

## Hon. Secretary's Report

Another year has gone by, still seeing more changes within our sport. It is with regret that I have to report the sad loss of Les Beckett who died in December. He first joined the committee in 1965, was Treasurer from 1974 to 1984 and our President from 1989 to 1991. The Suffolk Essex Athletics Network (SEAN) has been set up and running and we watch the new year with added interest for athletics for our clubs and also the county.

On the **Road Running** side the new road running permits are now being done online and Paul Felton has coped with the 2009 calendar with a few minor problems.

On the **Cross country** side the championships went to Haughley Park, Stowmarket and were well attended. The inter counties was held again at Wollaton Park Nottingham on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March. The Senior Mens team finished in 30<sup>th</sup> place and Matt Barnes-Smith was our first runner home in 45<sup>th</sup> place. In the Senior Womens Ellie Sprake finished 18<sup>th</sup> and the team finished in 19<sup>th</sup> place. In the U20 Men the team finished in 19<sup>th</sup> place with Elliot Palmer in 32<sup>nd</sup> place and in the U20 Women Jemma Clarry finished 51<sup>st</sup> and the team in 23<sup>rd</sup> place. The U17 men the team finished 18<sup>th</sup> and Alex Dunbar finished 42<sup>nd</sup>. The U17 Womens team finished 23<sup>rd</sup> with Charlotte Christensen in 15<sup>th</sup> place. The U15 Boys finished 9<sup>th</sup> with Kieran Clements in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. The U15 Girls finished 13<sup>th</sup> with Holly Archer in 46<sup>th</sup> place. The U13 boys finished 16<sup>th</sup> with Bradley Wattleworth in 20<sup>th</sup> place and the U13 girls finished 31<sup>st</sup>.

The English National Championships were held at Parliament Hill Fields, London on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2009. Several athletes from the county took part and Kieran Clements finished 8<sup>th</sup> in the U15 Boys race. In the U15 Girls race Holly Archer was 21<sup>st</sup>. Charlotte Christensen was 11<sup>th</sup> in the U17 Womens race. Ellie Sprake was 5<sup>th</sup> in the Junior Womens race.

The English Schools Championships were held at Stanford Hall, Leicester on March 21<sup>st</sup>. In the Inter-Boys Shaun Webb was 5<sup>th</sup> and the Suffolk team was 8<sup>th</sup>. In the Inter Charlotte Christensen was 30<sup>th</sup> and the team was 4<sup>th</sup>.

The English Cross Country Relays were held at Mansfield on the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2009. In the U17 Mens team Ipswich Harriers finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place and in the U15 Boys Ipswich Harriers finished in 19<sup>th</sup> place. In the U17 Women Ipswich Harriers finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place.

The **Track and Field** Championships were held at Northgate Sports Centre, Ipswich and 15 Records were broken.

The Hibbard Trophy meeting was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August at Ipswich. The men finished 5<sup>th</sup> out of six with 148 pts. The Senior Women finished 5<sup>th</sup> with 142 points and the U17 Mens finished 6<sup>th</sup> with 68 points and this is still a poor turn out by county athletes.

The Association took a coach to Woodside Stadium, Watford for the South of England U20 Inter-Counties Match on 30<sup>th</sup> August. In the U20 Women scored 24.5pts and we had NO U20 Men. In the U15 Boys we scored 7pts with Matthew Constable finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in 200 Metres. The U15 Girls scored 19 pts. Overall the combined U15's finished 13<sup>th</sup> and the U20's finished 13<sup>th</sup>.

This year Suffolk again took an U13 boys & girls team to an U13 Inter-County Match at Kingsmeadow on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July and we finished 9<sup>th</sup> out of 14 counties in each group this was an improvement on last year and the boys & girls enjoyed the day.

Several athletes done well at the English School Championships held at Don Valley Stadium, Sheffield on July 10/11<sup>th</sup>. In the Inter Girls Montana Jackson won the Triple Jump with 11.99M and Samantha Milner won the Inter Girls Discus with 40.06M. Joe Bloomfield was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Senior Boys Hammer, Charlotte Shelley was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Junior Girls High Jump and Cain Sobers was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Junior Boys Long Jump.

