

Competition Conference





ENGLAND ATHLETICS

ENGLAND ATHLETICS LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Please take your seats



COMPETITION CONFERENCE

Welcome





Sarah Benson – Talent &
Performance Director

Christine Ohuruogu

Vision group update

Competition conference

AGENDA

11:30 – Officials

12:00 – **Breakout 1** – Can competition providers help with recruitment and development of Officials, if so how? And what additional support, if any would be needed from the NGB.

12:30 – State of the Nation – Darren John

13:00 – Lunch

14:00 – Facilities – Ed Hunt

14:25 – **Breakout 2** Thinking about all the key stakeholders, Athletes, Officials, Parents, Spectators and so on, can you identify a good facility, and a bad facility and what makes them good and bad. If you have time – how can the NGB help recreate 'Good' across the country?

14:45 – Field Events – Clive Poyner, Nick Ridgeon, Carol Jackson.

- Field Event Task Group findings
- Winter Throws Case study – Nick Ridgeon
- BIG on Tour Project plan – Carol Jackson

15:15 – Tea and Coffee

15:40 – fMC

- Update – Dean Hardman
- Norfolk Pilot – Clive Poyner

16:00 – Q&A

16:15 – Closing remarks – Chris Jones

16:30 – End



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Officials





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COLUMBIAN

Competition conference

Officials

Adie Pottinger



Jack Lambert



Fiona Hancock



Stuart Paul



Breakout 1

Can competition providers help with recruitment and development of Officials, if so, how? And what additional support, if any would be needed from the NGB.

Commitment

BREAKOUT SESSION 1

FEEDBACK



State of the Nation – Darren John



Nov 2025

TRACK & FIELD PARTICIPATION





BACKGROUND & METHOD

Power of 10 Results

English Affiliated Athletes

Excl. Non-Affiliated Athletes/Events e.g. School Level

Suitable Proxy for Full Data Set

Within 2% Increase or Decrease considered in natural event flux (colour coded orange)

1st Jan – 31st Oct

Data Key:

Arrows = Direction of Travel
(↑, ↓ or =)

Colours = Assessment of Actuals
(Good / Bad / Steady)

 Comments from T&F Youth Participation Review (2025 EA / Sherbert Research)

TRENDS

2025 ALL EA Athlete T&F Participation

103k Athletes @ T&F Clubs

+2.0 v. 2019

+6.8% v. 2024

43.5k Competing

-9.4% v. 2019

+3.6% v. 2024

813.8k Participations

-14.6% v. 2019

+0.4% v. 2024

175.2k Registered Athletes

103k at Track & Field Affiliated Clubs



2025: 1,500 More Individuals taking part in T&F (44k)



2025: Participation Ratio Drop

2025: 17.4 participations

2024: 18.0 participations

2019: 18.5 participations

of participations / # participants = participations per athlete



England Only

**Excluding EA Athletes
participating in other
Home Nations, Foreign
Comps, NCAA etc.**

TRENDS

2025 T&F IN ENGLAND (1st Jan – 31st Oct)

Distinct Participating Individuals:

2025: 43,528

↑ v.2024: 1,473 More Individuals

↓ v.2019: 4,369 Fewer Individuals

Individuals per Meet:

2025: 31.5

↑ v.2024: 1.0 More Individuals p/Meet

↑ v.2019: 0.4 More Individuals p/Meet

T&F Performances per Meet:

2025: 546.8

↓ v.2024: 1.4 Fewer Performances p/Meet

↓ v.2019: 28.3 Fewer Performances p/Meet

T&F Meets:

2025: 1,382

↑ v.2024: 3 More Meets

↓ v.2019: 158 Fewer Meets

T&F Performances:

2025: 755,618

↓ v.2024: 348 Fewer Performances

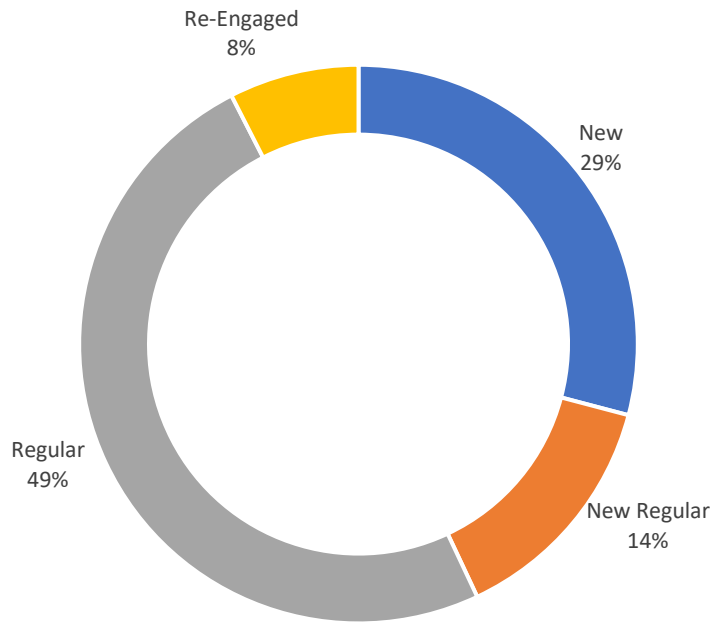
↓ v.2019: 129,916 Fewer Performances



TRENDS

T&F Athlete Buckets by Age Group

2025 T&F Participants by Cohort



Age Group On Perf Date	New (2025 Only)	New Regular (2024 & 2025 Only)	Regular (3+Yrs inc. 2024 & 2025)	Re-Engaged (2023 & 2025 But Missed 2024)
Totals	12865	6149	21870	3325

Lapsed <12 months (No 2025)	Lapsed (1yr-5yrs)
14992	25715

U11	1569	1048	6001	545
U13	3933	2520	12317	1245
U15	3224	2653	14303	1425
U17	1792	1436	11915	1330
U20	584	371	8070	1142
U23	285	146	4384	827
Sen	1266	530	4150	1239
Masters	1230	506	3670	1053

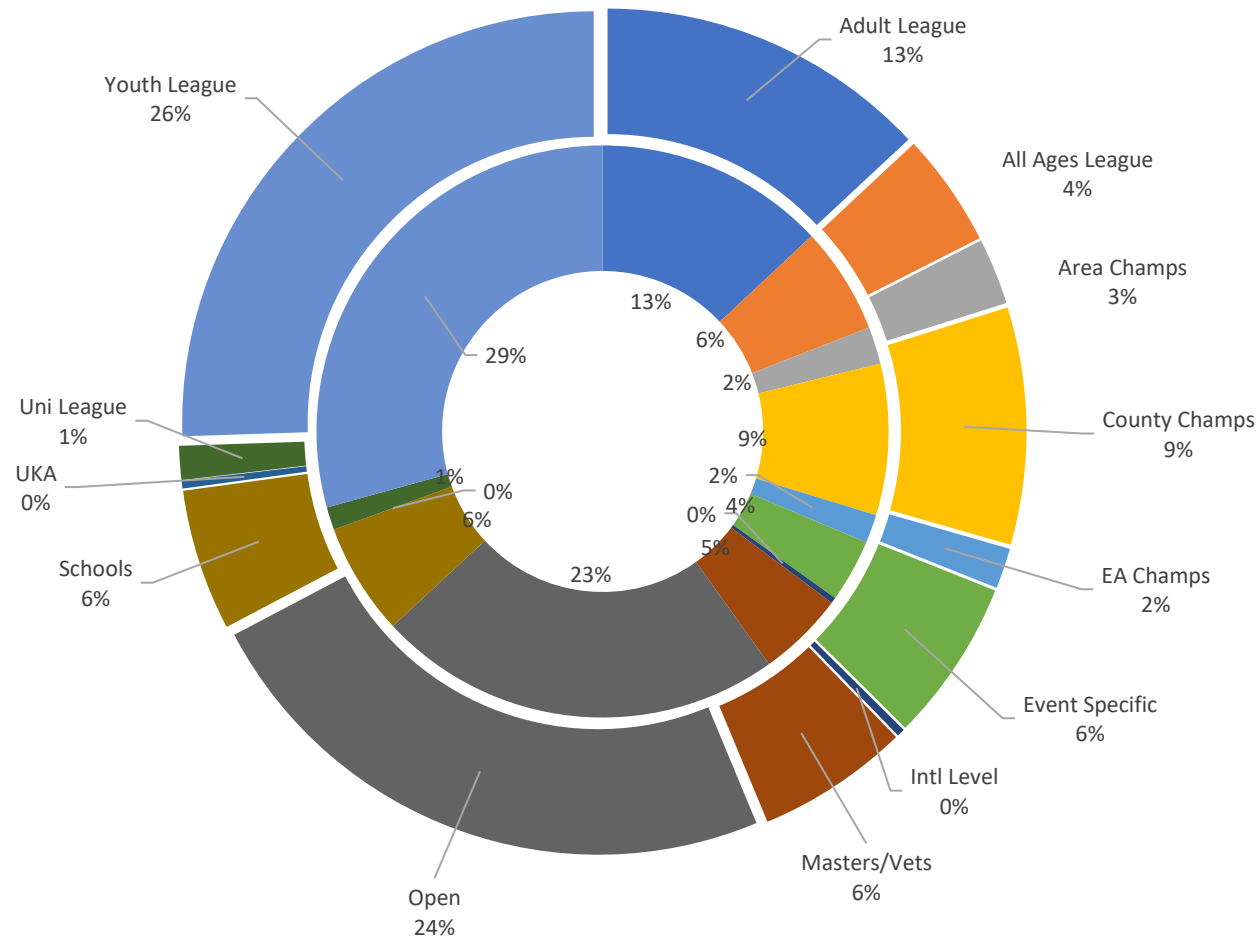
2557	4507
5725	9731
6416	10824
5409	9324
3296	5826
1842	3295
2835	5159
2326	3480

Of athletes Competing in 2024 there is a
35.2% Drop Out Rate by 2025

Note #1: Depending on Date of Competition and Age Group Change an athlete might count in more than one age group based on calendar year in this table.

