



Annual Report and Accounts

2020

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President's Report

It is hard to conclude that the period of this annual report April 2019-March 2020 is anything other than an outstanding success for **scottishathletics**. This is my second spell as President of Scottish Athletics, and I have observed how far the sport has come in the time. I can remember that it is only 27 years since the five governing bodies struggled but managed to amalgamate and provide a consistent approach to delivering the sport. Progress was slow at first and it took another eight to ten years to start formally planning and professionalise the sport by hiring a Chief Executive Officer and creating a Company Limited by Guarantee. The rest may be history with the major improvements coming in the last decade.

Measuring the success of a sport is not simple. There are about 150 affiliated athletic clubs in Scotland that vary in size from small informal clubs with a few members to long-established clubs whose membership exceeds 700. The total individual membership of **scottishathletics** is around a record 14,000 with a further 10,000+ active weekly participants in **jogscotland**. Pleasing all of the members is often not an easy task.

In my view there are only two measures that can be used to judge the success of a sport: the participation level and the quality at the elite level. If you get these right, then all the other aspects of delivery is usually in place. However, the measures are both difficult to assess as the first one can be dependent on the fluctuation of the population demographics in Scotland and the second one by the popularity of athletics throughout the world. I will let you judge for yourself whether **scottishathletics** has had a successful year or not but here are my highlights.

- 12 Scottish athletes were selected by UKA for the 2019 IAAF World Championships in Doha: Andrew Butchart; Zoey Clark; Beth Dobbin; Neil Gourley; Callum Hawkins; Josh Kerr; Eilish McColgan; Laura Muir; Jemma Reekie; Lynsey Sharp; Steph Twell and Jake Wightman. This is about 16% of the GB & NI team which is well above Scotland's proportion of the UK population. There were no medals but who can forget three UK athletes in the 1500m final (all Scots) for the first time with Jake Wightman setting a Scottish record in 5th place and Josh Kerr with a PB in 6th. Eilish McColgan set a Scottish record in the 5000m of 14:46:17 for 10th, and Laura Muir just before her a UK record in the 1500m with 3:55:76 for 5th place in a stunning final. Perhaps unluckiest of all was Zoey Clark twice finishing 4th in the mixed 4x400m and women's 4x400m



Relays. In the last race of the championships Callum Hawkins ran a mesmerising race missing out on a medal by only six seconds in the marathon.

- Eight Scots were selected for the 2019 World Para Championships in Dubai: Jo Butterfield; Libby Clegg; Gavin Drysdale; Kayleigh Hagg; Sammi Kinghorn; Maria Lyle; Owen Miller and Steph Reid. There was a double gold for Maria and further golds for Kayleigh and Gavin, with a silver for Jo and bronze for Sammi. Derek Rae won silver in the marathon championship held earlier at the London Marathon.
- In hill running Andy Douglas won the World Mountain Running Association seven-event series for 2019. Jacob Aitkin, Andy Douglas and Charlotte Morgan were selected for the World Mountain Running Championships and World Long Distance Mountain Running Championships in Villa La Angostura, Argentina. Andy finished a superb 7th with Jacob one place behind. Charlotte was the first British female athlete.
- With the summer season 2019-20 concentrating on the World Championships in Doha and Dubai, four major events bringing elite competition, were attracted to Scotland in the 2019-20 winter season:
 - The RunStirling event incorporating the UKA Cross Country Challenge, the Celtic Nations Championship, the Home Countries Championships and the Inter District Championships and open races were held in January.

- The BUCS Cross Country Championships were held at the start of February at Holyrood Park hosted by Edinburgh University.
- The Muller Indoor Grand Prix that saw a World men's Pole Vault record of 6.18m and great races from Jemma Reekie and Laura Muir.
- The UK Indoor Senior Championships were held at the Emirates Arena over two days in February
- In all of these events Scottish athletes took advantage of the home venues with great success. My thanks goes to the **scottishathletics** Events Team and all the officials that contributed to the events' success.
- In the indoor season 27 Scottish records were broken with perhaps the cream being Jemma Reekie's Senior Women Scottish All Comers record of 1:57.91 for the 800m and Nikki Manson's Scottish Native record of 1.93m in the high Jump.
- Cross country running again demonstrated the mass participation of members. With nearly 2,500 entries for the National Championships there is steady growth in numbers. It is especially pleasing in the growth of female participants with 315 athletes finishing the senior women's race this year despite a challenging course and inclement weather. For the first time in Scottish Athletics history women and men competed over equal distances and equal team medals.
- **scottishathletics** continued its integration of the sport in inducting four of the very best Scottish Para athletes: Barbara Howie, Caroline Baird, Colin Keay and Stephen Payton into the Hall of Fame at the Awards Dinner in November.

Congratulations to Steph Reid who is now Vice President of UKA.

A number of our hard-working volunteers were recognised for their contributions of athletics in the 2019 Birthday and New Year Honours lists. Congratulations to Arnold Black MBE, David Campbell OBE and Frank Clement BEM.

To all involved in the governance of **scottishathletics** my congratulations on being awarded the Team Scotland Governing Body of the Year 2019 for the third time in the last four years.

Finally, I must congratulate the SAL staff for their terrific response to the COVID-19 pandemic with Virtual events and plans for the future of events.

Have you made your mind up yet as to whether the sport is doing well? I have – so congratulations to all the athletes, clubs, coaches, officials, administrators and staff – what a fabulous year!

Professor Ron Morrison
President



Annual Report 2020

Once again, 2019-20 continued to build on the progress from the last few years and we are extremely grateful for the role that everyone has played in that progress. Whilst the end of the year has left us in unprecedented times with the outbreak of COVID-19, we should reflect positively on another incredible year for the sport in Scotland.





Introduction

Scottish athletes and coaches continue to deliver success across all disciplines of the sport with athletes 'punching above our weight' in GB team population representation terms and all successes will be detailed later in the Roll of Honour report.

Our focus as an organisation remains primarily on supporting our membership and delivering against the national strategy, *Building a Culture of Success*. Our aim remains the same - to build an integrated and transparent system that supports our constituent members as well as continuing to develop the sport of athletics in Scotland as a whole. It is certainly not just about performances on the world stage but is about the whole sport pulling together in the same direction and recognising the importance of all parts and individuals within the system.

The information that follows will provide you with the key matters of importance and reports clearly on the state of the business to provide confidence to our members and partners that we are delivering effectively within that area as well. It is impossible to report on every success and challenge but provides an effective summary of the last year.

Membership

During the 2019-20 year we had seen a good steady progress in membership growth which was extremely positive. However, due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 coronavirus those numbers actually decreased in the last month of the financial year, predominantly through athletes not renewing their membership. As a result, we saw a minor decrease in membership for the first time in many years on the back of last year's growth (2019 – 14,188) to 13,876. We did see a growth in club membership to 22,071 and three new clubs affiliated to the organisation, taking the total number of affiliated clubs to 157. Again, we continued to see a strong jogscotland membership, as well as within an event context, where the number of participants once again exceeded 120,000 in over 600 licensed events.

We are very grateful to those within the membership who made the year a success overall. This is due to the significant contributions from our member clubs, event organisers and the wider athletics family.

Club Support and Development

Year on year our member clubs continue to impress with their innovation, commitment to developing athletics in Scotland, and ambitions for strengthening and growing their clubs. It challenges us to ensure we continue evolving and further developing our support services to meet their needs and move the sport forward.

This year was the first full operational year of working with our new structure for National Club Manager support. This new approach to supporting clubs has allowed us to continue development work with those involved in Club Together and the modernisation project, whilst also allowing us to reach out to other clubs to understand their needs and provide more tailored support for them.

The work of our National Club Managers continues to be supported by our Club Development Framework and the online club reviews and resources available on our ClubServe system.

The following summary provides insight to the support services delivered in the last year.

