAU UK Inter Counties Cross Country Championships were held in March 2026 at Wollaton Park, with Wollaton Hall standing proudly on top of the hill that athletes had to climb each lap.

It would have been difficult for Surrey to match the medal haul from 2025 but, even so, there were still seven team and four individual medals from the ten races: ten races

Under 13 Girls	3 rd team	
Under 15 Girls	3 rd team	
Under 17 Women	1st team	2nd individual (Kitty Scott)
Under 20 Women		2nd individual (Katy Pye)
Senior Women	1st team	
Under 13 Boys		
Under 15 Boys	2nd team	1st individual (Theo Creed)
Under 17 Men		
Under 20 Men	3rd team	1st individual (Alex Lennon)
Senior Men	2nd team	

It is worth noting that the Senior Women’s team title has been won by Surrey for five straight years and that this year’s performance was the best by a women’s team for 30 years.

FINANCE

The balance sheet for SCAA continues to strengthen supported by ancillary activity, mainly the Surrey Shop and Surrey Photo Finish.

Last year I reported a concern with the performance of Competition Activity which had swung to a small loss in 2024. We addressed this largely by an increase in entry fees though the fees charged remain low, but also by revising our Representation Allowance policy in particular to recognise that, on paper, the CAU T&F competition was not an appropriate use of funds. We are supporting the new Fell running activity through a grant from the development fund and will continue this for the coming year.



I have considerable concerns over the current operation of the Representation, and I hope to substantially revise this during 2026. The concerns are in the effort required to administer the payments, the fairness of the payments to those representing the county but also to all the athletes that are paying for it. For long-term sustainability, representation costs must be covered by competition activity. The current arrangement gives the risk of an unexpected, large call on county funds. It is only manageable at the moment because the majority of athletes do not claim. It is also poor at supporting athletes when competitions are a long way away, particularly when there is an early start.

The Development fund is large, but we are now starting to spend it. I am now reporting details of development project spend on the annual report. Only two projects are reported for 2025 but this will increase in 2026 when the Coaching and Development sub-committee have ideas to support coach CPD. We also intend some support for Surrey Schools activity.

Photo Finish and other equipment hire continues to generate a useful surplus for SCAA, as with competitions the surplus shown on the I&E report excludes depreciation charges which as shown in note 3. As reported last year, this does depend on a quite small group of dedicated volunteers who give considerable time outside of meetings as well as long days at the meetings.

The Surrey Shop is reported above. It continues to return a good contribution to the SCAA balance sheet. However, the concern remains. Patricia Cole is looking for a successor. If one cannot be found, other arrangements will have to be made and these will be commercial, and so the surplus will be lost to SCAA and the costs to athletes will rise.

The Medal service does not generate income so has been overlooked. We are dependent on one person who puts considerable time into sourcing, storing and engraving medals for our competitions. The concern is the same as above, when the time comes, we may not find a successor.

COMMUNICATIONS

The County website (surreyathletics.uk) continues to provide notification of forthcoming County events, a historical record and has an extensive database of the results of past events including International Championships where Surrey athletes have participated. The database contains full results of County Track & Field Championships back to 1976 – we have not gone further back simply because we have not found any copies of the results prior to that date. We do have partial results which we have found in newspapers and magazines. For those performances we do have, we have been able to link the performances of many athletes to create an individual Athlete Profile. We currently have profiles for 4900+ (up by 200 from 2024) female athletes and 6600+ (up by 200) male athletes.

As a consequence of the forthcoming changes to the UKA Age Groups we have enhanced the rankings database to cater for the new age groups alongside the ones used previously. We currently have 50,000+ female outdoor performances and 73,000+ male outdoor performances. For indoor performances we have been working to find sufficient historic performances to produce realistic all-time listings – these are currently based on almost 10,000 performances. The 2025 Track & Field rankings were maintained by Jess Wilson, Ashley Burrige, Marcus Hake, Nicola Firth and Keith Burchell and our thanks go to them for keeping the listings updated.