TRENDS

T&F Performances in England by Type of Competition 2025 (Outer Ring) v. 2019 (Inner Ring)



T&F Athlete Buckets

2025 Participant Bucket	Total	%
New	12859	30%
Re-Engaged (Missed 2024)	3325	8%
New Regular (Last 2Yrs)	6149	14%
Regular (3+ Yrs)	20328	48%

Lapsed <12 Months	14993	35% of 2024
Lapsed 1-5yrs	25715	

TRENDS

2025 T&F IN ENGLAND (1st Jan – 31st Oct)

T&F in England	Perf Yr	Meetings	(+/-) v.Prev Yr	(+/-) % v.Prev Yr	Individuals	(+/-) v.Prev Yr	(+/-) v.Prev Yr %	Individuals p/Meeting	Individuals p/Meeting v Prev Yr (+/-)	Individuals p/Meeting v Prev Yr (+/-) %	Performances	(+/-) v.Prev Yr	(+/-) v.Prev Yr %	Performances p/Meeting	Perf. p/Meeting v Prev Yr (+/-)	Perf. p/Meeting v Prev Yr (+/-) %
	2025	1,382	3	.2%	43,528	1,473	3.5%	31.5	1.0	3.3%	755,618	-348	.0%	546.8	-1.4	-.3%
2024	1,379	8	.6%	42,055	-149	-.4%	30.5	-.3	-.9%	755,966	7,288	1.0%	548.2	2.1	.4%	
2023	1,371	12	.9%	42,204	1,387	3.4%	30.8	.7	2.5%	748,678	57,568	8.3%	546.1	37.5	7.4%	
2022	1,359	138	11.3%	40,817	5,808	16.6%	30.0	1.4	4.8%	691,110	192,764	38.7%	508.5	100.4	24.6%	
2021	1,221	810	197.1%	35,009	19,024	119.0%	28.7	-10.2	-26.3%	498,346	365,284	274.5%	408.1	84.4	26.1%	
2020	411	-1,129	-73.3%	15,985	-31,912	-66.6%	38.9	7.8	25.0%	133,062	-752,472	-85.0%	323.8	-251.3	-43.7%	
2019	1,540	-	-	47,897	-	-	31.1	-	-	885,534	-	-	575.0	-	-	

2025 vs. 2019	
-158	-10.3%

2025 vs. 2019	
-4,369	-9.1%

2025 vs. 2019	
0.4	1.3%

2025 vs. 2019	
-129,916	-14.7%

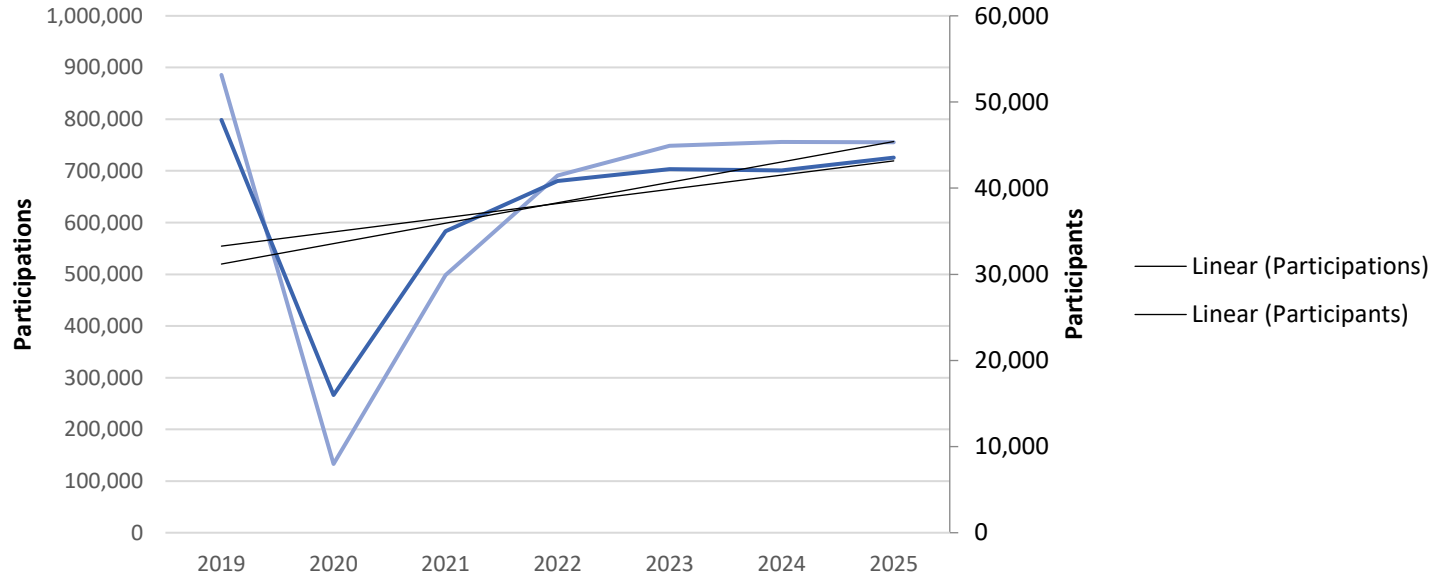
2025 vs. 2019	
-28.3	-4.9%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation & Participants in England

Participations and Participants



Individuals:

↑ v. 2024: 1,473 More Individuals

↓ v.2019: 4,369 Fewer Individuals

Participations

↓ v.2024: 348 Fewer Participations

↓ v.2019: 129,916 Fewer Participations

Participation Ratio (Perf. per Individual)

↓ v.2024: Smaller Participation Ratio (-0.6)

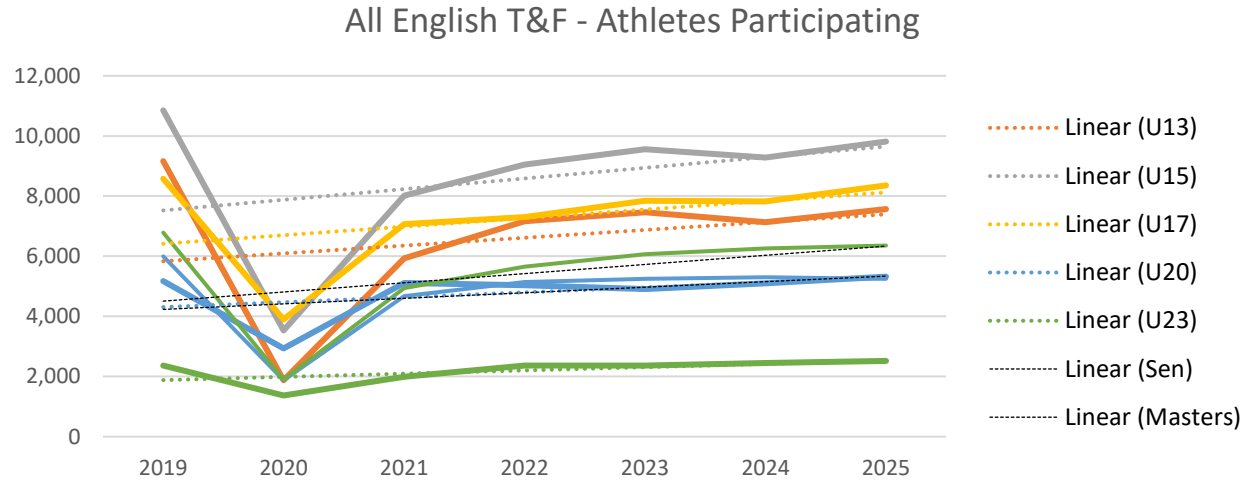
↓ v.2019: Smaller Participation Ratio (-1.1)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Participants	47,916	15,985	35,009	40,817	42,204	42,055	43,528	-9.16%	3.50%
Participations	885,652	133,062	498,346	691,110	748,678	755,966	755,618	-14.68%	-0.05%
Participation Ratio	18.5	8.3	14.2	16.9	17.7	18.0	17.4	-6.08%	-3.43%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – All Participants



**Individuals:
v.2024:**

- ↑ U13-U23 More Individuals
- ↑ Masters More Individuals
- ↓ Senior Fewer Individuals

v.2019:

- ↑ U20-U23 More Individuals
- ↓ Other Age Groups Fewer Individuals

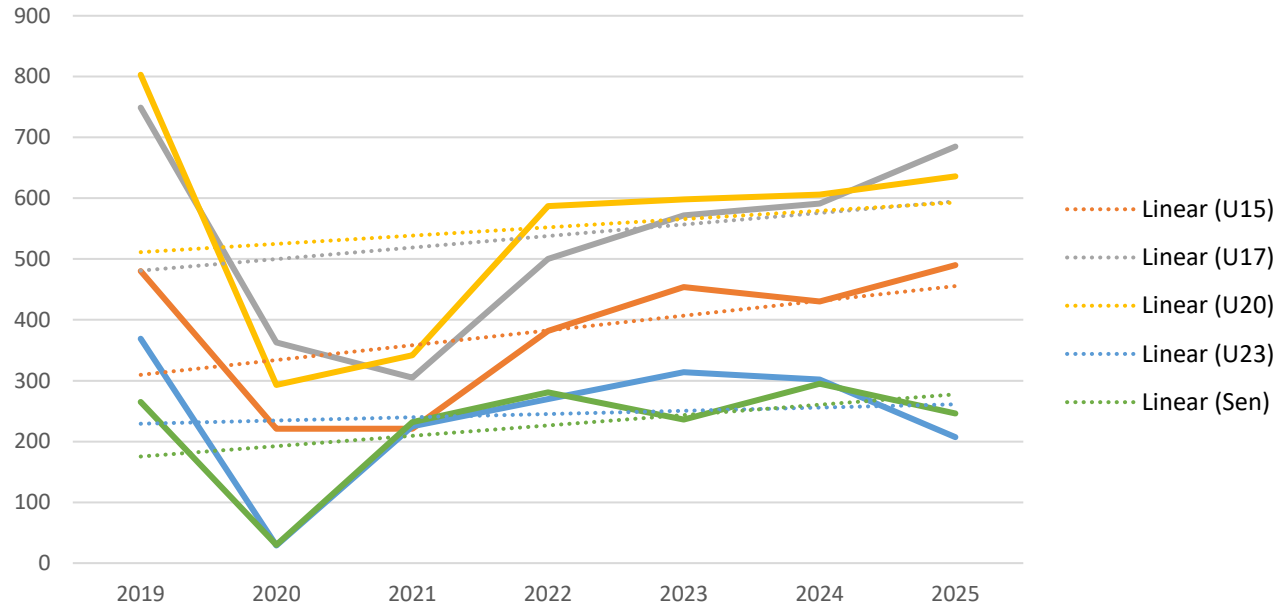
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
All T&F in England	U13	9,162	1,877	5,929	7,165	7,461	7,137	7,572	-17.35%	6.09%
	U15	10,852	3,535	8,019	9,046	9,556	9,287	9,811	-9.59%	5.64%
	U17	8,577	3,900	7,072	7,303	7,850	7,826	8,354	-2.60%	6.75%
	U20	5,178	2,935	5,108	5,036	4,914	5,104	5,322	2.78%	4.27%
	U23	2,364	1,371	1,991	2,361	2,371	2,453	2,520	6.60%	2.73%
	Sen	5,999	1,879	4,679	5,144	5,248	5,306	5,248	-12.52%	-1.09%
	Masters	6,786	1,903	4,942	5,649	6,066	6,261	6,351	-6.41%	1.44%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – EA Champs

EA Champs - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U15-U20 More Individuals

↓ U23 & Senior Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U15 More Individuals

