

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT 2019/2020

Well, that was the year that was.

No sooner had we sent out our membership renewal forms, received payment from quite a few athletes, we were in Lockdown 1 and that was the end of club night athletics until September when rules, set out by England Athletics, restricted the number of athletes coached by one coach. We had to introduce a booking system to control this but it isn't very user friendly. Thank you to Celia de Maria and Rebecca Wright for sorting out the pros and cons of the system and it is now running more smoothly.

During the financial year commencing April 2020 England Athletic reduced their registration fee by £1 and Northern Athletics chose not to ask for the £2 levy as they were not providing any Championship meetings.

All our track and field leagues were cancelled as were championships, road races and cross country. Towards the end of the summer there were a few open meetings. Two clubs in the Leeds Area Network set up a series of virtual races for our young athletes which was well supported.

Normally I would give a list of the number of competitive members in each age group. However, apart from Seniors, it would be difficult to give anything near an accurate figure for the remainder of age groups as so many of our club night athletes did not return in September and of those who did we lost a few more once the nights became dark and cold. Their names remain on the portal because they are members until 31st March.

We were very sad to receive the resignation of Chris Corcoran, a member since 1993. Chris found himself in a position of there not being enough Master athletes in his age group in the club, 65+, to enter a team in competition so he has changed to a club which can provide this. Chris had also provided us with an excellent sports massage service for several years.

All the positions held within the club are held by volunteers and unfortunately 5 of our volunteers have not returned since Lockdown 1, all on the coaching side.

Unfortunately, as soon as we got the green light from Leeds City Council to use the indoor facilities Lockdown 3 arrived. Thank you to Celia de Maria and Maria Townsend for their work with Leeds City Council to make this happen.

For obvious reasons we haven't recruited any new athletes during 2020 other than those who have transferred to us from another club so our waiting list is the longest it has ever been. However, in mid December we decided to open our list and we had 6 athletes for the Lions group and 6 athletes for our young athletes group. Lo and behold Lockdown 3 began the day before they should have started.

Putting my trust and hope into the roll out of the vaccination programme we may have a full year of training and competition in 2021.

Pat Childs

Membership Secretary

13th January 2021