

## **VAC Annual General Meeting**

**Thursday 19 September 2024**

### **Race Walking Secretary's Report 2023 – 2024**

**The VAC and Counties 10k track walk** was held in September 2023. The paid entries were 10, a decrease from 18 in 2022.

**The Jack Fitzgerald Centenary Memorial Walks** were held in November 2023, the entries were 10, a decrease from 24 in 2019.

At the **Indoor Inter Area T&F Challenge** at Lee Valley in February 2024, Glen Keegan represented the men over 2k on the track. Glen walked well to achieve 4<sup>th</sup> place in this strictly judged event.

The ladies were represented by Penelope Cummings (2nd in the W35-49 age band), Maureen Noel (2nd in the W50-59 age band) and Fiona Bishop (1st place in the W60 age band).

**The Cecil Gittins Memorial Walks** were held in June 2024. The paid entries were 22, a decrease of 4 from 2023.

**Battersea Park race walks.** From April 2024, the series of four of our own races at Battersea Park were held, three of which were 5k and one 5 miles. The average paid entries decreased slightly from fourteen in 2023 to over twelve per race. Entries included some new to VAC events, new to the venue and new to race walking.

At the **VAC and London Masters Open Track & Field Championships** at Tooting Bec in August 2024, Stefano Zennaro (London Front Runners) won the 2000m walk for the men, and Chik Ha Kwok for the ladies. This event was included in the programme for the first time for some years.

At the **Outdoor Inter Area T&F Challenge** at Corby in September 2024, Stuart Bennett and Trevor Jones achieved top scores in the 2k track walk, with new signing John Taylor also performing well for VAC.

Ian Richards and Fiona Bishop continued to represent VAC in **World Masters** events both indoors and outdoors.

We look forward to a full programme of events for the next 12 months with more participation from members. The number of new members enrolling for VAC for our small branch of athletics is encouraging.

**David Hoben**

**VAC Race Walking Secretary**

**15 September 2024**