↓ U17-Senior Fewer Individuals

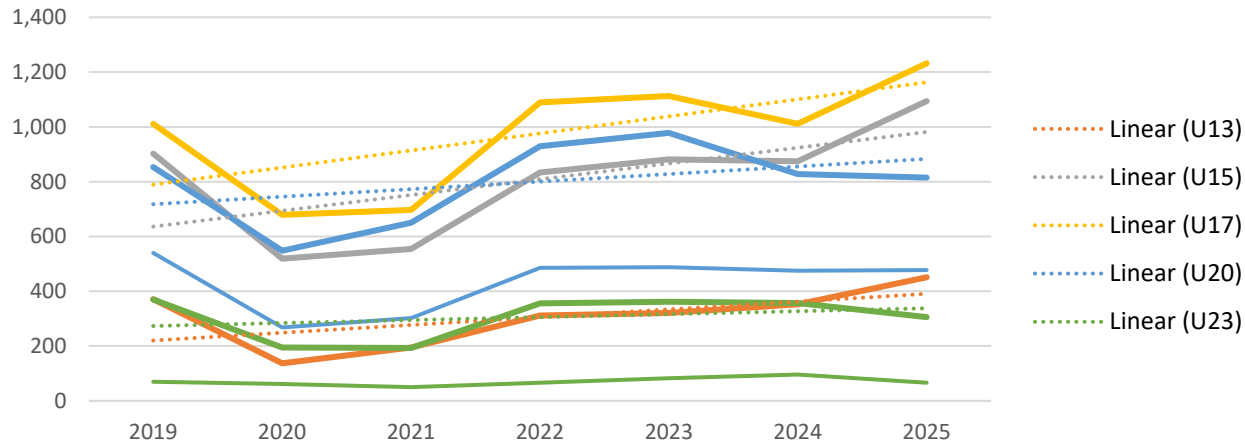
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
EA Champs	U15	480	221	221	382	454	430	490	2.08%	13.95%
	U17	749	363	305	500	572	591	685	-8.54%	15.91%
	U20	803	293	342	587	598	606	636	-20.80%	4.95%
	U23	369	29	225	270	314	302	207	-43.90%	-31.46%
	Sen	265	30	232	281	236	295	246	-7.17%	-16.61%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Area Champs

Area Champs - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

- v.2024:**
 - ↑ U13-U17 More Individuals
 - ↑ Senior More Individuals
 - ↓ U20 Fewer Individuals
 - ↓ U23 & Masters Fewer Individuals
- v.2019:**
 - ↑ U13-U17 More Individuals
 - ↓ U20-Masters Fewer Individuals

Fast & Timed Championships – Pure performance, no delays/no waiting! Chip-timed races, efficient schedules, and instant results, elite-level precision for serious athletes

Use tone and branding to signal social vs serious - both are valid (and a single event could have elements of both)

Progress that feels personal “It’s not always about medals, I just want to know I’m getting better”

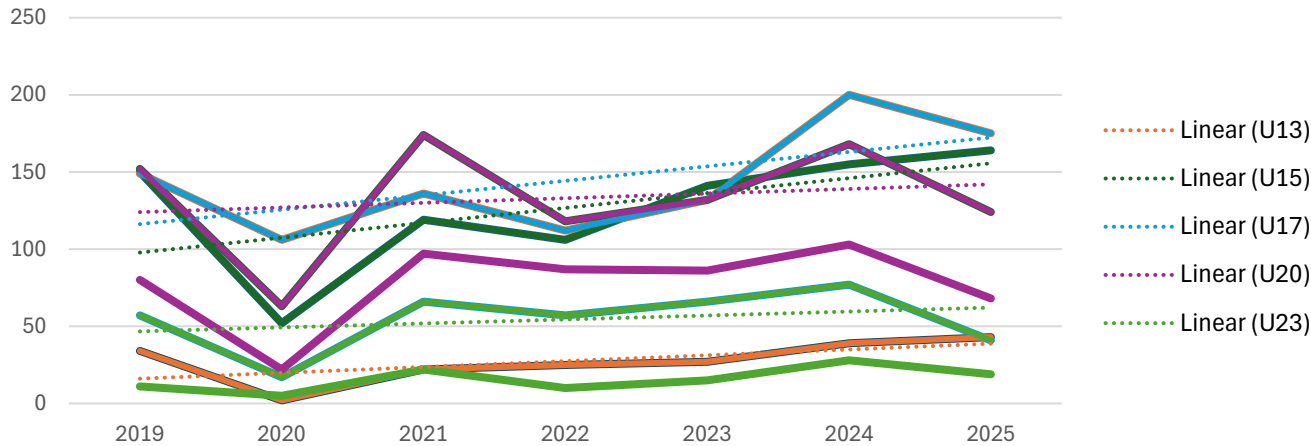
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Area Champs	U13	371	137	195	311	321	352	451	21.56%	28.13%
	U15	903	519	555	834	882	875	1,094	21.15%	25.03%
	U17	1,011	679	697	1,089	1,113	1,011	1,232	21.86%	21.86%
	U20	854	548	650	929	978	828	815	-4.57%	-1.57%
	U23	370	195	193	356	362	357	306	-17.30%	-14.29%
	Sen	540	268	302	485	488	475	477	-11.67%	0.42%
	Masters	70	61	50	66	82	96	66	-5.71%	-31.25%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Midland Area Champs

Midland Area Champs - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U13-U15 More Individuals
 ↓ U17-Masters Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U13-17 More Individuals
 ↓ U20-Senior Fewer Individuals

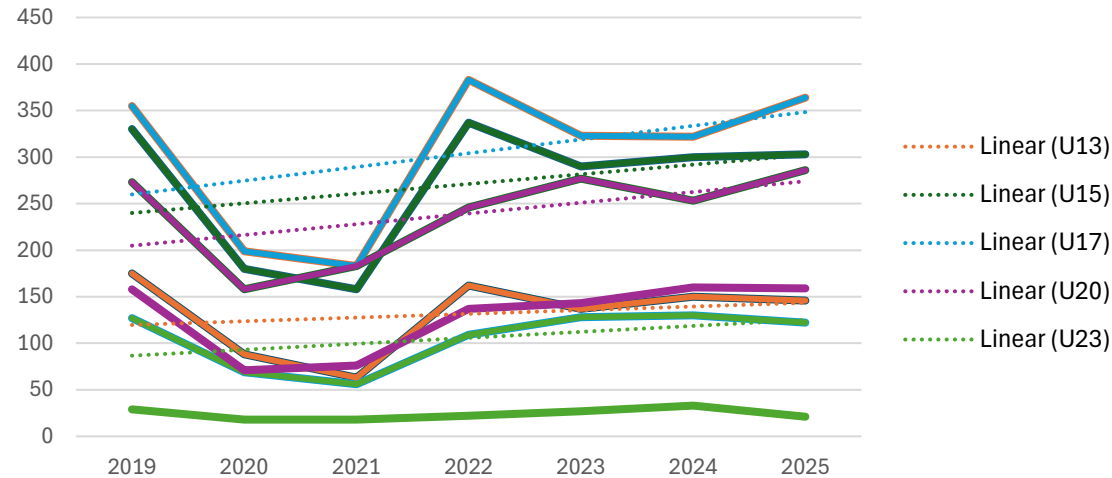
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Midland Area	U13	34	2	22	25	27	39	43	26.47%	10.26%
	U15	150	52	119	106	141	155	164	9.33%	5.81%
	U17	149	106	136	112	132	200	175	17.45%	-12.50%
	U20	152	63	174	118	132	168	124	-18.42%	-26.19%
	U23	57	17	66	57	66	77	41	-28.07%	-46.75%
	Sen	80	22	97	87	86	103	68	-15.00%	-33.98%
	Masters	11	5	22	10	15	28	19	72.73%	-32.14%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Northern Area Champs

Northern Area Champs - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

- v.2024:**
- ↑ U17-U20 More Individuals
 - ↑ U15 More Individuals
 - ↓ U13 & Senior Fewer Individuals
 - ↓ U23 Fewer Individuals

- v.2019:**
- ↑ U17-U20 More Individuals
 - ↑ Senior More Individuals
 - ↓ U13-U15 & U23 Fewer Individuals

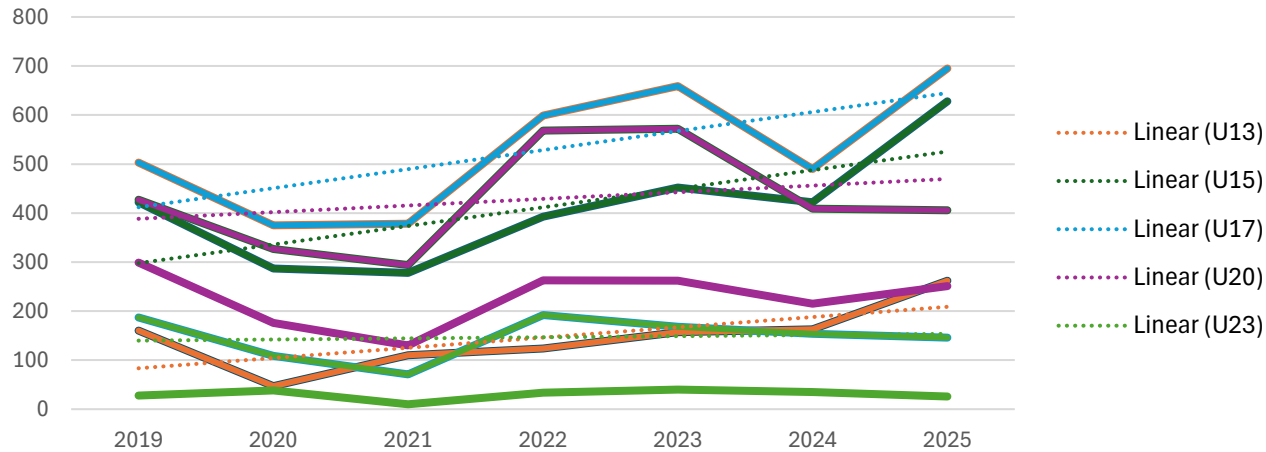
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Northern Area Champs	U13	175	88	63	162	137	150	146	-16.57%	-2.67%
	U15	330	180	158	337	290	300	303	-8.18%	1.00%
	U17	355	199	183	383	323	322	364	2.54%	13.04%
	U20	273	158	183	246	277	253	286	4.76%	13.04%
	U23	127	69	56	109	128	130	122	-3.94%	-6.15%
	Sen	158	71	76	137	143	160	159	0.63%	-0.63%
	Masters	29	18	18	22	27	33	21	-27.59%	-36.36%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Southern Area Champs

Southern Area Champs - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U13-U17 & Senior More Individuals

↓ U20 & U23 Fewer Individuals

↓ Masters Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U13-17 More Individuals