- Over 500 support visits and calls from National Club Managers to member clubs
- 93 delegates from across Scotland attended the National Club Conference
- Six education sessions delivered as part of our club education programme with 101 club leaders attending
- 60% of member clubs registered on ClubServe system. Further developments including membership and accounting planned for 2020
- Partnership developed with BDO to provide education for clubs and preferred rates for other financial services including gift aid
- Continued partnership with Club Development



Scotland. 22 clubs have accessed support for legal status and governance through this service

- 25 clubs engaged in the Club Together project supporting 32 staffing roles in clubs with over £100,000 invested directly
- Third year of the Club Leaders Academy concluded with a further eight club leaders graduating from the programme (total now 35)
- Coaching in Scotland guidance document produced establishing industry standards for athletics coaching in Scotland. This document also outlines **scottishathletics** athlete development model and pathway

In November 2019, we produced our second wider impact report demonstrating the impact of member clubs on their athletes, volunteers, and wider community. This document has once again proved extremely useful to showcase to funders, sponsors and partners the wider impact of athletics in Scotland. We would like to thank all the clubs and athletes that have responded to our requests for information, and who continue to complete our physical activity and wellbeing surveys on the membership system.

In March 2020, we appointed a National Disability Pathway Officer to develop pathways for athletes with a disability, support for clubs and further education opportunities for coaches. This role will be crucial to increasing opportunities for athletes with a disability and ensuring there is a clear pathway to support their development.

We would like to place on record our thanks to all the clubs that continue to engage with our development team and to access our support services. The feedback from all clubs is crucial to shaping our future support and ensuring there is a clear pathway to support their development.

Media and Communication

Communications continues to play a vital role and is a key success factor for athletics in Scotland. The media team deliver an excellent service and support to the sport through its multiple communication channels. We continually attempt to ensure an appropriate balance as well as reacting to specific performances or impact stories that may be breaking. Ultimately, it is crucial that we even out the reporting of events, athlete performances, club stories, major championships across all disciplines, focus items as well as promoting the sport via social media channels and to the traditional media and a wider audience (i.e. newspaper and TV).

One of our important priorities is to ensure the **scottishathletics** website remains the 'go to' place for our members and athletics enthusiasts. Once again, we set a target of 12-15 news items per week across the year and I am delighted that this target continues to be met as it is such an important tool. To put that in context, over the last year over 780 news stories have been published on the website.

This year the communications team have worked hard to develop our **scottishathletics** YouTube channel. The interest in this area continues to grow and the viewing hours are steadily growing which demonstrates that it is an important outlet for our members. We have also introduced short and long-form podcasts this year, just trying to further explore some more of the detailed 'interview' style tools. There certainly appears to be an appetite for these as well.

We now have more than 35,000 Facebook and 20,000 Twitter followers (including **jogscotland**), another significant increase on last year. We reported last year that we had broken through the 'one million' mark for monthly twitter impressions, this year that figure has doubled to two million in some months; quite remarkable.

Live streaming has become the norm now for many of our events, as has drone footage (when the weather allows), and we are extremely lucky to be working in partnership with Vinco at a number of events. Facebook Live is also very popular, particularly for showing one-off races. It is worth noting the importance of live streaming in whatever format, for example, a 30-second clip of Jemma Reekie versus Laura Muir earlier this year in Glasgow had over 100,000 view in less than 48 hours.

We are always working hard to maintain and develop our relationships with the Scottish and UK media. The traditional media are facing uncertain times, most evident with our partners at The Herald. However, news features on Scottish athletes are increasing, but as was reported last year, with that interest brings increased scrutiny. Despite that, a great positive year overall for the sport in Scotland with a heightened profile of the sport.

The promotion of our sport in many forms remains one of our most important priorities. Our communications team work tirelessly with partners and the sport to deliver widespread coverage and it will remain a priority for the 2020-21 year, even more so given the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic.

Coaching

We were delighted to be able to recruit one of the best performance and coaching leads in the world in 2018, with Stephen Maguire commencing his role as Director of Performance & Coaching. Since then, Stephen has undertaken a full review of all performance and coaching programmes as well as structures and delivery of programmes. These changes will impact mostly during the 2020-21 year but since his appointment there has certainly been a much greater emphasis on coaches mentoring coaches with coach development remaining vital to our work. The aim is very much to ensure that all coaches are recognised equally, and it is vitally important that Scotland has highly skilled coaches working at each stage of the athlete pathway and within clubs, in essence creating expert U12 coaches, expert U16 coaches as well as expert coaches working at U20 and senior levels.

Coach Qualifications

Last year continued to be a period of evolving the current coach education offering for members. The much-anticipated review of the UK Athletics qualifications system was finally provided in March 2020 and will lead to a number of potential changes within the next two years. The priority coming from the review was the identification of an overarching / coaching strategy for the sport, alongside planned changes supporting the philosophy of expert and trained coaches relevant to each stage of the athlete pathway. We will keep the sport in Scotland informed of any potential changes as we work through the process.

In respect of the existing delivery of UKA qualifications, throughout the year courses were delivered and completed (*attended numbers higher*) by 1,333 teachers, leaders and coaches in:

Event Group (level 3)	32
Athletics Coach and Coach in Running Fitness (level 2)	118
Coaching Assistants (level 1)	296
Jog Leaders	423
Leading Athletics	281
Teachers / Future Teachers	183

sportscotland continue to invest into coach education by offering a 60% subsidy for those who meet the set criteria, this is very much appreciated. The focus is on supporting coaches who are committed to gaining level 2 qualifications and beyond.

Coach Development

Consistent with the messaging of previous years, the qualifications pathway is important and provides a marker in a coach's learning, but we continue to hold a strong belief within the organisation that whilst qualifications are important, ongoing learning by coaches is vitally important for longer-term success within the sport, ensuring our athletes realise and maximise their potential.

We continue to evolve the delivery model to ensure that coaches are linked into the appropriate programmes, whether locally, regionally and nationally. More than 430 individual coaches engaged in ongoing coach development programmes in 2019-2020. Delivery included a series of workshops and programmes covering:

- Technical workshops and coaching clinics
- Roundtable sessions with guest coaches (UK and international)
- National Event Training Days (by event group with athletes and coaches)
- Education sessions at the National Academy days

Obviously with the COVID-19 pandemic, this impacted on the delivery within the tail end of the year. We continue to adapt our online delivery methods to ensure that we continue with the qualifications and ongoing coach development learning during the lockdown phase, however long that may last.

Officials

The last year marks the first full year of having in place a full-time Officials Recruitment and Development Officer. The change in hours to full-time has allowed us to increase the scope of the role, engage more directly

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with clubs and improve the process for recruiting and training officials. Alongside this, the role continues to support our peer groups and events team.

The below summary provides an insight to some of the impacts the role has had in the last year.

- 23 education courses were delivered with 201 officials in attendance
- The transition from officials attending courses to completing their licence increased from 18% to 44%
- Four new clubs took part in the Club Officials Mentoring Programme training 44 new officials in their club environment
- New approaches to delivering officials education have been piloted with more local courses and flexibility in the structure of courses
- 35 new officials supported National Championship events in 2019-20
- In total, 170 officials supported National Championship events over the summer and winter seasons
- Nearly 100 officials attended the annual National Officials' Conference
- Health and Safety course moved to an online platform
- Improved administration processes for sign-up and licensing with work underway to move all officials course bookings online

We would like to thank the volunteers on our Officials Commission and our discipline Peer Groups for their hard work in organising and supporting the development of our officials. We would also like to extend our thanks to the hundreds of officials that support not only our National Championship events but also club and league events across Scotland throughout the year. Your commitment to supporting the sport, clubs and athletes is integral to the ongoing success of athletics in Scotland.

Events

This last year has been one of many triumphs in respect of the events delivered in Scotland. The tail end of the cross country season proved rather 'interesting' in respect of the weather, and we had two of the most challenging events in the Stirling International in January and 'The National' a month later in February. However, all of these events and events across all disciplines could not have been delivered successfully without the support of our fantastic workforce of technical officials, event organisers, volunteers and the **scottishathletics** staff team – all of whom I am extremely proud of.

Yet again, we had very high participation numbers across 35 national championship events over the 2019-20 calendar and we would like to thank our four commissions (Officials, Hill Running, Road Running and Cross Country, and Track and Field) in supporting the events team in this area, a significant undertaking for everyone. All four commissions continue to evolve and develop the events programme to help ensure it remains progressive and fit for purpose at all times. Within that, our particular thanks go to all four commission conveners.

The National Events Specific programme once again provided opportunities for individual athletes to be scored and compared across events and event groups, clubs compared by category as well as by performance, and the message that “every performance counts” with scoring for every performance no matter what level achieved. There was an increase in the number of performances this year with 2,129 athletes from 100 clubs recording 7,442 performances as part of the series.

