

VAC Annual General Meeting

Thursday 23 September 2021 using Zoom

Race Walking Secretary's Report

The Cecil Gittins Memorial Walks which was deferred from April 2020 was held in October 2020 under the COVID-19 regulations extant at that time. The entries were 38, and there were 35 on the start line, a slight increase from 2019.

Course records were broken over 5k, 10k and 15k for both men and women.

Battersea Park race walks. Since May the full series of our own monthly races at Battersea Park was held. Originally the plan was for two races of 5 miles and two of 5k but this was later changed to four races of 5k in view of the ongoing COVID-19 regulations. The average paid entries improved from nine in 2019 to 12, including some new to VAC events and new to the venue. The course was over a new route, which had a course measurement certificate for the purpose. The Lester Cup, which is a points-based handicap trophy for this series, was won by Fiona Bishop, with a small margin from second placed Maureen Noel; they were the only members to appear in all four races. We are grateful to Carl Lawton for the calculations.

The ever-present Chris Flint represented the men in the 2k track walk at the **Inter Area Challenge Match** at a new venue in Nuneaton. The ladies were represented by Emma Dyos; they both achieved respectable times in this strictly judged event.

We look forward to a full programme of events for the next 12 months with the easing of restrictions during the pandemic.

David Hoben, VAC Race Walking Secretary