↓ U20-Seniors Fewer Individuals

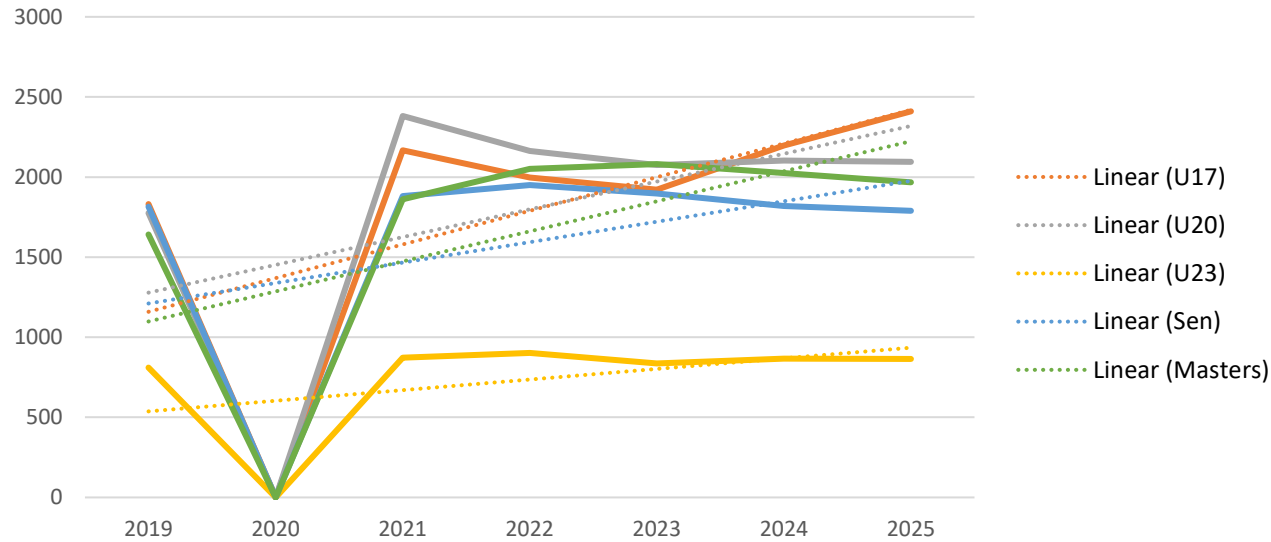
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Southern Area Champs	U13	160	47	110	124	157	163	262	63.75%	60.74%
	U15	422	287	278	393	452	422	628	48.82%	48.82%
	U17	503	375	378	599	659	490	695	38.17%	41.84%
	U20	427	327	294	568	572	409	406	-4.92%	-0.73%
	U23	187	109	71	192	168	154	146	-21.93%	-5.19%
	Sen	299	176	130	263	262	215	251	-16.05%	16.74%
	Masters	28	38	10	34	40	35	26	-7.14%	-25.71%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Area Leagues

Area Leagues - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U17 More Individuals
↓ U20-Masters Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U17-U23 & Masters More Individuals
↓ Senior Fewer Individuals

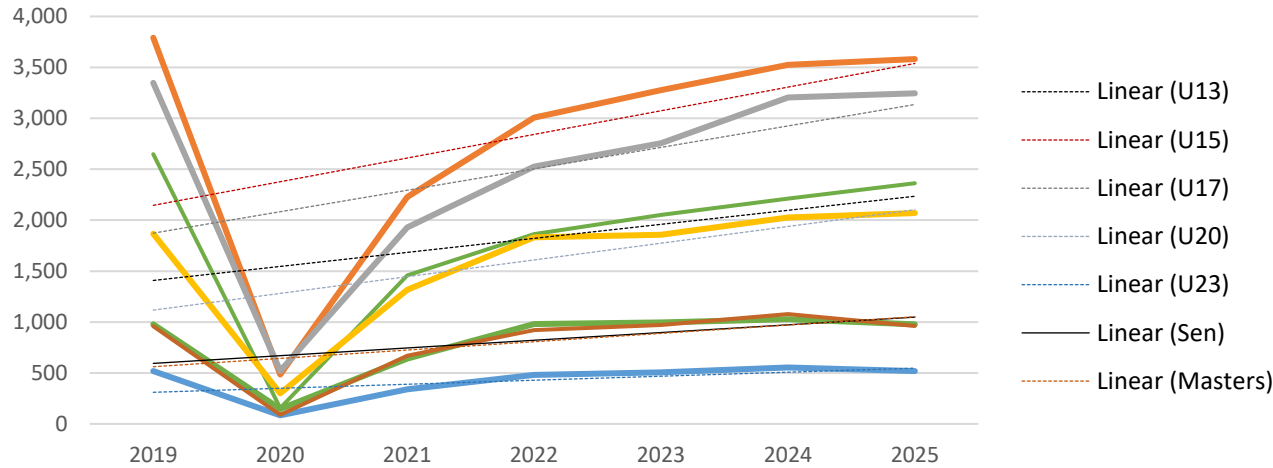
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Area Leagues	U17	1832	0	2167	1997	1921	2197	2410	31.55%	9.70%
	U20	1775	0	2381	2162	2075	2102	2094	17.97%	-0.38%
	U23	811	0	872	902	836	866	864	6.54%	-0.23%
	Sen	1816	0	1882	1950	1898	1819	1789	-1.49%	-1.65%
	Masters	1641	0	1861	2050	2081	2026	1967	19.87%	-2.91%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – County Level Comps

County & Inter-County Comps - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U13-U20 More Individuals
 ↓ U23-Sen Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U20 More Individuals
 ↑ Masters More Individuals
 = U23-Senior Equal Individuals
 ↓ U13-U17 Fewer Individuals

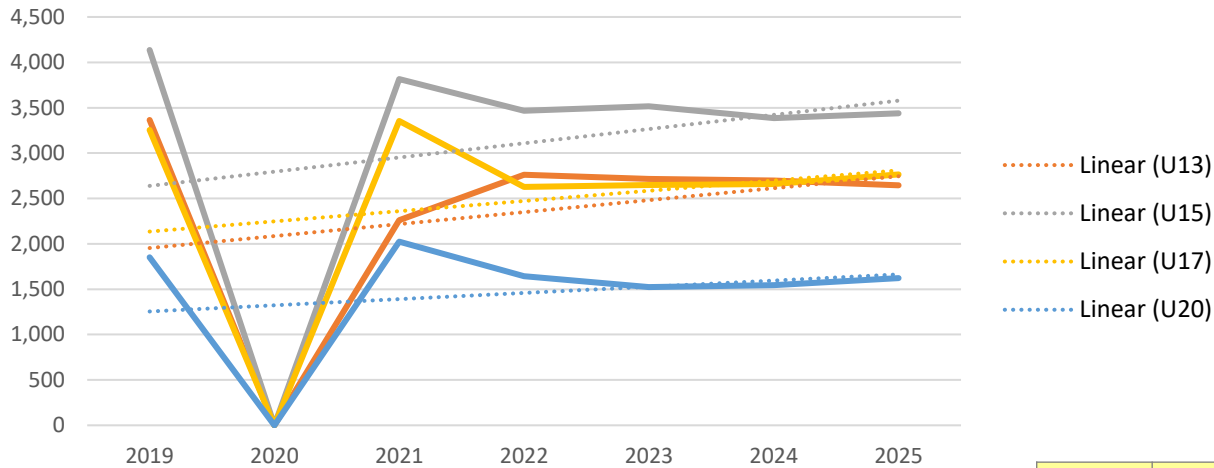
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
County Level Comps	U13	2,648	155	1,457	1,862	2,052	2,213	2,363	-10.76%	6.78%
	U15	3,791	485	2,227	3,007	3,277	3,524	3,582	-5.51%	1.65%
	U17	3,348	520	1,928	2,525	2,755	3,206	3,246	-3.05%	1.25%
	U20	1,866	300	1,318	1,832	1,856	2,025	2,070	10.93%	2.22%
	U23	518	84	340	482	505	554	518	0.00%	-6.50%
	Sen	978	147	640	980	997	1,028	978	0.00%	-4.86%
	Masters	958	89	668	922	971	1,078	961	0.31%	-10.85%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – YDL

YDL - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U15-U20 More Individuals

↓ U13 Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↓ U13-U20 Fewer Individuals

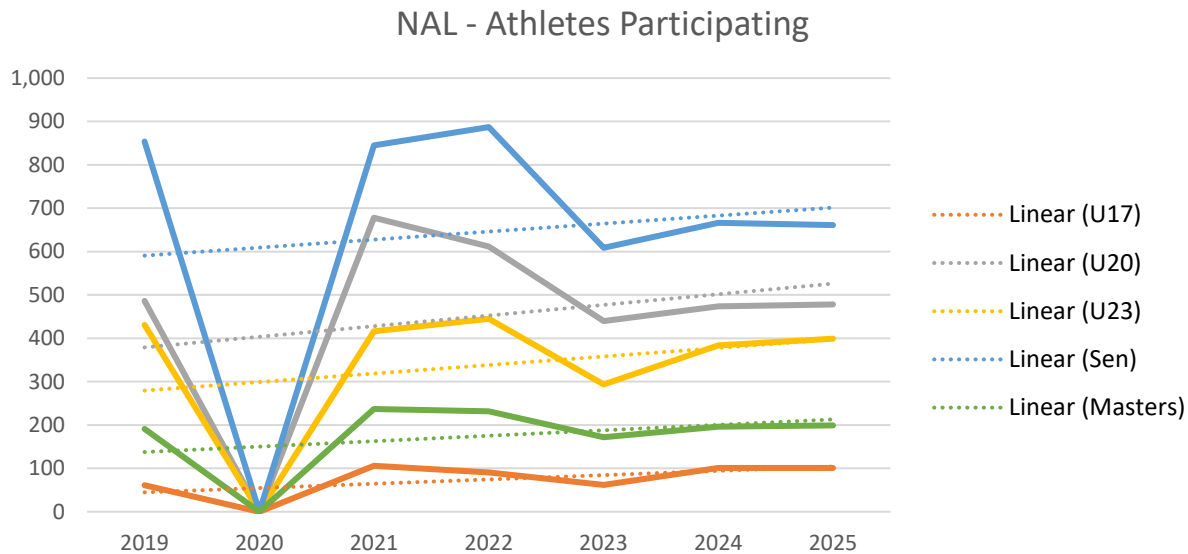
- Athletics is respected, but not always relatable
- Can be seen to be too serious, too soon so the pressure builds before they're ready (and some just don't want that intensity)
- Feels like it's 'for the talented' and not everyone sees a place for themselves
- Hard to access, it's unclear entry routes, low visibility
- Not social enough, it doesn't match the 'group vibe' of other sports

Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
YDL	U13	3,365	0	2,262	2,760	2,714	2,699	2,646	-21.37%	-1.96%
	U15	4,136	0	3,814	3,467	3,517	3,384	3,440	-16.83%	1.65%
	U17	3,254	0	3,354	2,626	2,649	2,658	2,766	-15.00%	4.06%
	U20	1,852	0	2,024	1,643	1,524	1,545	1,624	-12.31%	5.11%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – NAL



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U20-U23 & Masters More Individuals
 = U17 Equal Individuals
 ↓ Senior Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U17 More Individuals
 ↑ Seniors More Individuals
 ↓ U20 Fewer Individuals
 ↓ U23-Senior Fewer Individuals