To increase the depth of historical information we recently added news items for 1953 and 1954. We have used past issues of Athletics Weekly and the minutes of the former Surrey County AAA (men's association). Unfortunately, we do not have minutes for the former Surrey County Women's AAA so if anyone has copies of these then Keith Burchell would be pleased to view them.

COACHING AND DEVELOPMENT

Hurdles Workshop

The Coaching & Development committee are looking into organising another hurdles workshop in partnership with the Bruce Longden Coaching Foundation. This follows the hurdles workshop organised in 2025 which was well received. It is hoped it can be organised in the autumn of 2026 at which point all SCAA affiliated clubs will be notified.

Coach CPD online courses for SCAA affiliated club coaches

The Coaching and Development committee have been negotiating with UK Coaching to organise an extensive online CPD course programme available to coaches who are attached with SCAA affiliated athletic clubs across Surrey. There will be a dedicated link with UK Coaching for Surrey coaches to access all the courses available.

The courses are of high quality and coach focused learning. Any coach who accesses the CPD programme will be able to learn/complete courses at their own pace, it is totally flexible to the needs of the coach.

The SCAA Management Committee have given their financial support to help get the CPD programme underway, this financial support offers all coaches who access the programme to a wide range of online courses which normally would cost hundreds of pounds, the programme is FREE of charge and is planned to start in April 2026. All affiliated athletic clubs will be invited to put forward any coach who would like to be involved.

The Main Key Points:

Giving coaches access to a proven premium learning experience.
Staying current and compliant with regular updates aligned to CPD.
Being part of a big organisation which facilitates coaching excellence.
Commitment to inclusive, professional holistic coaching without duplication.
This programme will offer opportunities to coaches who want to enhance their own development within their coaching environments across all athletic disciplines.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Both the European and World Cross Country Championships saw Surrey athletes represent Great Britain:

EUROPEAN CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS, LAGOA, PORTUGAL, 14 DEC 2025

Under 20 Women	Kitty Scott (AFD)	DNF
Under 20 Men	Alex Lennon (S&D)	32 nd



WORLD CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA, 10 JAN 2026

Under 23 Men Will Barnicoat (AFD) 14th
Under 20 Men Alex Lennon (S&D) 14th (2nd team)

Additionally, Surrey athletes represented England in a number of cross-country races over the winter:

ENERGYVISION CROSS CUP, ROESLARE, BELGIUM, 26 OCTOBER 2025

Senior Women Charlotte Dannatt (C&D) 4th
Under 20 Women Katy Pye (AFD) 4th
Under 20 Women Sabrina Coppola-Johansen (AFD) 7th
Under 20 Men Alex Lennon (S&D) 4th

CROSS INTERNACIONAL JUAN MUGUERZA, ELGOIBAR, SPAIN, 18 JANUARY 2026

Under 20 Women Katy Pye (AFD) 3rd

ENERGYVISION CROSS CUP, HANNUT, BELGIUM, 25 JANUARY 2026

Under 20 Women Sabrina Coppola-Johansen (AFD) 5th

OTHER INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Congratulations to the following Surrey athletes who were selected to represent Great Britain & Northern Ireland

EUROPEAN UNDER-23 CHAMPIONSHIPS, BERGEN. NORWAY 17TH-20TH JULY 2025.

Men 5000M Will Barnicoat (AFD) & James Dargan (AFD)

Men 4x400m Brook Cronin (Walton)

BRONZE MEDAL FOR WILL BARNICOAT

SNOWDON INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN RACE, 19TH JULY 2025.

Representing England in the Snowdon International Mountain Race (15.35km, with an elevation of 994m), Nancy Scott (AFD) won the women's race in a time of 1:20:31. Italy won the women's team competition, with England second.

WORLD MOUNTAIN RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIPS TRIAL RACE, WHINLATTER FOREST, 17th AUGUST 2025.

The trial race for the World Mountain Running Championships, held at Whinlatter Forest in the Lake District over 14km with 750m ascent, was won by Nancy Scott (AFD) in 1:09:07, with a winning margin of 91 seconds.

The win guarantees selection for the World Championships to be held in Canfranc, Spain, 25th - 28th September.

