



# Yeovil Olympiads Athletic Club

Quality Facilities and Expert Athletic Coaching

May 2025

Edition 9

## The YOAC Yammer

### South West Athletics League Kicks off with fantastic YOAC Success across the age groups and a new league record.

#### Key Club Contacts

- President: Noel Frost
- Chairman: Geoff Cole
- Secretary: Jacquie Silcox
- Treasurer: Paul D'Arcy

#### League Team Managers:

- National League: Jacquie Silcox / Paul Guest
- U20 and Senior Men: Geoff Cole
- U17 and U15 Men: Claire and Olly Slight
- U20 and Senior Women: Chris Huntley
- U17 and U15 Girls: Amy Joynes (U17 with Chris H)
- All U13s Larry Tulett

Contact details on website and in membership email

#### Upcoming Key Dates

(hyperlinked to entries where applicable)

[YOAC Evening Open](#) **May 29th (Yeovil)**

[NAL 1](#) **May 31st (Yeovil)**

[YOAC Evening Open 2](#) **June 26th (Yeovil)**

[SWAL 2](#) **July 6th (Exeter)**

[www.yeovilolympiads.com](http://www.yeovilolympiads.com)

The South West Athletics League is a focal point of the athletics season at YOAC providing team competition across the age groups. With all events on offer the league provides an opportunity to try out new events or simply 'have a go' in order to fill the team sheet and maximise team points.

Sunday 4th May was the first of four fixtures and was exceptionally well attended by all clubs across the region—making it highly competitive but also providing a great standard of competition early in the season.



YOAC, with rising membership particularly in the younger age groups, fielded a superb team of athletes and saw some incredible performances and a huge number of debut appearances for the league.

The event results provided a great start to the league season and a great shot at a top 3 finish for 2025. Overall the team finished the day in



3rd place (out of 12), an incredible result without an entirely full team sheet across any of the age groups. Particular success came in the senior men's, senior women's (and U17 women's scores) and the U15 girls — all three of these teams placing 2nd in the

respective age categories and adding huge totals to the overall team score. The key to success in most of these teams was athletes competing in as many events as possible maximising the chance to score points and of course staying until the end of the day to compete in relays.

The day saw some incredible team and individual performances. The most notable individual performance of the day must go to U15 boy Oskar Beck—not only winning the 1500m steeplechase but smashing the league record in an incredible 4m44.11secs. Further wins came from Gemma Tolputt in the women's 1500 and Isaac Slight in the U17 men's pole vault.



Notable team performances in the age groups came from U15 girls Tilly May, amassing 59 points across her 3 events and Elspeth Perkins achieving 57 points, U17 man Isaac Slight achieved 64 points for the team and U17 woman Rosie Joynes, 65 points. In the senior women's and men's categories where athletes are able to participate in more events, huge credit goes to Emma Greenway, participating in all the throws events to achieve 76 YOAC points and a phenomenal performance from Dan Brown competing in every field event to amass an incredible 166 points for the team.

Despite these enormous totals though, the results came right to the wire—meaning every single point really did count. Well done everyone who took part in SWAL 1 including all the YOAC officials whose volunteering also adds to the team total.

The next SWAL takes place on Sunday 6th July with programme B, team managers will be in touch for availability.

## YOAC Community – Supporting Your Club

Like most sports clubs, Yeovil Olympiads runs on volunteers. It is easy to get involved and help to ensure our club continues to operate long into the future and continue its huge success in providing for the local community. Each month we will showcase ways in which you can get involved.

### Fundraising

In 2024 the ownership of the Bill Whistlecroft Arena transferred from Somerset Council to Yeovil Town Council. Whilst this is an exceptionally positive move, it also transfers responsibility of up-keep and purchase of much needed equipment to the Town Council. YOAC Chairman Geoff Cole recently wrote to all members regarding a new charity 'The Friends of Bill Whistlecroft Arena'. The charity will undertake fundraising events, enabling club members and the local community to support the council over the coming years in meeting the significant costs that are required to keep the facility open, up to standard and fully equipped. If you are able to support Geoff and others in any way, either as a trustee or simply somebody with useful knowledge please drop him an email. As the team start to organise fundraising events, it will be great to see as much support as the club saw when the facility was at risk of closure last year—ensuring the facility not only stays open but can have a long and successful future.



geoffcole@hotmail.co.uk

### Committee

YOAC, like most sporting clubs can only operate with an effective committee of volunteers. The committee meet once a month for around an hour and make key decisions for the club such as agreements to host and support events and fixtures, how its funds are spent, costs of events and membership and the maintenance of our club house. The committee also provide representation to key partner bodies such as England Athletics, the Town Council, Somerset Athletics Association and our Regional Governing Bodies. The committee is always looking for new members who are keen to support the club, bring new ideas to the group or who would like to share views about how YOAC can further develop athletes' experiences. No long term commitment is required but it is crucial that our club is representative of its members. If you would like to get involved or understand more, please get in touch with any of the committee through the website.

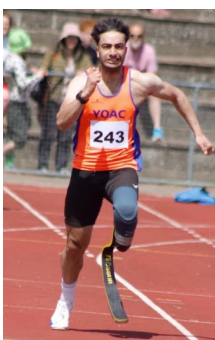


### County Champs 2025

Earlier in May the BWAA hosted the Somerset AA Championships. The Championships provide opportunity for athletes born or living in Somerset to compete for the title of County Champion. YOAC was well represented at the event and saw great performances and county champions crowned across the age groups. In the U11s YOAC Finley Seemark won the howler with a great throw over 25m. At U13 Olivia Fall was crowned champion of the 800, with a great time of 2.35.79, Ruby Shaw won the 1500m and Dylan Mason won the boys equivalent in 2.41.80. U13B Charlie Cook won the sprint double taking the 100m and 200m titles and then also



taking the 1500m title on day 2. U13 girl Eliza Baker won the shot putt. In the U15s YOAC's Pollyanna Warman took the 800m with a new PB of 2.22.3 with Oskar Beck winning the boys event in a superb 2.05.10 and then went on to take the 1500m in 4.21.3. Elspeth Perkins won the U15G shot putt, triple jump and 300m and Martha McFarlane won the 1500m. In the U17's, Lily Jones took the 100m title in 13.04 and the long jump title with Zoe Huntley was crowned 200m champion in 27.73. Vienna Townsend won the U17 300m and Mimi Woodliffe the 80mH. Isaac Slight won the pole vault and Caspar Rawbone won the 1500m steeple-chase. In the U20s, Ellie Roe won the javelin, Alex Armstrong took the 100m title, Anna Scarborough took the 100m and 200m double and Lucy Bickerton won the 2000m steeple-chase. In the seniors Emma Greenaway won the hammer and discus events, Lewis Guest took the men's triple jump title and Daniel Nabhani the 100m. Well done to all who took part and all those who supported the event.



### Leagues Round Up

#### South West Athletics League—after Match 1

Age Group	Match Position (out of 12)	Overall League Position
<b>Overall</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>3rd</b>
U13B	12th	12th
U13G	11th	11th
U15B	7th	7th
U15G	2nd	2nd
U17 M	7th	7th
SW/U20W/ U17W	2nd	2nd
SM/U20M	2nd	2nd

#### National Athletics League

Fixture 1 takes place on Saturday May 31st at the BWAA. Those eligible—Seniors and qualifying U17s, please contact Paul Guest or Jacquie Silcox.

Updates will be posted here.