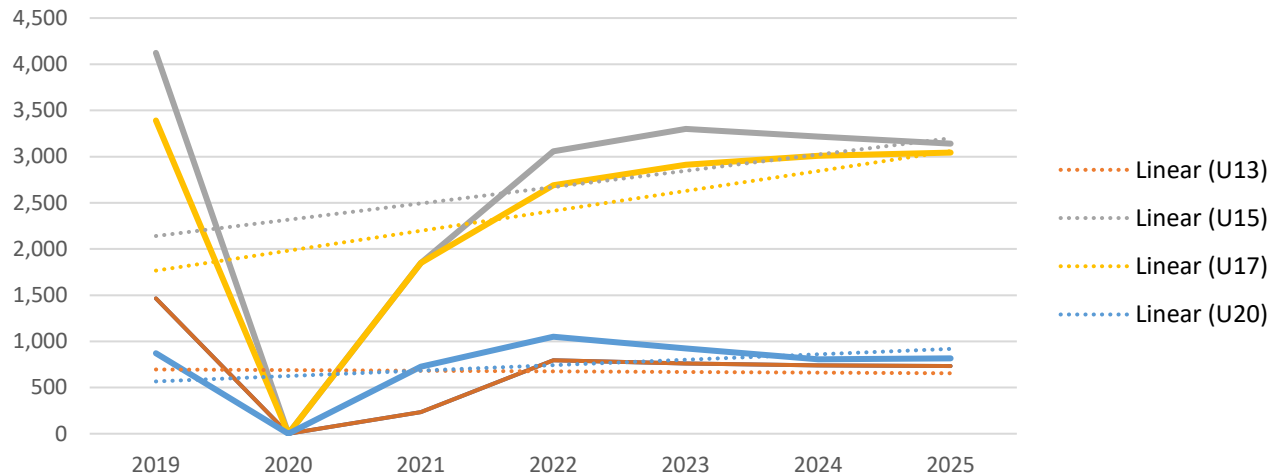
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
NAL	U17	61	0	106	91	62	101	101	65.57%	0.00%
	U20	486	0	678	612	440	474	478	-1.65%	0.84%
	U23	431	0	416	445	294	384	399	-7.42%	3.91%
	Sen	854	0	845	887	609	666	661	-22.60%	-0.75%
	Masters	191	0	237	232	172	196	199	4.19%	1.53%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Schools exc. ESAA

Schools exc. ESAA - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U17 & U20 More Individuals
 ↓ U13 & U15 Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↓ U13-U20 Fewer Individuals

- Teenagers form early impressions of athletics and for many outside the sport, it feels:
- School was the start: teachers and PE staff introduced them early
- But only for the already talented – Especially reinforced at school sports days

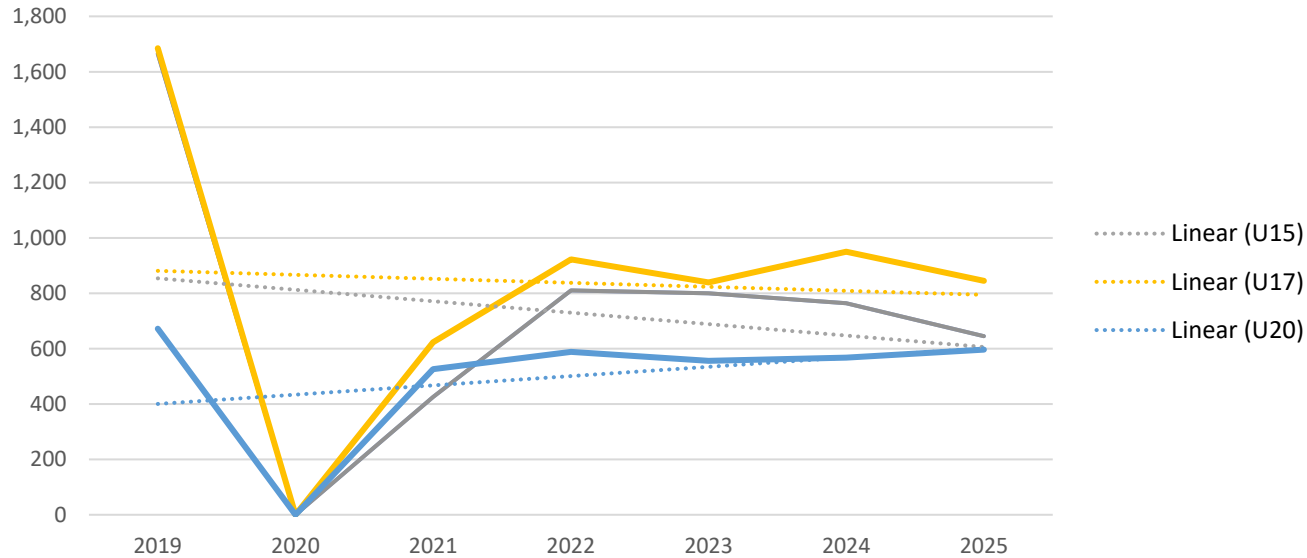
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Schools exc. ESAA	U13	1,465	0	233	795	759	741	732	-50.03%	-1.21%
	U15	4,123	0	1,849	3,059	3,299	3,216	3,142	-23.79%	-2.30%
	U17	3,391	0	1,847	2,689	2,911	3,009	3,042	-10.29%	1.10%
	U20	872	0	727	1,050	924	806	817	-6.31%	1.36%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – ESAA

ESAA Champs - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U20 More Individuals

↓ U15-U17 Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↓ U15-U20 Fewer Individuals

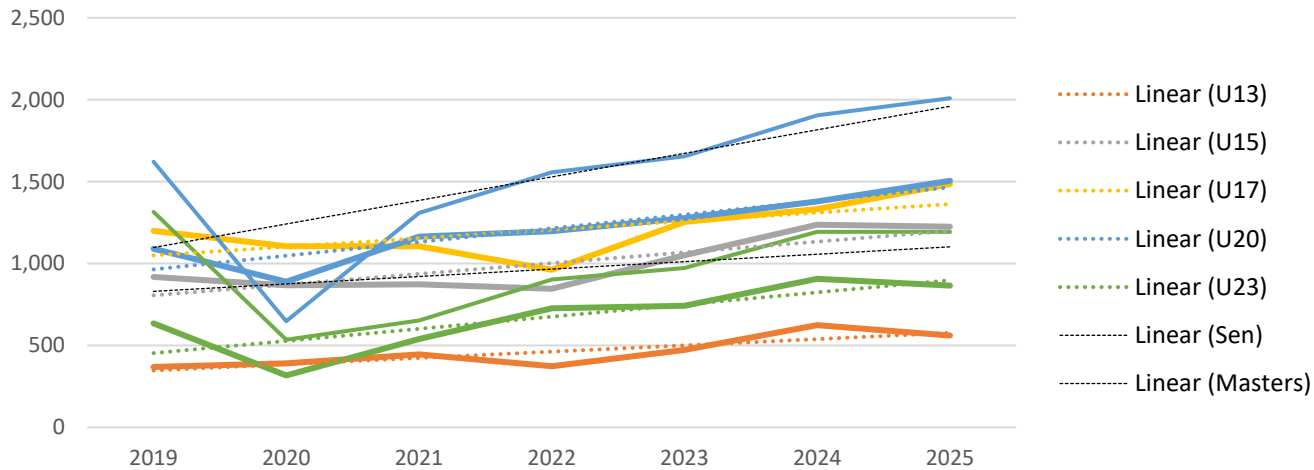
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
ESAA	U15	1,665	0	425	810	800	764	645	-61.26%	-15.58%
	U17	1,685	0	623	922	839	950	845	-49.85%	-11.05%
	U20	672	0	526	588	556	568	596	-11.31%	4.93%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Event Specific: All

Event Specific: All Types - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U17-U20 & Senior More Individuals

= Masters Equal Individuals

↓ U15 & U23 Fewer Individuals

↓ U13 Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U13-Seniors More Individuals

↓ Masters Fewer Individuals

Young people want athletics to feel:

- More social, less solitary
- More flexible, less all-or-nothing
- More inclusive, less intimidating
- More fun but (still) serious when it matters

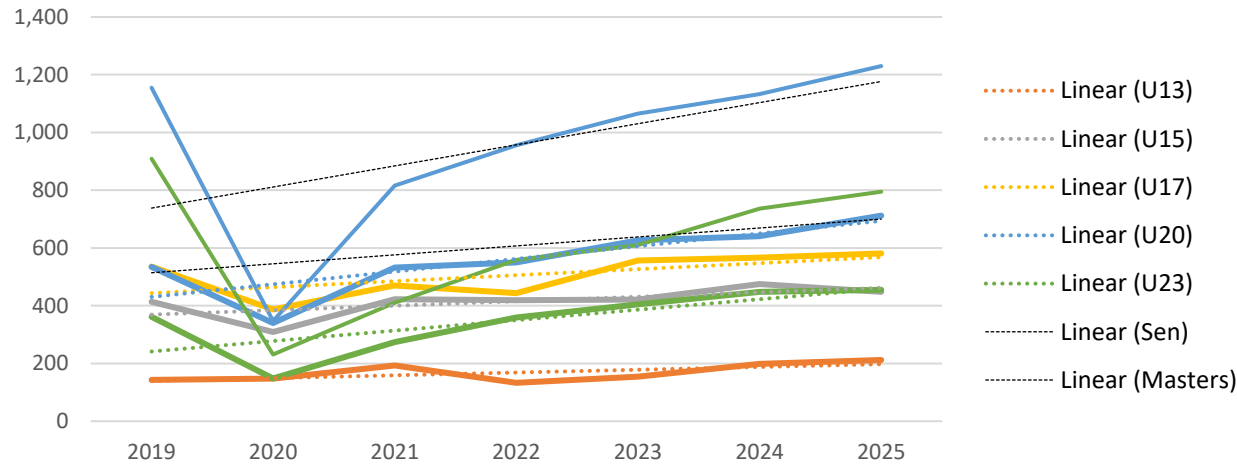
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Event Specific All	U13	369	390	445	373	473	624	561	52.03%	-10.10%
	U15	918	867	874	846	1,051	1,237	1,224	33.33%	-1.05%
	U17	1,200	1,105	1,105	962	1,255	1,333	1,485	23.75%	11.40%
	U20	1,090	889	1,165	1,198	1,278	1,379	1,505	38.07%	9.14%
	U23	634	317	539	726	742	907	865	36.44%	-4.63%
	Sen	1,621	648	1,309	1,556	1,654	1,905	2,009	23.94%	5.46%
	Masters	1,315	535	653	902	972	1,193	1,193	-9.28%	0.00%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Event Specific: Endurance

Event Specific: Endurance - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U20 / Sen / Mas More Individuals
 ↑ U13 / U17 & U23 More Individuals
 ↓ U15 Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U13-Seniors More Individuals
 ↓ Masters Fewer Individuals

