

VAC AGM: 18 SEPTEMBER 2017

Report by the Race Walking Secretary

2016-2017

I am pleased to report that a full series of races has been held which included the Jack Fitzgerald Memorial Race of approximately 6 miles held in Tilgate Park, Crawley, with 24 entries, and the Cecil Gittins Memorial Walks with distances up to 15km at Cyclopark, Gravesend, with 50 entries. Both are record numbers. Thirteen attended the 10km track meeting at Tooting Bec.

We were fully represented at the Inter Area Indoor Match at Lee Valley over 2km and almost fully represented at the Inter Area Outdoor Match at Solihull also over 2km. This is an improvement from previous years.

The 5 mile races at Battersea Park are traditionally spread over the summer months from April to August, held in conjunction with the road runs. The average turnout was 10 compared with 12 in 2016.

The VAC/SCVAC track championships on August Bank Holiday Sunday included a 3km walk which attracted 12 entries (5 in 2016) and 9 on the line.

VAC had no representation at the meeting with SCVAC who incorporated VAC's 3km walk in their Indoor Championships. The Enfield 7 miles and Steyning 5km track which were also to incorporate VAC championships had no real support from members and no medals were awarded.

VAC's members have set records at the Euro and World Championships, which have continued to be dominated by Ian Richards among others.

We have been able to have a full list of officials in all our meetings and I am grateful for their presence and invaluable assistance.

In summary, we have been successful in introducing walking to a greater range of athletes, but more work needs to be done to increase participation by members in the forthcoming year, particularly the Battersea Park series.

David Hoben
VAC Race Walking Secretary
18 September 2017