



SCOA Bulletin, March 2017

The SCOA Long Distance Championships are hosted this year by TVOC at the Chiltern Challenge level B event, on Sun 9 April, in the lovely runnable woodland of Hambleden, near Henley on Thames. There are medals for the first three eligible (SCOA members) runners in each AGE CLASS. Please see the details on the event flier or SCOA website for eligibility and remember to enter your AGE CLASS or RUN UP. Entries are open on the Fabian4 website; pre-entries close Sun 2 April with Entry on the Day subject to map availability. (If the recent very high entry for the SCOA league event at nearby Nettlebed is any indication, you are recommended to enter in advance to guarantee a map!)

The SCOA League is drawing to a close, with only SCOL 8 and SCOL 9 left – 19 March at Harewood and 21 May at Black Park respectively. Your best 6 results count, so there are two more opportunities to add to your total or improve on your score so far.

NEW for the 2017-18 season will be an **INTER-CLUB COMPETITION**. Based on individual scores, each club will have a score per event of the total scores of all their runners, averaged per run. This gives all members, including beginners, a chance to score for their club. As there are so few opportunities to compete for your club, this provides a local, ongoing competition which allows juniors and seniors to contribute. We hope that you will support this idea and have fun at the same time.

The South Central Junior Squad has been busy with monthly training activities and the pattern continues. Several sessions have involved travel to join up with other regional squads – a great opportunity to meet other juniors and experience different terrain. Parents and athletes supported a BKO-led event in January to raise funds for the squad. Specifically, Alison Smith acted as Junior Squad rep and Thomas Howell as planner. Thank you BKO! Fiona Bunn, David Bunn and Bethany Kippin have been selected to represent England at Interland, hosted by Belgium on April 17.

JK2019 (April 19-22) is being staged by SCOA and its constituent clubs. Plans are coming together with areas and officials being identified and confirmed. The areas will shortly be registered on the BO website and embargoed until the JK events have taken place. Anyone who has attended a JK event will know that the numbers are large and that each event will need large numbers of volunteers to ensure smooth running. With all the events being so close to home, we hope that as many SCOA club members as possible will be able to both compete and help.