A mix of serious and fun

“It needs to be chill but still feel like you’re improving, that’s what makes it satisfying”

Girl, 17, current athlete

“You don’t want everything to be jokes, just not always intense”

Boy, 16, lapsed

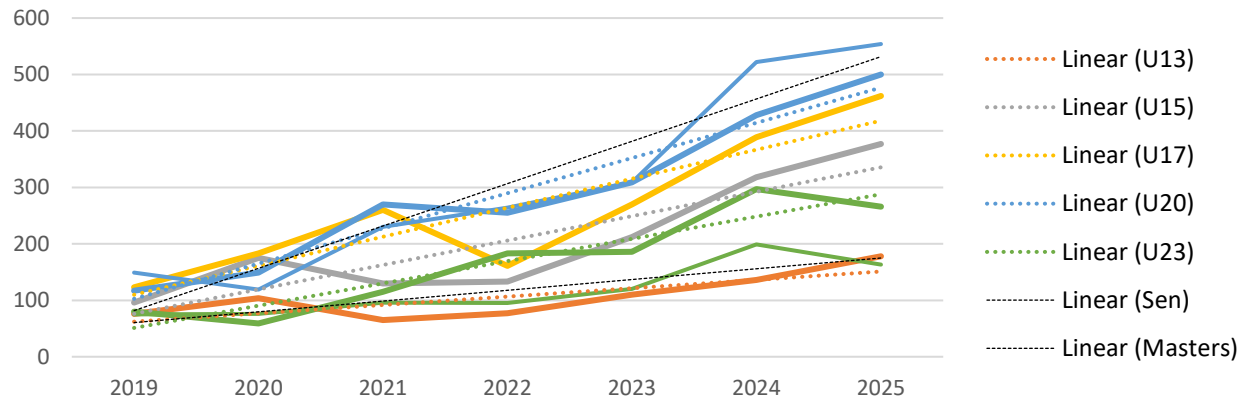
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Event Specific Endurance	U13	143	147	193	133	154	198	212	48.25%	7.07%
	U15	414	309	422	419	421	475	448	8.21%	-5.68%
	U17	536	387	470	443	556	567	581	8.40%	2.47%
	U20	534	340	532	550	626	641	712	33.33%	11.08%
	U23	361	148	274	359	405	448	455	26.04%	1.56%
	Sen	1,155	347	816	955	1,065	1,133	1,230	6.49%	8.56%
	Masters	909	231	410	559	610	736	795	-12.54%	8.02%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Event Specific: Sprints & Hurdles

Event Specific: Sprints & Hurdles - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U13-U20 / Sen More Individuals
↓ U23 / Masters Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U13-Masters Individuals

Events with a vibe

“More events with music, food and fun, not just standing around waiting to race” Boy, 14, lapsed

“If your friends are in it, you’ll stay, if it’s all strangers and silence, you won’t” Boy, 15, current athlete

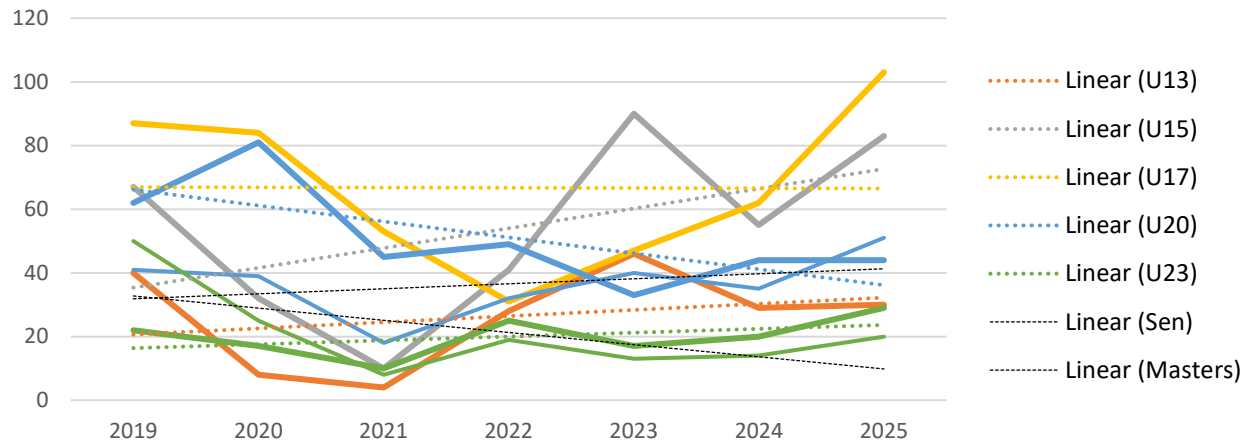
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Event Specific Sprints & Hurdles	U13	76	104	65	77	110	136	178	134.21%	30.88%
	U15	96	175	130	133	212	318	377	292.71%	18.55%
	U17	123	183	260	161	270	389	462	275.61%	18.77%
	U20	117	149	270	255	309	428	500	327.35%	16.82%
	U23	80	59	115	183	186	297	266	232.50%	-10.44%
	Sen	149	119	230	264	309	522	554	271.81%	6.13%
	Masters	75	76	96	95	120	199	163	117.33%	-18.09%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Event Specific: Jumps

Event Specific: Jumps - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U15-U17 More Individuals
 ↑ U13 / U23 / Sen-Mas More Individuals
 = U20 Equal Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U15-U17 / U23-Sen More Individuals
 ↓ U13 / U20 / Masters Fewer Individuals

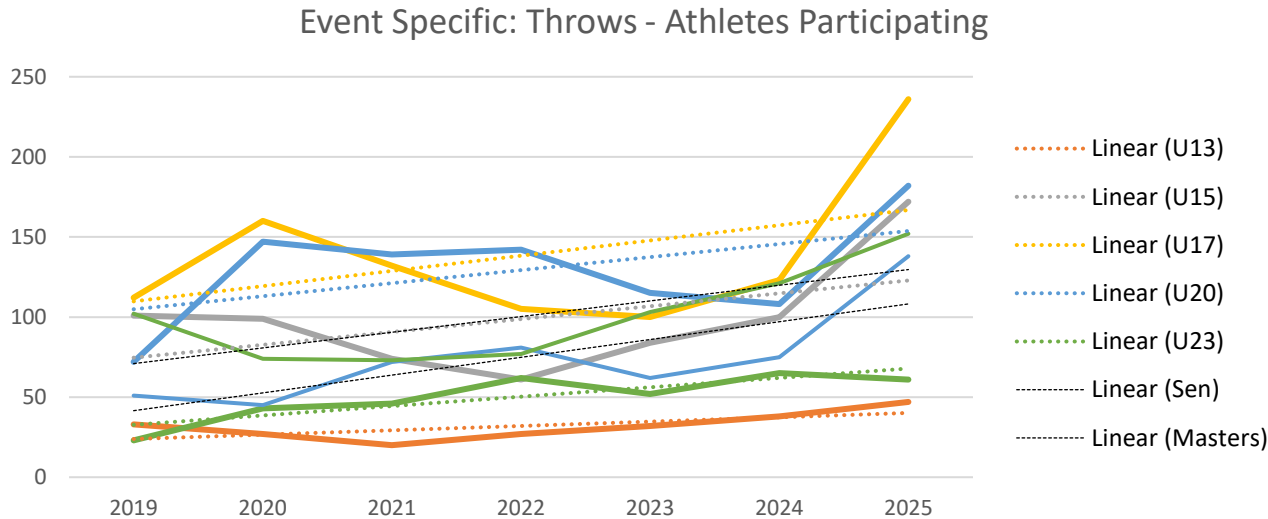
Recognition for effort
 “You should get noticed just for turning up and pushing yourself, not just winning
 Girl, 16, lapsed

Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Event Specific Jumps	U13	40	8	4	28	46	29	30	-25.00%	3.45%
	U15	67	32	10	41	90	55	83	23.88%	50.91%
	U17	87	84	53	31	47	62	103	18.39%	66.13%
	U20	62	81	45	49	33	44	44	-29.03%	0.00%
	U23	22	17	10	25	17	20	29	31.82%	45.00%
	Sen	41	39	18	32	40	35	51	24.39%	45.71%
	Masters	50	25	8	19	13	14	20	-60.00%	42.86%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Event Specific: Throws



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U13-U20 / Sen & Mas More Individuals

↓ U23 Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U13-Masters More Individuals

Young people want athletics to feel:

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- More flexible, less all-or-nothing
- More inclusive, less intimidating
- More fun but (still) serious when it matters

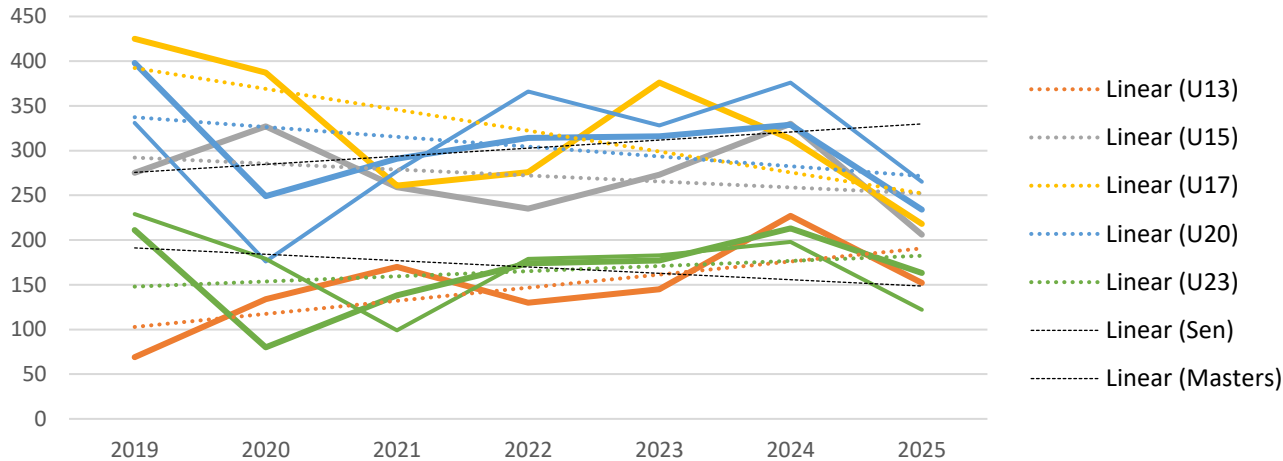
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Event Specific Throws	U13	33	27	20	27	32	38	47	42.42%	23.68%
	U15	101	99	74	61	84	100	172	70.30%	72.00%
	U17	112	160	132	105	100	123	236	110.71%	91.87%
	U20	72	147	139	142	115	108	182	152.78%	68.52%
	U23	23	43	46	62	52	65	61	165.22%	-6.15%
	Sen	51	45	72	81	62	75	138	170.59%	84.00%
	Masters	102	74	73	77	103	121	152	49.02%	25.62%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Event Specific: Mixed Disciplines