In 2018 a £2,000 prize pot was successfully introduced within Senior Track and Field Championships to encourage more athletes competing at a higher level to compete. At the 2019 equivalent, we continued with the £2,000 prize pot, but also introduced a separate





£1,000 prize pot for para athletes competing within the integrated events programme. The para pot was shared by global race running stars - Kayleigh Haggo, Hannah Dines and Gavin Drysdale (all Red Star AC), with Nick Percy (Shaftesbury Barnet) and Nikki Manson (Giffnock North AC) sharing the £2,000 prize.

A significant development within an equality context came in the National Cross Country Championships at Falkirk this year. In recent years the distances have been equalised across all the age groups, but for the first time ever, the number of medals awarded in the senior women's race equalled the men's equivalent. On the back of a review from last year, the number of athletes to score in the women's race was increased to six. The resulting outcome was a similar number of finishing teams as well as an increase in the overall entries. We must thank those clubs who worked hard to increase their team sizes and entries to enable this development to be such a success.

SUPERteams (U12 format) continues to reach full capacity both indoors and outdoors, and new plans are being considered for the outdoor event to enable more participants to compete, potentially through regions and national finals.

The Track and Field Records Committee were busy again this year. It is so encouraging to see the volume of records being broken over the last 12 months (33 outdoors and 27 indoors), across all age groups, and across all disciplines. It clearly demonstrates, that whilst there is work to do, the sport is in a healthy state and the coaches and clubs should be recognised in that respect, thank you.

It was also a busy year in relation to international levels events hosted in Scotland. In January we hosted the Stirling International Cross Country which incorporated the Home Countries International, the Celtic International, the British Cross Challenge plus our own Inter District Championships. In February we hosted both the Muller Indoor Grand Prix and the British Indoor Championships. I would like to congratulate everyone involved with those events, particularly our high-flying technical officials.

Lastly, we continue with our mantra, "Competition, it's what we train for". A key message for all members of **scottishathletics** for the past few years. Clubs and athletes have certainly risen to that challenge with strong numbers across all events.

Athletes

First of all, our thanks goes out to every athlete from every age group and at every level of the sport. 2019-20 was a fantastic year for athletics and everyone contributed to that success across the whole athletics system.

In respect of performances at a global level, last year was once again extremely busy for Scottish athletes with World and European championships across many disciplines. Unprecedented numbers of national records were broken throughout the year across all age groups, and the Roll of Honour section and the Commission reports will further detail the specific performances across the disciplines.



However, a number of performances certainly worth noting at this stage include:

- Andrew Douglas (Inverclyde AC) - WMRA Mountain World Cup Winner
- Maria Lyle (Team East Lothian) – World Para Athletics Championships T35 100m, 200m *gold*
- Gavin Drysdale (Red Star AC) – World Para Athletics Championships RR3 100m *gold/WR*
- Kayleigh Haggo (Red Star AC) - World Para Athletics Championships RR3 100m *gold/WR*
- Jacob Adkin (formerly Moorfoot Runners) - WMRA European Mountain Running Champion
- Joanna Butterfield (Forth Valley Flyers) – World Para Athletics Championships F51 Club Throw *silver*
- Samantha Kinghorn (Red Star AC) – World Para Athletics Championships T53 Wheelchair 100m *bronze*
- Zoey Clark (Aberdeen AAC) – World Athletics Championships Mixed Relay *4th*, 4x400m Relay *4th*
- Callum Hawkins (Kilbarchan AAC) – World Athletics Championships Marathon *4th*
- Jake Wightman (Edinburgh AC) – World Athletics Championships 1500m *5th/Scottish Record*
- Laura Muir (Dundee Hawkhill Harriers) – World Athletics Championships 1500m *5th*
- Josh Kerr (Edinburgh AC) – World Athletics Championships 1500m *6th*
- Eilish McColgan (Dundee Hawkhill Harriers) – World Athletics Championships 5000m *10th/Scottish Record*
- Jemma Reekie (Kilbarchan AAC) – 3 British Indoor Records over 800m, 1500m and 1 mile

We would like to congratulate those athletes, and also their coaches and support teams who have worked tirelessly with them over the last year.

We should also note that there were a number of Scottish coaches impacting within GB & NI teams over the past year. Ian Mirfin was a key part of the GB & NI team at the World Para Athletics Championships, Mark Pollard was team manager for the U23 women at the European Cross Country Championships, and Stephen Maguire led the UK-wide sprints and relays programme at the World Championships in Doha.

We congratulate all the Scotland team members for their outstanding performances, and those who have coached and supported them during that period.

Facilities

This past year marks the fourth year since we communicated our first National Facilities Strategy. This document and supporting work has proven to be a great tool for influencing the network of national partners as well as the 32 local authorities across Scotland. There has been some excellent progress against the projects identified, but as always, there are a number of challenges facing the sport. Over the next year we will be reviewing the successes of the past four years but also concentrating on where we are as a sport, and identifying the next set of facility priorities – a number were identified previously, some will be new additions. Also, at this point in time the strategy runs through to 2027, but we will move this back to 2026 to bring in line with the national strategy for the sport, *Building a Culture of Success* (2018-2026).

Projects where we have seen some progress over the last year include:

- Caird Park (Dundee) - construction of the indoor training area was completed in October 2019 as well as a refurbishment of the track. A phase two is required to invest in additional seating and covered areas.
- The construction of the re-developed Meadowbank has begun and was due to open at the end of 2020. However, the COVID-19 pandemic may extend the timelines into 2021.



- Kilbarchan AAC undertook a formidable campaign to raise the £1.4m required to create a new indoor straight at their Linwood home which was a phenomenal achievement. The handover was due at the end of March 2020 but unfortunately COVID-19 has delayed that process.
- Dam Park (Ayr) – we are delighted that South Ayrshire Council have committed to developing a new stadium in Ayr to replace Dam Park Stadium. The project will include a new indoor straight to sit alongside the new track.

As with previous years, Glasgow continues to bring ongoing challenges for the sport, and we are continually working to address those challenges. The concerns centre around the 'takeover' of the Glasgow Warriors at Scotstoun Stadium and the limited access to the Emirates Arena during the pre-Christmas phase.

There have been some interesting proposals at Scotstoun Stadium. One attractive solution is the potential for a new athletics stadium to be developed in the back fields with appropriate indoor training space for the club(s) and stands to enable a Scottish championship to be delivered.

We also face the challenge of the Emirates Arena and their financial income requirement to attract major events to the arena to ensure the facility can stay open. Whilst we are delighted that Glasgow Life and the city council continue to attract major indoor athletics events to the world class arena, athletes and coaches are unable to access the facility with any consistency before the Christmas period. This is a significant risk to the sport in Scotland. As a result, we continue to lead on a proposal to the Scottish Government to invest in a second indoor training arena in Scotland.

Queens Park Stadium (Inverness) remains a key priority for investment into an indoor training area. Whilst there has been a continued dialogue with Highlife Highland and Highland Council, the proposal to develop the facility continues to stall over funding challenges and regional priorities. This project remains a key focus for **scottishathletics**.

We will also continue to work with clubs and facility providers locally to support where challenges exist, predominantly around maintenance, access and costs.

Schools

The delivery of athletics in schools is key to the continued growth of athletics in Scotland, and to providing children with a fun and engaging introduction to the sport. Once again, the national coverage of the Sportshall programme was excellent with 28 local authorities delivering cluster events and 32 teams and over 1,000 children competing in the regional finals. This year also saw the inclusion in the regional finals week of the Sportshall Athletics Event for athletes with a disability, in partnership with Scottish Disability Sport. In the Giant Heptathlon event for secondary schools, four regional final events were held with 30 schools and 420 athletes competing. For the first time, Langholm Academy from Dumfries and Galloway were crowned the national winners.

To support the delivery of athletics in schools we continue to provide free teacher education for local authorities. In the past year 183 teachers from across Scotland have attended our training courses and continue to support the delivery of athletics in their local authorities in partnership with local athletics clubs.

The Scottish Schools Athletics Association (SSAA) continue to do a fantastic job in providing events for primary and secondary pupils across the country, in addition to also providing many athletes with their first opportunity to earn an international vest. We would like to thank all the administrators, teachers, coaches, clubs and officials involved in supporting the delivery of athletics in schools and providing such an extensive events programme.

