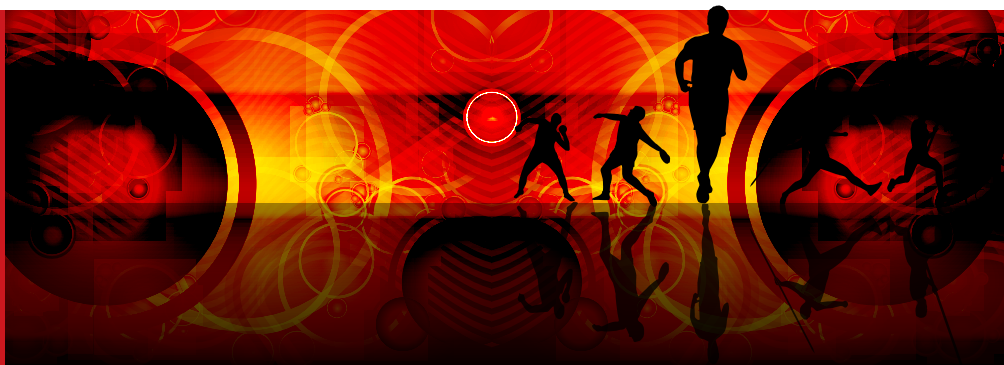


Officiating



In athletics whatever the event there is a need for officials to help ensure the smooth flowing and administration of an event according to the laws of the sport.

Officials are needed at all the different disciplines of the sport and their roles are very varied, including:

- **Track and Field Events:** These require Field & Track Judges, Starters/Marksman and Timekeepers to ensure fair and disciplined competition by applying the Rules of the Sport. Their tasks vary from measuring distances of jumps/throws, recording the order of finishing, ensuring fair starts to recording accurate times of the races.
- **Cross-country & Road Running (Endurance) Events:** these require Starters; course officials/marshals; lap counters; finish recorders; time-keepers; Race Directors; Course designers; Race adjudicators

Track and Field

A number of the Clubs in Somerset host closed or 'open' track & field evenings or days where qualified helpers help ensure that the event goes smoothly and to timetable. Closed events will just be for members of that Club or invited guest; whereas open events are promoted and publicised more widely and will be run under a licence from the organising bodies for the Sport. Contact your local Club to find out the dates of their competition matches where you can help out.

You can obtain training to become a Level 2 official through attending a half day/day-long course provided by trained officials. You must attend a health & safety training session to ensure that you are fully qualified for track & field officiating and also complete a Disclosure & Barring Service form (formally known as a CRB check).

The basic qualification will enable you to help officiate at Club level (level 2a) and after 10 sessions of volunteering you will be able to progress to being a County standard (level 2b) official and a further 10 meetings will mean that you can be recognised as a regional official (level 2c).

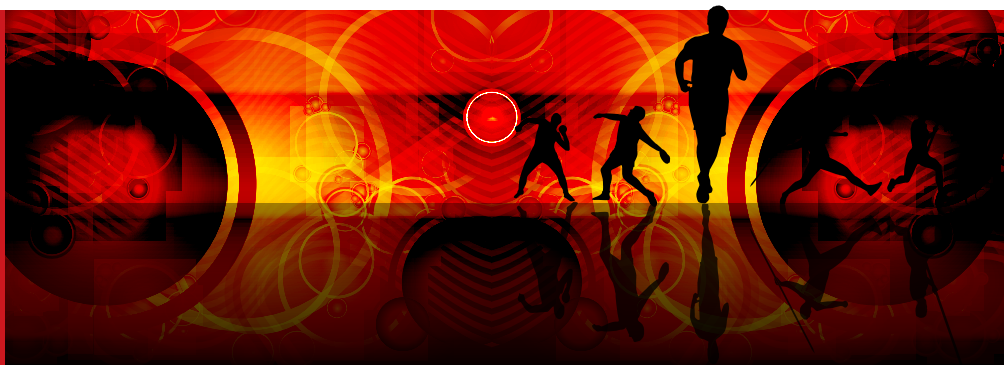
If you are a former track and field athlete, or have a son or daughter who is intending to compete or is competing, officiating is a good way to help your Club put on a quality event. Courses are listed on the England Athletics and your Club will probably assist you with the cost of attending the training.

Full details for each officials course are available on the website:
www.englandathletics.org

Follow the link through to coaching and officials courses



Officiating



Cross-country & Road Running (Endurance Officials)

A number of the Clubs in Somerset host road races or cross-country events. Contact your local Club to find out the dates of their races/events where you can help out.

You can obtain training to become a Level 2 official through attending a half-day course provided by trained officials. In addition you can attend a risk assessment training session to ensure that you are fully qualified for officiating.

The basic qualification will enable you to help officiate at Club level (level 2a) and after further volunteering you will be able to progress to being a County (2b) or regional official (level 2c). If you are a runner, former runner, or have a son or daughter who is intending to compete or is competing, endurance officiating is a good way to help your Club put on a quality event. Courses are listed on the England Athletics and your Club will probably assist you with the cost of attending the training.

Full details for each officials course are available on the website:
www.englandathletics.org

Officiating with your Club and beyond

Clubs may offer guidance and assistance with the equipment and kit needed to carry out your officiating tasks. This might include suitable clothing; tabards; a stop-watch; clipboard; and other essential items dependent upon your role.

You can help out your Club at any League competitions they take part in. Some Leagues (such as the South west athletics League) award points to the teams if they provide a certain number of officials on the day of the event. So you could count towards your team's victory!

The County Championships see the Clubs come together every year to determine the champion individuals and teams. At these events (May for the track & field and December for the cross-country) it is important to have qualified officials to ensure that any marks or times achieved can be recorded and count as recognised performances. Contact the County Athletics association if you can help with these. More details on the dedicated website or from your Club.

<http://www.somerset-athletics.co.uk/>



Pack produced by the Somerset Athletics Network with the help of England Athletics & SASP (all logos) 2013
Full Pack available by download from your local athletics club or from SASP
Text by Paul Chadwick (Wells CH) with input from Georgie Starkie (Frome RC), Matt Nolan (SASP) and Sally & Nick Higman (Officials). Text as at May 2013