Event Specific: Mixed Disciplines - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↓ U13-Masters Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U13 More Individuals

↓ U15-Masters Fewer Individuals

“You just pick your three favourite events and that’s all you do, no long wait, just in, compete, then go”
Boy, 17, current athlete

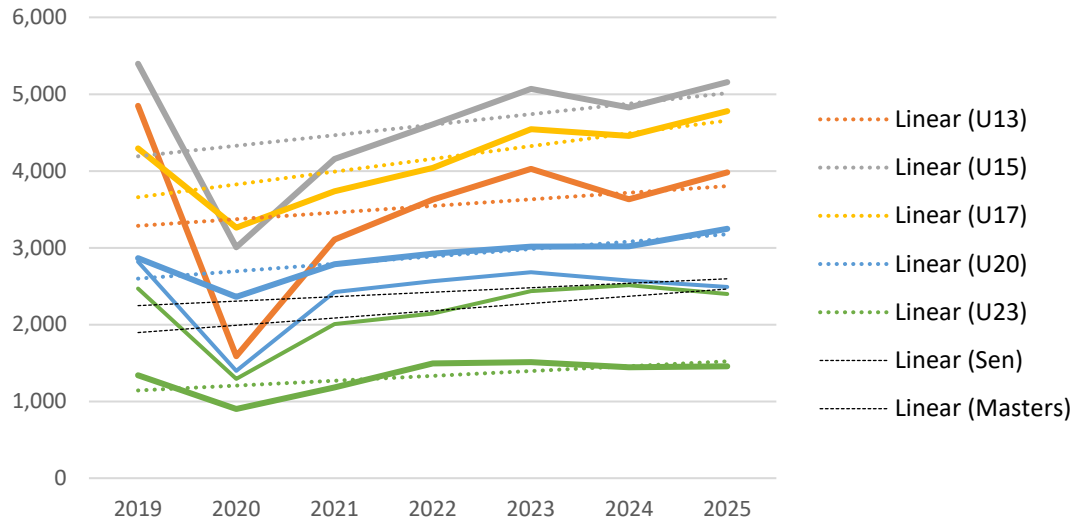
Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Event Specific Mixed Discipline	U13	69	134	170	130	145	227	152	120.29%	-33.04%
	U15	275	327	259	235	273	330	206	-25.09%	-37.58%
	U17	425	387	261	276	376	313	218	-48.71%	-30.35%
	U20	398	249	291	314	316	329	234	-41.21%	-28.88%
	U23	211	80	138	174	177	213	163	-22.75%	-23.47%
	Sen	331	176	277	366	328	376	265	-19.94%	-29.52%
	Masters	229	179	99	179	183	198	122	-46.72%	-38.38%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2025 T&F Participation – Open Meets

Event Specific: Open Meets - Athletes Participating



Individuals:

v.2024: ↑ U13-U20 More Individuals

↑ U23 More Individuals

↓ Sen-Mas Masters Fewer Individuals

v.2019: ↑ U17-U23 More Individuals

↓ U13-U15 / Sen-Mas Masters Fewer Individuals

Start with open doors

- Create low-pressure, visible entry points that feel welcoming — not selective or intimidating
- Sport must feel flexible, not fixed
- Teens want choice, not pressure

Comp	Age Group	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025 v. 2019 (+/-) %	2025 v. 2024 (+/-) %
Open Meets	U13	4,848	1,588	3,106	3,628	4,027	3,630	3,983	-17.84%	9.72%
	U15	5,396	3,006	4,156	4,605	5,070	4,826	5,157	-4.43%	6.86%
	U17	4,292	3,262	3,734	4,038	4,542	4,455	4,779	11.35%	7.27%
	U20	2,863	2,361	2,784	2,923	3,014	3,018	3,247	13.41%	7.59%
	U23	1,338	901	1,180	1,493	1,511	1,445	1,455	8.74%	0.69%
	Sen	2,818	1,397	2,425	2,563	2,681	2,575	2,491	-11.60%	-3.26%
	Masters	2,471	1,293	2,006	2,142	2,434	2,513	2,397	-2.99%	-4.62%

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2024-25 XC Participation in England

Meets:

- ↓ v.2023/24: 20 Fewer Meets (23/24 Weather Cancellations)
- ↓ v.2019/20: 23 Fewer Meets

Individuals:

- ↓ v.2023/24: 3,882 Fewer Individuals
- ↓ v.2019/20: 5,778 Fewer Individuals

Performances:

- ↓ v.2023/24: 3,882 Fewer Performances
- ↓ v.2019/20: 11,952 Fewer Performances

Performances per Individual:

- ↑ v.2023/24: 0.10 More Performances per Individual
- ↓ v.2019/20: 0.10 Fewer Performances per Individual

Perf Yr	Meetings	Meets v. Prev FY (+/-)	Meets v. Prev FY % (+/-)	Individuals	Indiv. v. Prev FY (+/-)	Indiv. v. Prev FY % (+/-)	Performances	Performances v. Prev FY (+/-)	Performances v. Prev FY % (+/-)	Performances per Individual	Perf p/Indiv. v. Prev FY (+/-)
2024-25	146	-20	-12.0%	14,856	-3,882	-20.7%	25,078	-4,700	-15.8%	1.69	0.10
2023-24	166	-31	-15.7%	18,738	-576	-3.0%	29,778	-4,422	-12.9%	1.59	-0.18
2022-23	197	28	16.6%	19,314	1,128	6.2%	34,200	942	2.8%	1.77	-0.06
2021-22	169	167	8350.0%	18,186	18,122	28315.6%	33,258	33,194	51865.6%	1.83	0.83
2020-21	2	-167	-98.8%	64	-20,570	-99.7%	64	-36,966	-99.8%	1.0	-0.79
2019-20	169	-28	-14.2%	20,634	-2,969	-12.6%	37,030	-12,010	-24.5%	1.79	-0.28

Unless otherwise stated percentages refer to percentage increase or decrease

TRENDS

2024-25 T&F Participation Summary

More athletes isn't yet translating to more performances

56k @ T&F Clubs did not participate at least 1 time in 2025 T&F Comps

131.5k Registered Athletes did not participate at least 1 time in 2025 T&F Comps

Subtle shifts in which comps people are choosing v. 2019

Positive signs of attracting more people to T&F (1.5k) but decrease in participation ratio & plateaued performance numbers speaks to the need to improve competition experience

Q&A



Lunch 13:00 – 13:55

Athlete Registration

ENGLAND ATHLETICS



FACILITY UPDATE

Ed Hunt: Facilities and Planning Manager





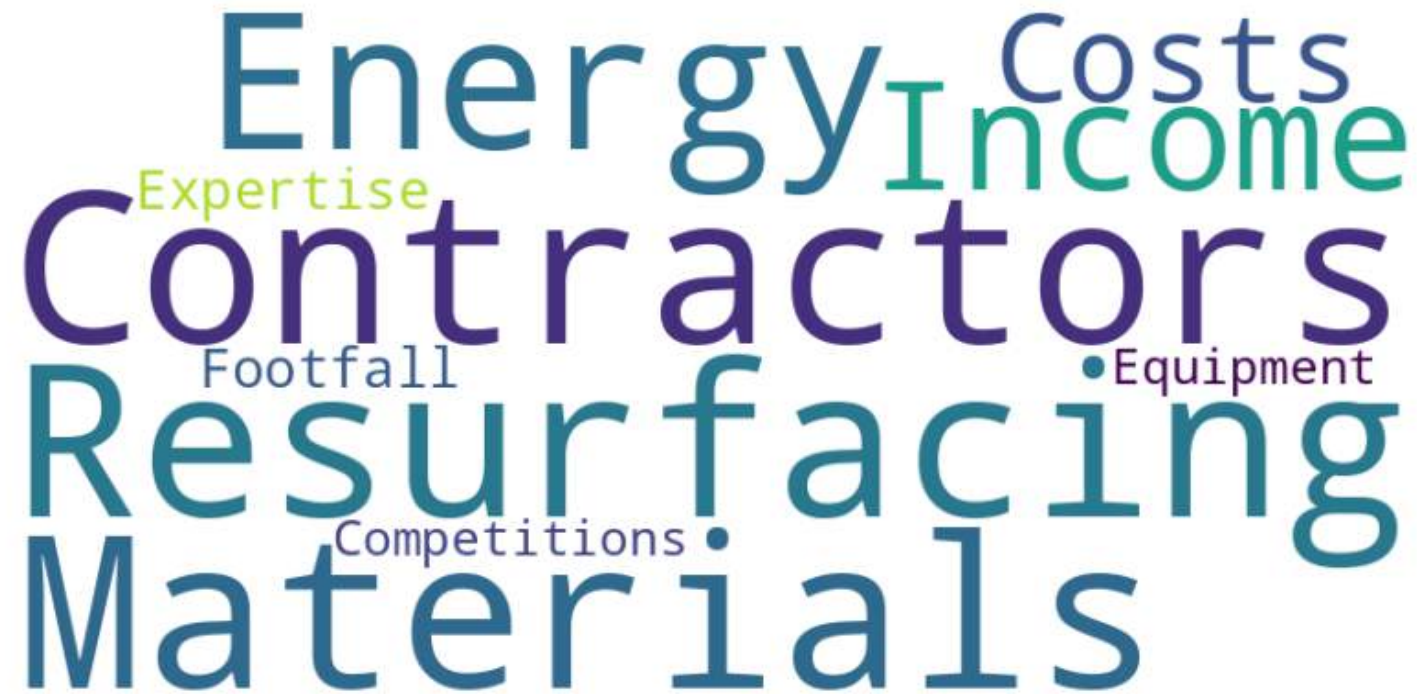
Competition conference

Background / Role



Competition conference

Challenges



A word cloud of industry challenges. The words are arranged in a roughly rectangular shape, with 'Contractors' being the largest and most central word. Other prominent words include 'Energy', 'Resurfacing', and 'Materials'. Smaller words like 'Income', 'Costs', 'Expertise', 'Footfall', 'Equipment', and 'Competitions' are scattered around the main terms. The colors range from dark blue to light green.

Energy Costs
Income
Expertise
Contractors
Footfall Equipment
Resurfacing
Competitions
Materials

GATESHEAD STADIUM



CARN BREA CORNWALL



BRAINTREE ATHLETICS TRACK



SPORTSPARK AT UEA



Q&A



“

Breakout session #2 (Facilities)

“Considering all key stakeholders—athletes, officials, parents, spectators—what makes an athletics facility truly great?

Can you share an example of a facility that works well and one that doesn't, and why?

Finally, as a group, let's explore: what practical steps could England Athletics/UKA take to replicate the best features nationwide?”

BREAKOUT SESSION 2

FEEDBACK



Field Events

Clive Poyner, Nick Ridgeon,
Carol Jackson.



Competition conference

Field Event Task & Finish Group - Overview

WHY?

