

Chairman's Report 2018



My introduction to Schools Athletics began back in the early 1980's as a young cross country runner in Bristol, running for Westbury Harriers and Avon schools. Once teaching I quickly became involved with Devon schools and then, on my return to Bristol, with Avon schools. I finally joined the mighty Somerset in 2014 as a team manager and have this year been honoured to be the Chairman.

Somerset is like no other county I have been involved with. The commitment and dedication from all those involved is unrivalled. The work Brian, Dick and Les do behind the scenes in order to maintain the highest of standards is immense with Somerset leading the way on many fronts, but most recently with the changes to the law and the GDPR requirements. The number of team managers we are able to supply at every event is staggering and the envy of most other counties. The extensive knowledge, organisation and never ending support of Sally and Nick enables Somerset to provide a staggering amount of officials enabling all of our events to run smoothly. This is no easy task given the ever decreasing number of suitably qualified officials available. In addition to all of these roles there are those who are always there, doing anything and everything they can to support the association and offer our young athletes every opportunity to succeed. In particular, Richard, Katie, Jane and Pat your support, loyalty and energy is truly remarkable and the back bone of every success the county achieves.

The level of success achieved by our athletes, year on year, is phenomenal. This year has been no exception. Champions on the country, track, field and combined events. International honours in every discipline along with championship best performances. The Somerset Machine rolls on.

To all of you, whatever role you have played. Thank you. The success our talented young athletes achieve would not be possible without you.

Thank you

Jo Pike