Welfare & Equalities Update

Our welfare and equalities work remains a key priority for the organisation, and it has been another busy but very effective year. Our welfare team continue to provide guidance and support to every athletics club in Scotland on safeguarding children and protecting adults at risk. Once again there has been an increase in contact enquiries as affiliated clubs seek advice and work to develop and improve their local procedures. 2019-20 saw a great update in the numerous welfare sessions and training days for club welfare officers. This was delivered at both a national and local level.

As an organisation, we have noticed a small rise in the number of complaints and formal cases being submitted by our members, some of which relate to safeguarding children as well as adults at risk. Whilst this is in part due to increased awareness and confidence in our processes, it is so important that we continue to support clubs to ensure that at a local level they confidently recognise and challenge poor practice that puts children/adults at risk, and this includes establishing the correct policies, procedures, education and communication within club environments.



Last year we were one of the first sports in the country to achieve 100% compliance with the national standards for child wellbeing and protection in sport and this work has continued throughout 2019-20. We are currently considering how best to roll these standards out to our clubs. As part of our preparations we have undertaken a national club safeguarding survey and will use the findings to inform our implementation strategy. Additionally, at the 2019 Annual General Meeting we agreed to implement our new complaints and disciplinary procedures which replace the previous ones contained within our articles of association. The new procedures can be found on the website.

Our equality work continues to lead the way on a national front. Once again, the Road Running and Cross Country Commission led the way by tweaking elements within the National Cross Country Championships. The 2020 championships were historical in many respects, not just because of the numbers participating or the difficult weather conditions, but because the number of medals awarded to the senior women team increased from five to six – the same as the men. We also witnessed an increase in the senior women entries as well.

In April 2019, all event commissions within Scottish athletics also agreed to a pilot to include a non-binary competition category for all Scottish Championships. This will continue into 2020-21.

Lastly, we were delighted to be recognised and awarded with the Advanced Level of the Equality Standard for Sport in July 2019. A massive effort from various members of the sport and our thanks to everyone who was involved with the submission.

jogscotland & Recreational Running

The **jogscotland** programme continues to go from strength to strength with the support of our partners at the Scottish Association of Mental Health (SAMH). Our work together continues to receive interest from other organisations with our Development Officer presenting alongside SAMH at a national equalities and inclusion conference and **jogscotland** picking up the 'Innovation in Sport' Award at the Scottish Women in Sport Awards.

Over the past year we have been involved in the delivery of two externally funded projects, Community Strides and **jogability**. The **jogability** project was funded for one year to engage inactive girls with a disability or additional support needs in physical activity. The project has engaged 45 girls, aged under 17, in Junior Jog sessions in four areas. The foundations have also been put in place in a fifth area to start a programme. Working in partnership with local authorities, Active Schools and individual schools, **jogability** has trained teachers and sports leaders in these areas to deliver jogging sessions.

Community Strides is a two-year project which will conclude in December 2020. This project is supported by two part-time coordinators and focuses on increasing physical activity and improving wellbeing for people within BME communities. In total, the project has engaged 123 participants in jogging sessions, however the numbers attending regularly are smaller. This project is providing valuable learning to enable us and others to adjust how we deliver and offer physical activity to people within

BME communities. The project has also trained 16 volunteers in these communities to support the delivery of the jogging activities.

Below is a summary of the work delivered in the past year and some of the impacts.

- Over 5,000 new members joined the jogscotland programme
- 44 delegates attended the Jog Leaders Conference, an increase of 55%
- Over 200 Jog Leaders registered for the online mental health awareness course offered from SAMH taking the total to over 750
- 28 new groups took the pledge and signed up to the 'I'm Here' campaign
- Five Jog Leader get togethers delivered to share practice and hear leaders' feedback
- Over 500 joggers took part in our Virtual 5k Wellbeing run receiving our exclusive Jog Scotty medal
- Participation in national events such as Active Girl's Day, World Mental Health Day, Mental Health Week & Plogging

We would like to thank our Jog Leaders and jogging groups for their continued support of jogscotland and our work with SAMH. In addition to the work outlined above we continue to see groups and leaders fundraising for SAMH and engaging with their national events and campaigns such as STOMP.

Governance

The Board, chaired by Ian Beattie, continues to lead the sport at a strategic level as we approach the end of year two of the national strategy, *Building a Culture of Success*. An important component of the Board is the representation of the sport through the four commissions and the President, blended with the element of 'independent' experts, all of whom play some role within the sport on a day-to-day basis. As always, the Board focus continues to work to ensure that the sport is heading in the same direction with the priorities remaining to deliver our business objectives, support our membership and continue to activate key programmes and events that help athletes, coaches, clubs, officials and volunteers to grow and develop.

There were some important changes occurring over the last year and the Annual General Meeting selected Professor Ron Morrison (Fife AC) as its new President, replacing Leslie Roy MBE. We are extremely grateful to the colossal amount of work that Leslie undertook over her eight-year term. Interestingly, Leslie was subsequently elected as the convener for the Track and Field Commission retaining her in depth knowledge in that area of the sport. We must also thank Moira Maguire (Edinburgh AC) who led the Track and Field Commission through considerable change during her two terms at the helm, for which we are forever



We would like to thank our Jog Leaders and jogging groups for their continued support of jogscotland and our work with SAMH. In addition to the work outlined above we continue to see groups and leaders fundraising for SAMH.



thankful. In addition, Terry O'Hare was ratified as the new independent non-executive director on the Board.

We have continued to strengthen our relationships with national partners which is so important from a relationship, as well as political perspective. We have built a strong and transparent relationship with the Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing, Joe FitzPatrick, as well as other key cabinet ministers. Our relationship with **sportscotland** continues to be strong as well.

At a UK level, there has been a great deal of stress and upheaval. UK Athletics have been in turmoil in the past year which has been frustrating from a home nations perspective. In the last year they have changed Chair of their Board on two occasions as well as their CEO departing. This was followed by an interim for a year and then a permanent appointment in February 2020. They have also had a challenging year for the third consecutive year in a financial sense with significant losses around their Diamond League programme. This has resulted in all the home countries annual grants (£100k for Scotland) being removed for the 2020-21 financial year. You will no doubt also be aware of the news reports around some of the ethical decisions within a performance context which have brought a lot of negative publicity.

All of these challenges led to UK Sport requesting a review of UK Athletics and its governance, structures, processes and procedures. Scottish Athletics were asked to present evidence to that review of which we duly obliged. To summarise, it has been a very difficult year for the sport at a UK level, but as it stands the Scottish Athletics Board are supportive of the recommendations within the UK Sport review of UK Athletics, and have been working closely with the new senior executive to find an effective way forward.

It is also worth noting at this stage that the International Association of Athletics Federations has rebranded and is now known as 'World Athletics'.

As we moved into the 2019-20 financial year, the organisation was presented with the opportunity to submit a new funding application to the national agency, **sportscotland**, for in-principle investment

over the 2019-2023 funding cycle. We were delighted that the work of the sport over the previous cycle had been recognised and we were awarded an annual investment increase of £177,000 to £1,060,000. Whilst this is great recognition and we were delighted with the outcome, it is worth noting that the grant between 2015 and 2017 was £1,030,000 before the Scottish Government reduced its grant to **sportscotland** for 2017-2019. However, we remain positive for the additional support.

As an organisation we remain in a strong position as we continue to deliver against our national strategy outcomes. We are continually reviewing activities and structures accordingly as well as driving forward our relationships with new commercial partners.

Unfortunately, as we continue to do so, we have also sadly mourned a number of key contributors across all levels of athletics. Our thoughts continue to be with all their families and friends.

Gone, but never forgotten.

Partnerships

Without effective partnerships we would struggle to deliver the sport in Scotland and they are an essential component for the effective delivery of our work and outcomes. Since the launch of the current strategy (2018-2026) we have been focused on seeking, creating and servicing new and existing partnerships. We are very fortunate in Scotland that we have some excellent partners, not only from a financial perspective, but partners who are really bought into the sport and keen that we all succeed across many levels.

