



SSHAC April 2026 Newsletter

Sportshall Athletes Excel

Over 55 Solihull athletes have taken part in the Birmingham Sportshall League this season. There have been four strong Clubs, with the return of Birchfield's Under 15 Girls and Boys in force! This has made it a very exciting season in all the age groups.

Royal Sutton Coldfield had an incredibly strong Under 11 Girls team, winning most of the individual medals but our Solihull girls managed to claim medals in the Circuit and Hurdles relays, coming second overall.



In the other three competitions, Under 11 Boys and Under 13 Girls & Boys were the overall winners, collecting a large number of individual and relay medals along the way. This was reflected by the number of these Solihull athletes selected to represent Team Birmingham in the Regional events.



Isla Gerry has come third in the Under 15 Girls All-Rounder Competition. Birchfield won both the Under 15 Girls and Boys League Competitions and many of their athletes were selected for the UK Finals at Stoke along with our Under 13 Teams.



Despite cancelling one competition because of the snow in February, this has been an excellent Sportshall season and we thank all those people who have worked hard to make it happen.

Congratulations to these Solihull Athletes who represented Team Birmingham:
Nikyle Jabar, Ada Masson, Josh Baylis, Will McMonagle, Will Leeson, Jacob Austerberry, Jacob Westwood, Ava Hillas, Ava Blundell, Betsy Gilmore, Annabel Chamberlin, Troy Hall, Sam Roberts, Luca Weimann, Callum Hutt, Edison Hughes, Ishaq Ahmed, Lizzie Fowler, Jess Blundell, Emily Carrington, Amelia Deeney, Zara Wilson.

Thanks to Lynne Moody

First home match on the new track Get involved!



We are hosting a YDL (youth development league) match on 24th May. It takes many people to put on a match and we need help particularly as there will be no grounds staff available from the leisure centre. Can you or someone you know help dig sand and move hurdles? There will also be a need for help with field events and sorting out the results. Even if you are only about for an hour or so it would be helpful.

Please let Annette (sshacofficialssec@gmail.com) know.

Midland Road Relays



Well done to the Senior teams that took part in the Midland Counties 6 & 12 Stage Road Relays in Sutton Park at the end of March. The weather gave people the challenge of all four seasons in one day, from hail and wind to bright sun! The total time for the men's team was 4:30:38 which placed them 38th out of 61 complete teams. The total time for the women's team was 2:43:18 which placed them 34th out of 52 complete teams. The teams were supported on the day by Sharon Masters team managing and Emma McLeod & Steve Webb officiating.

UK Inter Counties Cross Country Champs 2026

Congratulations to the 13 athletes from the club that competed as part of the Warwickshire team for the Inter Counties Cross Country Championships. This event was held at Wollaton Park, Nottingham on the 7th March. It was an excellent day of high-class athletics with teams from Scotland, Northern Island & Wales as well as the whole of England. Our athletes will have gained much experience from competing here.

Thanks to Rob Pinton



We are looking for someone to give us a quote for some pathing. To avoid the slippery slope at the track, we need to create a path from the back of the stand to our blue cabin.



The storage shed at the track needs its roof repairing. Could you sort out the roofing felt? We can pay for materials.

If you can help with either of these items please email Emma (SSHAC.membership@gmail.com) or talk to any member of the committee.

Congratulations to the new Honorary Life Vice Presidents

At the AGM our president, Annette Brown, presented Honorary Life Vice Presidents awards to John Derry and Sue Taylor who were nominated for their many years of voluntary service to the club.



John began as a volunteer helper over 20 years before moving into sprint coaching. John has consistently contributed behind the scenes at home track and field league matches, helping with equipment and event setup. Since the Covid lockdown he has led his own sprint group, supporting and developing new talent.



Sue got involved over 20 years ago when her younger son was training with the club. She helps with Sportshall, is trained as a Field Official and Assistant Coach, helps coach multi-events and sprints and is currently Team Manager for the Heart of England League.

News from the 2026 AGM

Many thanks to Andrew Spencer for stepping forward as Treasurer. There will be a gradual handover of the role over the next few months. Jane Cartright is now the Social Secretary and has got straight to work looking at options for our awards evening in November which we are very grateful for.

A full list of club officers can be found on the Website.

<https://www.solihullac.co.uk/committee>
<https://www.solihullac.co.uk/team-managers>
<https://www.solihullac.co.uk/welfare-officers>

Minutes of the AGM will be posted on the Website shortly.

<https://www.solihullac.co.uk/agm-minutes>

Team manager needed



We urgently need a team manager for the midland league. If we don't get a volunteer we will withdraw from this league at the end of this coming season. Now is the time to learn about the role from the people who are currently covering it.

Could someone who comes to support you get more involved? Has someone you know just retired and is looking for something to do? Do you know someone who is interested in athletics and good at engaging with people?

Further details of this and other roles can be found on the website

<https://www.solihullac.co.uk/volunteering>

If you, or someone you know, can get involved please reach out to any committee member, coach or simply email sshac.membership@gmail.com. Together, we can ensure our club keeps going.

Google Reviews

If anyone has time to leave the club a nice Google review we would be very grateful. It will help us get noticed.

Car Parking near the Track

The 'lake' in the car park next to the track has hopefully evaporated for good! Thanks to Steve Howes for escalating this to its resolution.

Age groups have changed

From 1 April 2026, the age groups in which young athletes compete have changed to U12, U14, U16, and U18. If you want to learn more about this, please see the information on the England Athletics Website.

<https://www.englandathletics.org/about-us/age-group-changes/>

To unsubscribe please contact sshac.membership@gmail.com

Solihull and Small Heath AC
Fully run by volunteers