WORLD ATHLETICS TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS, TOKYO, JAPAN, 13TH-21ST SEPTEMBER 2025.

Morgan Lake (WSEH) - High Jump;

Romell Glave (Croydon) - 100m & 4x100m;

Tyri Donovan (WSEH) - 400m Hurdles;

Lawrence Okoye (Croydon) - Discus.

Conor Kelly (Hercules Wimbledon) - 4x400m representing Ireland.

Adelle Tracey (Guildford & Godalming) - 800m & 1500m representing Jamaica.



SPORTSHALL

Due to family commitments, Paul needs to step down from his position as County Sportshall coordinator at the end of this season and will look to organise a meeting with all the clubs after the National Finals to set up the plan for the 2026/27 season and find successors to take over the varying roles.

The main issues with Sportshall at County level is the scoring system, and the decline in U15 participation, especially boys, which apparently is a challenge in many sports not just athletics.

The scoring system is far too dependent on the one person who volunteers and currently needs to be someone with data analytic skills. After Covid, Thomas Andrews designed an Excel system upgrading Don Turner's manual system. This provided individual and team results in detail. Despite constant requests, very little support could be gained from the clubs to assist the scorer.

With Thomas' work commitments he was unavailable for the last two dates, so it was decided after the first event in October to trial a non-computer system for the November event. Scores were displayed on the day and results announced of the best performers so they received instant credit.

The majority of athletes seemed to prefer these instant results but there was no overall athlete league table or team score. Some of the clubs said they preferred the team score system, some preferred the instant results and, typically, most clubs wanted both the new instant results and the old team score system.

One club were very keen to keep the scoring system and kindly provided a scorer (Claire McManus) for the third date in January. Unfortunately, there were issues with the spread sheet and neither Claire nor Thomas had time in the subsequent weeks to finalise the accumulated results, so individual results were published again.

Claire McManus has kindly offered to take on the scoring for next season and has recommended we recruit a team of data input volunteers, one from each club, so we can rota through the three competitions

These are all things to discuss at the Club Sportshall meeting after the Nationals.

Attendance: Attendance numbers this season were down on the previous season - the lowest for 4 years from 546 in 2022/23 to 449 in 2025/26.

Summary:

Very well organised competitions, a lot of appreciation from the clubs and our thanks to Christine Burbage and all of the Surrey officials.

National Finals 12 April 2025 - Stoke

Amazing performances at the National finals.

U13G Surrey win Gold (TM Laura White)

U15B Surrey win Gold (TM Christabel Hayter)

U15G Surrey win Gold (TM Fran Davey)



Regional Finals 1 March 2026 Burgess Hill

U11 Boys Gold (TM Laura White)

U11 Girls Gold (TM Laura White)

U13 Girls Gold (TM Laura White)

U13 Boys Silver (TM Graham Maxwell)

U15 Girls Gold (TM Fran Davey)

U15 Boys Gold (TM Christabel Hayter)

Three teams definitely going to Stoke in 2026, and we are hoping that the U13Boys make it as second top scorers this year.

These results are due to the staggering amount of time and effort from the team managers, and we wish to pay tribute to all four of them.

The results are also due to the financial support the county has provided in the past to support athletes and team managers getting to Stoke.

Paul thanks you for all of your support in his role as Sportshall coordinator since 2009 and says that it has been an honor and flown by.

OBITUARY

ANN SISSONS 1934 - 2025.

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Ann Sissons on 20th November 2025.

Ann was a past Surrey Champion (220 yards in 1952 and 440 yards in 1958 & 1959). She represented Surrey in inter-county matches on the track and over cross-country. She gained an international vest at 440yds, 400m or 800m at White City and on tour to Moscow and Helsinki. A member of Epsom and Ewell Harriers she was also a Surrey Team Manager.

IN CONCLUSION

Finally, a huge thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's Annual Report and to those serving on the Main Management Committee and Sub-Committees without whom SCAA would not function.

Also, a big thankyou to those who are now stepping down from their roles after many years of dedicated service – we very much appreciate all the work you have done and wish you well and much enjoyment in the future.

March 2026