Last year we were delighted to extend the existing arrangement with national team partner Joma to 2022, and discussions are progressing well with a view to a further extension to 2026. This past year we lost great friends and partners in FPSG Professional Recruitment

for economic reasons, but we are delighted that our world leading industry partner, 4J Studios have extended their support of the sport in Scotland, by not only continuing to support the 4J Athletics National Academy, but 4J Studios are now official partners of the indoor track and field season, the outdoor track and field season, and the Annual Awards Dinner.

In January 2020 we also announced a new partner in Tru Wealth. Many within the sport will be familiar with the Tru Wealth brand, long-time supporters of the sport, but after several months of discussing how we might work best together, we agreed a partnership to sponsor the National Road Race Grand Prix plus the Young Athlete Road Races and the Senior Road Relays. Whilst getting off to a great start with the Young Athletes Road Races, unfortunately we have had to delay the project until the start of 2021 with the outbreak of COVID-19 and its impact on road racing in the summer.

During the 2019-20 financial year the following organisations have been pivotal to our work:

- Clubs
- **sportscotland**
- Scottish Government
- Local Authorities and Leisure Trusts across Scotland
- 4J Studios
- Lindsays
- Joma
- Tru Wealth
- Scottish Association for Mental Health
- Voice Mobile
- DW Sport & Fitness
- Vinco

Whilst overall, this has been a fantastic year, it is important that we do not become complacent. The impact of COVID-19 on our sport is potentially devastating, and whilst we should reflect positively on a very successful year across all areas of the sport, it is important we work together even more than before to ensure we have a viable sport in 2020-21 where success continues. Innovation and brilliant communication will be key over the period ahead for all of us. As an organisation, our priorities should not change, and we are committed to ensuring our focus remains on supporting our membership and continuing to activate key programmes that help athletes, coaches, clubs, club leaders, officials and volunteers to thrive and grow.

The Board and staff are absolutely focused and determined to ensure our sport continues to lead the way nationally. That success can only ever be attributed to yourself and those out there doing it and making it happen, thank you.

Mark Munro
Chief Executive Officer





Hill Running Commission Report

The outstanding result for Scottish hill running in 2019 was Andy Douglas's victory in the World Cup series, a title which he previous took in 2015, the only British male athlete to have held the title. His victory was the result of a series of seven runs between May and October in Europe and America, with three victories and a second place.

Scottish athletes also enjoyed great success in GB & NI hill running teams during 2019.

Jacob Adkin had an individual triumph at the European Championships at Zermatt in Switzerland boosted by team gold with the two other counting athletes being fellow Scots Robbie Simpson in seventh and Andy Douglas in ninth. In the junior women's race, Lauren Dickson finished 12th and Pippa Carcas finished 26th.

The World Championships for Classic and Long Distance both took place in November in the Andes at Villa La Angostura in Argentina. In the Classic event, Andrew Douglas and Jacob Adkin formed the core of the UK team, and were the first two UK finishers in seventh and eighth places. An unfortunate fall for Andy at a river crossing on the final lap when he was in a leading group may have cost him the chance of an individual medal. In the Long Distance Championship, Charlotte Morgan was unable to repeat her victory of last year, but was the first UK finisher in seventh place.

The Junior and Senior Home Internationals in 2019 were held in September in Llanberis in Snowdonia, and Scotland's senior men's team returned with gold medals, with an individual gold for Andrew Douglas. The rest of the men's team was made up of James Espie (6th), Hamish Wolfe (9th), Gavin Bryson (12th), James Dunn (14th) and Hamish Battle (22nd). The women's team earned a set of silver medals, with fine individual performances from Miranda Grant

(10th), Jill Stephen (12th), Catriona Graves (15th) and Caroline Marwick (17th).

The Junior Home International is contested between Under-17 and Under-20 teams of boys and girls, and all of the Scottish teams came home with good team medals: gold for each of U17 and U20 girls, and silver for each of U17 and U20 boys. The aggregate score across the four Scottish teams placed Scotland in second with individual medals coloured gold for Lauren Dickson (U20 girls), silver for Anna Hedley (U17 girls) and Grace Molloy (U20 girls) and bronze for Hamish Hickey (U20 boys).

The World Youth Cup was held in Susa in Italy in August. This race for 16 and 17-year olds is a first taste of international competition for the best in their age group. The girls' team of Pippa Carcas, Rosie Davidson and Helen Chong placed sixth, while the boys' team of Sunny McGrath, Harry McGill and Cameron Sale placed 10th.

The Snowdon International Race is an annual feature for Scottish teams and combines top level competition with a mass-participation event. For Andy Douglas the race was part of his World Cup series and brought home the individual gold medal and led his teammates of James Espie (5th), Ewan Brown (9th) and John Yells (15th) to gold medals. The women's team came home with silver medals as reward for excellent runs by Scout Adkin (5th); Miranda Grant (6th), Jill Mykura (11th) and Louise Mercer (13th).

In domestic competition, the Scottish Senior Championships were held at Broughton Heights, with James Dunn and Scout Adkin the individual champions.

Hugh Buchanan
Convenor



Roll of Honour 2020

Hill Running

European Mountain Running Championships in Switzerland in July 2019

Jacob Adkin *gold*, *team gold* 🥇🥇

Pippa Carcas (U20)

Lauren Dickson (U20)

Andy Douglas *team gold* 🥇

Robbie Simpson *team gold* 🥇

World Mountain Running Championships in Argentina in November 2019

Jacob Adkin

Andy Douglas

Lauren Dickson (U20) (selected but withdrew)

World Long Distance Mountain Running Championships in Argentina in November 2019

Charlotte Morgan



WMRA World Cup Series

Andy Douglas *gold* 🥇

Track and Field

WPA World Marathon Cup in London in April 2019

Derek Rae *silver* 🥈

IAAF World Relays in Japan in May 2019

Zoey Clark 4x400m Relay

Loughborough International in May 2019

GB & NI Juniors

Miraji Ahmed Triple Jump

William Doyle 4x400m Relay

Alessandro Schenini Long Jump

Mannheim Gala in Germany in June 2019

GB & NI Juniors

Fraser Angus 200m, 4x100m Relay

Stephen Mackenzie Long Jump

Praise Olatoke 200m, 4x100m Relay

European 10,000m Cup in London in July 2019

Sarah Inglis *team gold* 🥇

Mhairi MacLennan *team gold* 🥇

Eilish McColgan *silver*, *team gold* 🥈🥇

European Combined Events Cup in Ukraine in July 2019

Andrew Murphy *team bronze* 🥉

World Student Games in Italy in July 2019

Adam Thomas 100m

Nick Percy Discus



European Under 23s in Sweden in July 2019

George Evans Discus

Michael Olsen 4x100m Relay

Jemma Reekie 800m *gold*, 1500m *gold* 🥇🥇

Alisha Rees 4x100m Relay

European Juniors in Sweden in July 2019

Fraser Angus 4x100m Relay

Sarah Calvert 800m

Stephen Mackenzie Long Jump

Joel McFarlane Decathlon

Praise Olatoke 200m, 4x100m Relay

Alessandro Schenini Long Jump

Eloise Walker 3000m

Erin Wallace 1500m

WPA Junior Championships in Switzerland in August 2019

Abbie McNally T35-8 100m *silver*, T35-8 200m *silver* 🥈🥈

Alexander Thomson T35-8 100m, 200m

European Team Championships in Poland in August 2019

Zoey Clark 4x400m Relay

Sarah Inglis 5000m

Kirsty Law Discus

Emma Nuttall High Jump

Alisha Rees 4x100m Relay

Beth Dobbin 4x400m Relay (selected but withdrew)

Manchester International in August 2019

GB & NI Juniors

Miraji Ahmed Triple Jump

Fraser Angus 200m

Stephen Mackenzie Long Jump

Erin Wallace 1 Mile

Europe v USA in Belarus in September 2019

Beth Dobbin 200m

Eilish McColgan 1500m, 3000m

Jake Wightman 1500m

World Championships in Qatar in October 2019

Andrew Butchart 5000m

Zoey Clark 4x400m Relay, mixed 4x400m Relay

Beth Dobbin 200m, 4x400m Relay

Neil Gourley 1500m

Callum Hawkins Marathon

Josh Kerr 1500m

Eilish McColgan 5000m, 10000m

Laura Muir 1500m

Jemma Reekie 1500m

Lynsey Sharp 800m

Steph Twell 10000m

Jake Wightman 1500m





INAS Global Games in Australia in October 2019

Sam Fernando 3000m SC *silver*, 🥈
5000m, 10000m

WPA World Championships in Dubai in November 2019

Jo Butterfield F51 Club Throw *silver* 🥈
Libby Clegg T11 200m, Universal 4x100m Relay
Gavin Drysdale RR3 100m *gold*/WR 🥇
Kayleigh Hagg RR3 100m *gold*/WR 🥇
Sammi Kinghorn T53 100m *bronze* 🥉
Maria Lyle T35 100m *gold*, 200m *gold* 🥇 🥇
Owen Miller T20 1500m
Stef Reid T64 Long Jump (selected but withdrew)