The County took part in the combined events Championships at Bedford which was held over two days on the 26<sup>th</sup> /27<sup>th</sup> September in with the Eastern Athletic Association. Entries were about the same as before. Luke Allen of West Suffolk AC won the U20 Mens Decathlon with 4974 pts and Montana Jackson also West Suffolk AC won the U17 Womens Heptathlon with 3856 pts and both setting new county records.

## **Hon. Secretary's Report con't**

Our Chairman and your Secretary have been working on updating the rules and hopefully will present there findings to the Next committee meeting for approval and then call an EGM to Finalise them.

Thanks to our faithful team managers, Mrs.K.Mead (Ladies), Steve Benson (Senior Men ,U20M,U17M CC), David Cripps (U15,U13 Boys CC ) and Michael Fuller who helped for the (Mens T & F) .

On behalf of the Association I would like to thank the Ipswich Borough Council for the facilities at the Northgate Sports Centre; our assistant secretaries – Mr.T.Cheatham ( Treasurer, Track & Field and Officials); Mrs.Sue Tunaley ( Minute secretary ) who will not be standing for 2010; and our committee members; and all other organisations who have assisted with the running of Local athletics during the year.

To end this report may I wish everyone connected with Athletics a most successful 2010. I hope that all our Clubs and athletes will represent our county at whatever discipline.

J.G.R.Mower

### **Treasurer's Report 2009**

This year we have a deficit of expenditure over income of £1102.

Our major expense as usual was in respect of travel costs to five events amounting to £2365.

We normally provide transport to the Hibbard Trophy, U13 Inter Counties, U15 & U20 Inter Counties CAU Inter Counties and the SEAA Inter Counties each year. In 2009 no coach was required for the Hibbard trophy as it was held in Suffolk but the SEAA Inter Counties cross country was held in December this year as well as in February. If we use the same number of coaches in 2010 we should expect a transport cost on current costs of approximately £2500.

We also purchased a stock of county vests. A portion of this amount will be recouped as athletes purchase them.

This year is the first year we have received no income from unattached levies (£750 last year) and therefore will need to be careful with our finances in the future as the Counties funds could reduce quickly. If anyone has ideas of Companies that may be interested in sponsoring any of our events please let me know as this would assist in retaining a reasonable bank balance.

Both the Cross Country and Track and Field Championships made a profit again this year.

I proposed that we increase the affiliation fee by £1 to £31 in 2010.

The accounts are being checked at present. Copies of the accounts will be available at the AGM.

Tony Cheatham

### **Track & Field Secretary's Report 2009**

The championships were again successful with 19 championship bests being set. The number of athletes entering was up considerably on previous years.

The Track and Field Championships will be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at Northgate Stadium in Ipswich. Entry forms will be available shortly and will also be available on the county's web site soon after.

The County continued to support the Hibbard Trophy meeting and also the SEAA Inter Counties meeting for u15's & u20's and the u13's Inter Counties meeting.

Tony Cheatham

### **Cross Country Secretary's Report 2009 -**

The 2009 Championships were held at Haughley Park over a multi lap course that was ideal for spectators and coaches. Once again clubs were requested to supply 2 marshals but not all did, so the host club (Stowmarket Striders) had to withdraw runners to marshal. 251 finishers slightly down on 2008. As with the road we are looking at a possibility of starting some form of cross country relay.

Chris Starmer

### **Road Secretary's Report 2009 –**

Nothing to report on the last year, but this year I would like to look into reintroducing County Championships and also the possibility of starting 6/12 stage type relay and we are currently looking for suitable venues. Any suggestions will be considered

Chris Starmer

### **County Officials Secretary's Report 2009**

The new system for training officials has been developing over the year and a new level 4 has been introduced. This level is for those officials that would like also to be involved in the management side of the sport including Meeting manager, Call room manager for example.

There are a number of course arranged in the East region for those wishing to become officials. Details can be obtained from the East Region web site.

Tony Cheatham