European Throwing Cup in Portugal in March 2020

Kirsty Law
Nick Percy
(Event cancelled)

Ultra Running

IAU European 24-Hour Championships in France in October 2018

Grant MacDonald
James Stewart

Trail Running

IAU/ITRA World Trail Championships in Portugal in June 2019

Charlotte Morgan
Jasmin Paris
Andy Symonds *team silver* 🥈
Georgia Tindley

Road Running

World Half Marathon in Poland in March 2020

Stephanie Davis
Sarah Inglis
(Event cancelled)

Cross Country

European Championships in Portugal in December 2019

Hamish Armitt (U20) *team gold* 🥇
Andy Butchart *team gold* 🥇
Cera Gemmell (U20) *team gold* 🥇
Megan Keith (U20) *team gold* 🥇
Sol Sweeney



Road Running and Cross Country Commission Report

The strategic role of the Road Running and Cross Country Commission is to increase participation, improve the quality of performance, increase our representation in GB & NI teams and improve our international results.

The weather dominated the cross country season with District, Inter District and National Cross Country Championships taking place in appalling weather and ground conditions. Just days before the National Championships, large parts of the course at Callendar Park were inaccessible or underwater. To allow the event to proceed, the determined action by all concerned was to redesign the course, adjusting maps and marshal's instructions accordingly. As in 2019 there were first time winners of the senior championships with Mhairi MacLennan and Jamie Crowe winning the women's and men's titles respectively. Fife AC and Central AC retained their women's and men's team titles. Entries for the event were slightly up at 2,463 although, unsurprisingly considering the weather, total finishers were down by 80. The Short Course Cross Country Championship returned to Kirkcaldy where Annabel Simpson and Andrew Butchart were championship winners.

The Scottish marathon record of 2:09.16 set by Alistair Hutton had stood since 1985. Callum Hawkins, continuing his impressive marathon performances, lowered this to 2:08.14 in London and followed this with an equally impressive fourth place in the World Marathon Championships in Doha. Michael Wright retained his marathon title at Stirling where clubmate Jennifer Wetton was first time winner of the women's title. Weynay Ghebreselassie and Katie White were also first-time winners of the half marathon title in Glasgow. The Commission stages two championships in Trail Running. The Ultra Trail Race, staged between Milngavie and Tyndrum, was won by John Hammond and Nicola Duncan, and the Mid Trail Championship, hosted by Fife AC at Falkland, was won by Jonathan Glen and Fanni Gyurko.

We would like to thank Scottish law and property firm Lindsays for their generous sponsorship. Their support helped us to stage the following events promoted by the Commission: the Short Course, the National Cross Country, three Districts (East, North and West), the Inter Districts, the Masters, three District Relays (East, North and West) and National Relays. In addition, there is a Grand Prix Series for seniors based on the Short Course, District, Inter District and National, and a Team Challenge based on the relays and the Short Course Championships. The Grand Prix helps focus the quality of participants into these events. In road running the Commission promotes championships at:

5k, 10k, 10 miles, half-marathon, marathon, 50k and 100k with a Grand Prix Series based on the first five of these events.

Again, we are indebted to our sponsors - Falkirk District Council (National Cross Country), West Lothian Council (National Road Relays), Stirling Council (Inter District) and North Lanarkshire Council (National Cross Country Relays) - for their continued support in these difficult economic times.

Over the years, the statistics for participation, particularly in cross country events, have been collected and published at <http://www.salroadrunningandcrosscountrymedalists.co.uk/index.html>

Finally, I would like to thank the many people who contribute to the successful running of the road running and cross country season – my best wishes to you all.

John Rodger
Convenor



Track and Field Commission Report



What a year it was in track and field from grass roots right through to elite athletes, a year of fantastic performances at home and overseas which saw Scottish track and field records come tumbling down and many medals won at Scottish, British and European Championships. In the final year of 'life as we knew it', **scottishathletics** athletes performed with distinction across all age groups with new 'stars' of the future emerging. At the elite end Scottish athletes performed with distinction at the World Championships in Doha and the Para World Championships in Dubai. In Doha 12 Scottish athletes were selected and how great was it to see three of these athletes in the 1500m final - Jake Wightman re-writing the Scottish Men's 1500m record books with a superb run for fifth place in 3:31.87, and his fellow Edinburgh AC teammate Josh Kerr one place behind in a personal best of 3:32.52, to make it two Scots in the top six. Neil Gourley, ranked Number 44 in the world by the IAAF prior to Doha, came home in 11th place. Eilish McColgan set a new Scottish Women's 5000m record as Laura Muir went close to her own British record for fifth in the 1500m in 3:55.76. Eilish for her part was 10th in the Women's 5000m with a run of 14:46.17 which lowered her own Scottish record. Seven Scottish athletes were selected for the World Para Championships in Dubai, a significant increase on the four selected for the previous Championships in London in 2017: Jo Butterfield F51 Club Throw (silver), Libby Clegg T11 200m, Gavin Drysdale RR3 100m (gold and World Record), Kayleigh Haggro RR3 100m (gold and World Record), Sammi Kinghorn T53 100m (bronze) and 4x100m Relay, Maria Lyle T35 100m (gold) and 200m (gold), Owen Miller T20 1500m. Stef Reid T64 Long Jump had to withdraw due to injury.

At the other end of the spectrum it was fantastic to see an abundance of entries for all our Championships both outdoor and indoor and it was especially great to see over 500 youngsters from 129 teams entered for our U12 SUPERteams. This is an immensely popular event in our programme of events, and it is great to see the excitement, enjoyment, and enthusiasm of the U12 youngsters in what is an important development event.

In the past year, the Track and Field Commission have been introducing new concepts to continually try and improve Championships and events. A new format was introduced for the FPSG District Championships with changes applying to senior and U20 age groups only. It was in effect a National Open with the event programme split between two venues with endurance and throws at Kilmarnock and sprints and jumps at Grangemouth and 2020 was due to see the events swapped. Like all pilots we learned a lot.

2019-20 was the second year of the event specific series which took place over the 2019 summer track and field season. The series recognises individual athlete performances, club performances and club participation across track and field event disciplines and provides an alternative to traditional league competition as well as catering for more athletes across a wider range of abilities. Using SCOTSTATS tables (courtesy of Arnold Black), an athlete's best three results are scored from any of the event specific opportunities, District Championship or National Championships. The series proved very successful and delivered fine competition both among clubs and individuals across various disciplines and age groups. In all, 2,129 athletes from 100 clubs had a remarkable 7,442 performances recorded and scored as part of the overall series.

Following the dissolution of the UK Women's League and the British Athletic League, a new National Athletic League was formed. This four-match league for men and woman at senior level gives Scottish athletes the opportunity to compete in the top league in Britain as the Jaguars Track and Field Club whilst retaining membership of their home Scottish club. This will be the only Scottish club competing in the new National Athletic League.

Entries for our Championships in general have continued to increase or remained static. The U13/U15/U20 Championships staged over two days with more than 800 athletes on the start lists was a challenge due to the horrific downpours that descended upon Grangemouth, but our athletes and officials showed resilience and continued through the storms.

Relays are always a great event for athletes and spectators alike and there was a terrific response from



clubs with no fewer than 261 teams entered across the various events. There was a fantastic atmosphere for this event which brought the 2019 outdoor track and field season to a close.

During the 2019 summer track and field season 20 new Scottish marks were achieved with seven of these being new Scottish National records at senior level as Eilish McColgan, Jake Wightman, Andy Butchart, Beth Dobbin, Jax Thoires, Heather Paton and the Women's 4x100m Relay re-wrote the best performances of all-time in their events. There was also a Native record from Holly McArthur in the Heptathlon too.

The momentum generated during the 2019 outdoor season continued into the 2020 indoor season for Scottish athletes as a whole host of National, Native and Age Group Records were broken. As well as three British indoor records for Jemma Reekie. Overall, 27 indoor records were broken, and those National record breakers were Jemma Reekie, Heather Paton, Alisha Rees and Nikki Manson.

The Emirates Arena was the venue for all the 4J Studios indoor Championships where there were large entries, records and Championship Best Performances galore - some stretching back 26 years - and BBC and Vinco filming the Senior/U17 Championships.

In among record-breaking performances from Scottish athletes across the globe, the equally inspiring 4J Studios SUPERTeams saw 480 U12 athletes making up 120 teams competing in Glasgow. This is one of our most popular annual events offering a fantastic introduction to competition for young athletes. Development, rather than medals, is the primary focus where each U12 athlete has the chance to compete in a run, a jump and a throw as well as a relay event.

As well as our Championship events, the Emirates

Arena was the venue for the Muller Grand Prix giving seven Scots the opportunity to compete in a British vest at the Glasgow venue. Jemma Reekie sped to a British record, Laura Muir had a crack at the World 1000m indoor record and in between Sweden's pole vault starlet Armand Duplantis smashed his own indoor World Record with an astonishing jump of 6.18m. It was a spectacular day for our young U13/ U15/U17 club athletes as their relay finals were held as part of the Muller Grand Prix programme and what an experience they had with a front row seat watching the world stars.

The following week the British Senior Championships were held at the Emirates in Glasgow with a large entry from Scottish athletes. It was great to have these two meets in Glasgow and it is hoped that we will continue to have this opportunity in future years.

The Commission works closely with the Performance Team to give Scottish athletes the opportunity to compete in a Scottish vest and in 2019 six athletes made their Scottish Senior international debut at the Loughborough International with three Scots in the GB Junior team at the same match. There was also a Scottish track and field team at the Manchester International where athletes achieved six wins.

On behalf of the Track and Field Commission I would like to offer a big thank-you to our dedicated team of scottishathletics officials and volunteers along with Ally and Caitlin in the **scottishathletics** events team for their commitment in ensuring our Championship events go smoothly allowing our athletes to attain their goals.

A huge thank you too to our Championship event sponsors 4J Studios and FPSG who have supported us during the past year.

Leslie Roy MBE
Convenor

Officials Commission Report



Events such as the European Indoor Championships have once again stirred the enthusiasm of all our officials and also spurred on a significant number of new recruits to our athletic community. It has been a challenge to recruit and retain those newly qualified but evidence during the 2019 outdoor season suggests that great improvements are being made in this area. Huge thanks for this must go to our course tutors from all disciplines who give of their time and commitment to deliver, encourage and enthuse all who attend our courses. Particularly pleasing is watching new recruits enthusiastically making the move into officiating following attendance at one of our courses.

Our experienced officials, from all disciplines, continue to be rewarded with selection for UK Athletics televised meetings both at outdoor and indoor events as was also the case in 2019, culminating in Glasgow once more successfully delivering a World Athletics Grand Prix and the Indoor British Championships in early 2020.

An Officials' Conference at the Carnegie Conference Centre was once again well supported in 2019 with approximately 90 officials of all levels in attendance. Massive thanks go to our experienced officials delivering a big part of the programme, including the workshops, and sharing their knowledge and advice on many topics. Our Keynote Speaker in 2019 was Rhona McLeod, a lady with more experience than most, having come through the ranks of top athletics, television presenter and now a mother and coach to her own two talented daughters. It was certainly an enlightening and entertaining presentation enjoyed by all.

We find ourselves challenged to select officials for our Annual Awards as a result of having so many

talented and worthy qualifiers. Every one of our officials deserves recognition for their ongoing support, dedication and enormous commitment to all levels of athletics. However, we can only select a few and in 2019 our Technical Official of the Year was awarded to a very well deserving Val Murdoch who has a number of roles including Seeding expert at all Championships and as a Starter's Assistant at many other events. The Raymond Hutcheson Trophy for Services to Officiating went this year to Dave Finlayson for his continued development of Photofinish and Electronic Scorecards.

The **scottishathletics** Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Mark Stringer who very ably undertook the role of Technical Manager at the European Indoor Championships. Another of our officials, Sandra Hardacre won the Tom Stillie Sword for her enormous commitment and contribution to coaching and officiating both Track and Field and Cross Country.

The Officials Commission works very closely with the Track and Field Commission and many thanks go to them for their efforts in crafting innovative timetables for all championships providing officials with a reasonable working length of day. Huge thanks also go to the Events Team who do an incredible job behind the scenes, in setting up and dismantling at many venues to ensure our championships are the success they are.

An Annual Report could not be complete without recognising the tremendous support, hard work and commitment of the Officials Commission members in many capacities during the athletic year.

Margaret Brown
Convenor

Accounts



Accounts

Directors' Report

The directors present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Principal Activities

The company's principal activity is to act as the governing body for athletics in Scotland and as such to foster, develop and lead the sport of athletics in Scotland. Our role is to provide clear strategic leadership for the sport whilst continuing to evolve and develop the support to all members (athletes, clubs, coaches, officials and event organisers) and we will continue to evolve and provide initiatives to support clubs and volunteers at the heart of the sport. 2019-20 was the first full year of our new strategy, *Building a Culture of Success* (2018-2026) and it was another fantastic year for the sport. **scottishathletics** received an increase in grant funding from **sportscotland** for 2019-20, an increase to £1,060,000 and this is the in-principle annual agreement for the next three years. No matter what the future funding picture looks like nationally, Scottish Athletics Limited will continue to concentrate our investment at the heart of the sport where it matters. As with previous years, our business strategy and direction relies upon clear and transparent partnerships both within the sport i.e. member clubs and with key stakeholders. Our partnerships remain crucial and it is important that we continue to build on these if we are to continue with the current upwards trajectory as well as navigating our way through the consequences surrounding the recent COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19

scottishathletics have been significantly affected by the outbreak of COVID-19, not just in a sporting sense, but within a financial context. The organisation has worked closely with the Scottish Government and **sportscotland** during this phase and have regularly prepared and delivered updated guidance for the sport. We have also taken steps to reduce spending, furlough staff and streamline our operations during this period, as well as agreeing flexibility around our annual **sportscotland** investment spend. Despite the likelihood of losing significant income, particularly from membership fees, reduced club affiliation fee income, annual road license levy income and national event income, we have ensured our business plans are robust and will cope with the initial negative financial impacts, and expect to be in a solid position coming out of lockdown. Undoubtedly, there will be an impact on our reserves but we hope to keep this to a minimum wherever feasible. We will endeavour to keep the membership up to date with the financial position as the picture becomes clearer.

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Financial Review

The company has recorded a surplus for the year of £8,451 (2019 – £29,477) with reserves at 31 March 2020 of £405,718 (2019 – £397,267).

The results are consistent with the budgetary expectations stated at the last annual general meeting.

As with recent years, the financial strategy of the company has been to achieve a small surplus, and ultimately seeking to increase the Reserves by approximately 10% year on year - seeking to achieve a reserve of a minimum of three months operating costs ultimately. Investment funding from **sportscotland** is allocated primarily to staff costs, administration, development work, and to international performance and competition, with the balance of funding required to be generated from commercial income and sponsorship, membership or generated through activity.

Scottish Athletics is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 28/03/2001. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the company and is governed by the Articles of Association.

The total income of the company was £2,281,181 (2019 – £2,161,410) with grant funding providing 50%, membership and event income 40%, marketing and sponsorship 6% and other sources 4%. The financial performance gives Scottish Athletics a solid foundation to further progress the sport in the following year despite some uncertain financial challenges across sport in Scotland, particularly around the impacts of COVID-19.

scottishathletics would like to thank its partners and sponsors - Scottish Government, **sportscotland**, UK Athletics, Joma, Lindsays, 4J Studios, FPSG Professional Recruitment, DW Sport & Fitness and the Scottish Association for Mental Health - for their support as well as the contributions made to events and essential development programmes by Falkirk Leisure Trust, North Lanarkshire Leisure, Stirling Council, Glasgow City Council and Glasgow Life, and the many other local authorities/leisure trusts who invest in the sport. Such support remains a keystone to the future success of the sport.

Directors

With the exception of the Chief Executive Officer and those Board members representing the Commissions and other parties with representation rights on the Board, all Board members appointed shall be subject to retirement by rotation after they have been in office for four or more years since they were appointed or reappointed. Such Board members may serve a maximum of two terms. Any Board member retiring in accordance with these provisions shall be eligible for re-appointment after the end of their first tenure, but shall not be eligible for re-election thereafter, (aside from exceptional circumstances).

Membership

At 31 March 2020, 169 Clubs and Associates were in membership of the company (2019 – 171) and there were 13,789* members of Athletics Scotland, the membership scheme of Scottish Athletics (2019 – 14,188).

* Initial impact of COVID-19 on membership renewals.

Auditors

MHA Henderson Loggie were reappointed as auditors at the 2019 AGM for another term.

Statement as to Disclosure of Information to Auditors

The Board Members who were in office on the date of approval of these financial statements have confirmed, as far as they are aware, that there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware. Each of the Board Members have confirmed that they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as Board Members in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

Small Company Rules

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

Ian Beattie, Chair

By order of the Board
7 August 2020

Directors

Ronald Morrison (President) (appointed 28/09/2019)

Ian Beattie (Chair)

Mark Munro (Chief Executive Officer)

Leslie Roy MBE

Sandra Frame

Alison Johnstone

John Rodger

Margaret Brown

Moir Maguire (resigned 28/09/2019)

Hugh Buchanan

Joanna Butterfield MBE

Eilidh Doyle

Terry O'Hare (appointed 28/09/2019)

Laura McCallum (Company Secretary)

Independent Auditors' Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Scottish Athletics Limited (the 'company') for the year ended 31 March 2020 which comprise the Profit And Loss Account, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2020 and of its surplus for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other Information

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small company regime and take advantage of the small companies exemption in preparing the directors' report and take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006.

Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

James Davidson (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of MHA Henderson Loggie Chartered Accountants, Statutory Auditor

11–15 Thistle Street, Edinburgh, EH2 1DF

7 August 2020

Profit and Loss Account

For the year ended 31 March 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Income			
Income from grant funding		1,142,701	1,141,682
Income from marketing and sponsorship		140,747	88,184
Income from the membership and from events		904,217	829,166
Other income		93,516	102,378
Total operating income		2,281,181	2,161,410
Expenditure			
Administrative costs		653,659	643,265
Events and programme costs		1,482,187	1,389,251
Membership scheme costs		18,939	21,210
Marketing and fundraising costs		103,460	72,250
Total operating expenditure		2,258,245	2,125,976
Operating surplus	2	22,936	35,434
Interest receivable		7,261	8,064
Surplus for the year before taxation		30,197	43,498
Taxation		(21,746)	(14,021)
Surplus for the year		8,451	29,477

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	5	12,931	12,931
Tangible assets	6	730	1,186
		13,661	14,117
Current assets			
Debtors	7	134,702	67,001
Cash at bank and in hand		1,158,229	1,095,006
		1,292,931	1,162,007
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(900,874)	(778,857)
Net current assets		392,057	383,150
Total assets less current liabilities		405,718	397,267
Net assets		405,718	397,267
Reserves	9	405,718	397,267

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provision applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime, and were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 7 August 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

Ian Beattie, Chair
7 August 2020

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2020

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

Scottish Athletics is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Scotland. The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A small entities.

Going concern

At 31 March 2020 the company had net current assets of £392,057 (2019 – £383,150). **scottishathletics** have been significantly affected by the outbreak of COVID-19 and have taken early steps to reduce spending, furlough staff and streamline operations, as well as agreeing flexibility around the annual **sportscotland** investment spend. Undoubtedly, there will be an impact on reserves which it is hoped will be kept to a minimum. Despite this, and having reviewed the financial projections for the year to 31 March 2021 and on confirmation of indicative funding for the period to 2021, the directors are satisfied that the going concern basis is appropriate.

Recognition of income

Income is credited in the accounts on the date of receipt, except for subscriptions, fees and grants received in advance that are credited in the year in which they fall due.

Should grant income received during the financial period be unspent during that period, the position is discussed with the funders and subject to the agreement of the organisation providing that income, the sums concerned will be deferred and utilised to meet appropriate business needs in subsequent financial periods.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is calculated to write off evenly the cost of fixed assets over their expected useful life, as follows:-

Computer equipment	– 4 years
Other office equipment	– 4 years
Furniture and Fittings	– 10 years

Website design and content development costs are capitalised to the extent that they lead to the creation of an enduring asset delivering benefits at least as great as the amount capitalised. The website costs are depreciated on a straight line basis over three years following completion of the development work. Grant income in respect of the development is released to the Profit and Loss account over the same three year period.

Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at fair value.

Pensions

The company operates a group pension scheme, contributing a fixed percentage of each employee's salary to an individual pension plan. Costs in respect of this are charged to the Profit and Loss account in the period they are incurred.

Leased assets

The annual rentals on operating leases on equipment and vehicles, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Taxation

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year.

Judgements And Estimation Uncertainty

In the application of the company's accounting policies, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors have made the following judgements:

- Determine whether leases entered into by the company as a lessor are operating or finance leases. These decisions depend on an assessment of whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease by lease basis.
- Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over a period to reflect their estimated useful lives. The applicability of the assumed lives is reviewed annually, taking into account factors such as physical condition, maintenance and obsolescence.
- Fixed assets are also assessed as to whether there are indicators of impairment. This assessment involves consideration of the economic viability of the purpose for which the asset is used.

2. Operating Surplus

	2020 £	2019 £
Operating surplus is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	456	456
Auditors' remuneration	6,860	6,660
Pension costs	54,203	42,387

3. Taxation

	2020 £	2019 £
Corporation tax charge	21,746	14,021

4. Directors' Emoluments

The directors' aggregate emoluments in respect of qualifying services were:

	2020 £	2019 £
Emoluments receivable	90,785	86,273
Remuneration		
Pension	4,080	4,000

As at 31 March 2020 retirement benefits were accruing to one director in respect of money purchase pension schemes.

The average number of employees during the year was 53 (split between 19 full time and 34 part time) (2019 - 20 full time and 31 part time). This included 23 part time Club Together Officers.

5. Investments

	2020 £	2019 £
At 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020	12,931	12,931

Investments at the year ended 31 March 2020 relate to the McLanaghan Trust. All investments are held at cost.

6. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Office Equipment £	Furniture & Fittings £	Website £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2019	117,938	11,315	77,590	206,843
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2020	117,938	11,315	77,590	206,843
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2019	(116,752)	(11,315)	(77,590)	(205,657)
Charge for year	(456)	-	-	(456)
At 31 March 2020	(117,208)	(11,315)	(77,590)	(206,113)
Net book value				
At 31 March 2020	730	-	-	730
At 31 March 2019	1,186	-	-	1,186

7. Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Trade debtors	107,547	55,214
Prepayments	26,968	11,787
VAT debtor	187	-
	<u>134,702</u>	<u>67,001</u>

8. Creditors - Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Trade creditors	47,293	62,756
VAT payable	-	3,008
Corporation tax	21,746	14,021
Trust fund creditors	12,177	12,177
Other creditors	89,791	89,791
Deferred income	558,299	464,181
Accrued charges	171,568	126,300
Pension charges	-	6,623
	<u>900,874</u>	<u>778,857</u>

9. Reserves

	2020	2019
	£	£
Prior year balance carried forward	397,267	367,790
Surplus for the current year	8,451	29,477
	<u>405,718</u>	<u>397,267</u>

10. Commitments Under Operating Leases

The future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases for each of the following periods are as follows:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Less than one year	52,052	51,610
In two to five years	39,557	86,005
	<u>91,609</u>	<u>137,615</u>

11. Related Party Transactions

As well as being a Director of Scottish Athletics, Mark Munro also sits on the board of **sportscotland**. A number of directors were involved in clubs where levies and affiliation fees were paid to Scottish Athletics in the year. There is a long standing arrangement with 3-56 Media where Terence O'Hare is shareholder and director, to provide print services under normal commercial terms that pre-dates his appointment to the Board of Scottish Athletics.

12. Ultimate Controlling Party

The organisation is controlled by its Club and Associate members who are entitled to mandate one delegate each to attend any General Meeting, speak and vote on their behalf.



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