Following the field event performance at the Paris 2024 Olympics the EA Board debated the situation and decided to form a Task and Finish Group to review the current status in the sport and make recommendations to be included in the delivery Operational Plan.

HOW?

The formation of the Task Group was open to all members of the England Athletics community, from athletes, coaches and parents to officials, competition providers and club volunteers. It was essential that all different opinions and voices were heard.

Competition conference

Progress timeline



Recommendations

Recommendations that we will focus on today

For today's conference we want to focus on three of the recommendations that are/will be adopted into the Operational Plan.

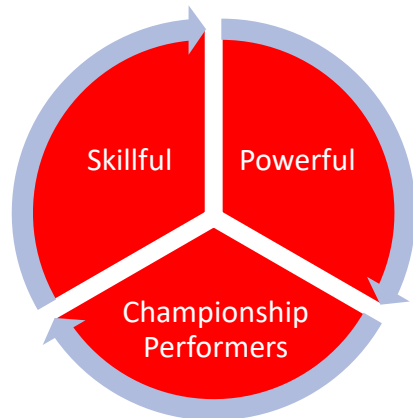
- Ensure field events are imbedded from an early age. More on this later in the conference when we discuss FMC (funetics multi challenge) for U10/U12
- Junior leagues – can they do more to promote field events. Ideas and examples welcome as part of the feedback at this session.
- Innovation coupled with technology – we will hear shortly from Carol and Nick of examples in this area. What can we do differently to inspire, encourage and maximise the experience.

Event Overview & Strategic Alignment

EA/UKA Winter Long Throws Championship – Case Study

WHY?

- Re-imagining competition to support athlete development is one of the talent & performance teams strategic aims
- Developing championship performers is one of the 3 key things in the throw's athlete and para-athlete development model along with developing skilful, & powerful athletes
- Pilot new age group changes as the throws steering group were huge advocates of them



HOW?

- Collaboration between EA, UKA & other HCAF throws leads and Loughborough University
- Expanded to a 2-day competition (sat U20, U23/Seniors & Sun U16 & U18)
- Invitation only based on previous seasons SB with active reserve list
- Call room, 2 warm-up throws & 6 competition throws
- Spectators close to the cages and runway.
- British Throwing Greats Q&A

Review & Impact

Event Outcomes

Participation & Retention

- 125 participated (2 para-athletes)
- “It gave focus to training. Otherwise, he would have had no competitions between September and April”

Progression & Performance

- 37 personal bests & 26 seasons best
- 4 athletes that competed at WLT were subsequently selected for the GB&NI for the European throwing cup 2025
- 3 age group international championship selection standards

Survey

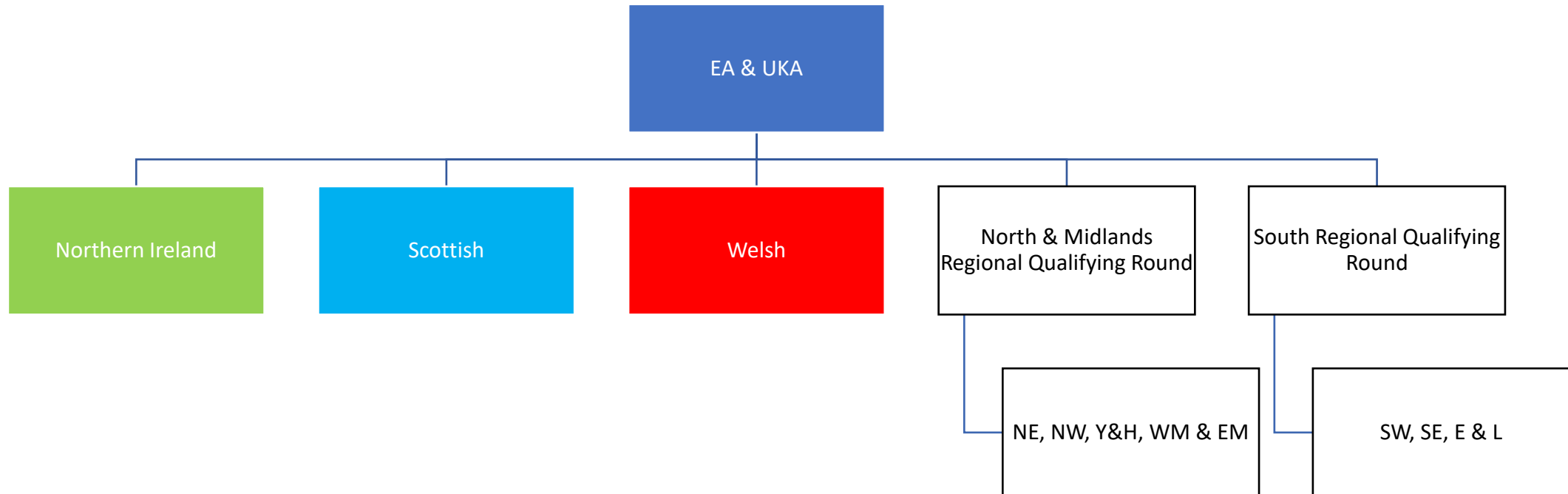
- 99 people completed the survey
- 89% rated it good or excellent
- Most liked:
 - ✓ **Facilities**
 - ✓ **Atmosphere**
 - ✓ **Officiating**
 - ✓ **Attention on throws**
- Financially sustainable via athletes and spectator fees
- Increased number of throwers competing and had full pools.
- 2 days meant males and females were in separate pools
- Standard operating procedures have been created for next local organizing committees

Next Steps

Future Developments

UKA & HCAF CEO approval

- 1) Commitment to support the WLT championships with finances & staff time consistently moving forward
- 2) Space in the fixture calendar for 4 x HCAF/Regional and 1 x National WLT championships
- 3) Creation of an LOC made up of the UKA and HCAF representative with expertise in event management, marketing, communications and throwing



BIG on TOUR

from idea to reality



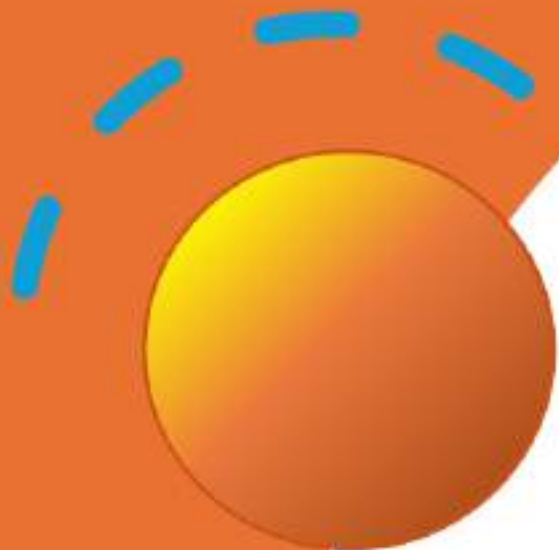
BACKGROUND

COACHING since 1972

- Grassroots to International
- Olympic Silver, Euro Gold, Euro U18 Gold

BEDFORD INTERNATIONAL GAMES 1994 - 2015

- To provide competition for athletes below World class level for all Field Events, Track up to 400m and Relays
- In the early days there was assistance with Stadium costs from Bedford Borough Council
- 2014 – EA paid for a 2nd day for Commonwealth Games qualification opportunities
- Funded through entry and spectator fees



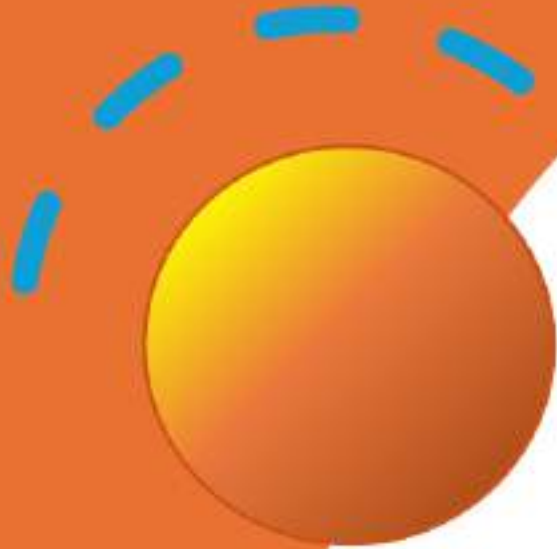
BIG to BIGish

to

BIG on TOUR



BACKGROUND



BIGish JUMPS & THROWS FEST 2016 ➡

- To provide Field opportunities for athletes U17 to Senior, male & female, Para elite from grass roots to International
 - seeking appropriate opposition,
 - qualification opportunities,
 - in an Athlete-Friendly environment,
 - with highly qualified Officials,
 - *with NO interruptions from TRACK athletes!!*
- To help develop Field Officials with at least 6 Development Officials brought in each year

WHY?

- 2025 lack of good quality Field comps – 6 or 7 HJ /LJ compared to over 40 Sprints or MD
- Meetings not providing: appropriate equipment, officials, etc to ensure Level 2 qualifications are legal
- Fill the gap in the standard of HJ & LJ competition provision

WHO?

- Athletes / male & female / U16 to Senior / Para elite, seeking qualification marks at all levels
- Clubs wanting to raise their profile in Field event provision
- Development Officials
- Local Organiser Training
- Coach networking

WHEN?

- Summer 2026

WHERE?

- Venues across the country



BIG on TOUR

WHAT?

- Unique concept - To provide Field opportunities for athletes seeking
 - appropriate opposition
 - qualification opportunities
 - a series of competitions guaranteeing the highest standards of officiating and equipment
 - in an Athlete Friendly environment
 - with highly qualified Officials
 - With NO interruptions from TRACK athletes!!
 - Where Field athletes get the **RESPECT & RECOGNITION** they deserve
- Ages U16, U18, U20 to Senior, male & female, Para elite (new age changes)
- Series of competitions to help athletes in need of competition opportunities for qualification, PB or even return from injury!
- Dates that align with important dates in the **Athletics Calendar**, i.e pre Commonwealth Games selection. World Junior selection, Euro selection, etc



BIG on TOUR

HOW will this work in 2026?

- **Pilot scheme in 2026** – scale dependent of receiving funding from EA
- **Standalone** or integrated into other events
- **High Jump & Long Jump** focus in 2026 as this was where the need was identified in 2025
- **Adaptable** – with different or additional events from 2027 if appropriate
- **Venues** spread across the country (3 South, 3 Midlands/North)
- **Series** of at least 5 events leading to a **TOUR Final** at the end of August - Athletes scoring the most points over the series will be invited. Updated tables showing progressions to the Final will be published on our website
- **BIG will:**
 - oversee paperwork, entries, seeding, facilities booking, First Aid, et
 - guarantee the booking of all vital equipment – No Jump Cameras, EDM, Tech equipment through Tech4Sports
 - undertake **All Seeding** based on Performance not gender
- **A Local Organiser** will be appointed to oversee the organisation pre / on the day / post each event
- **Extra Technology** will be brought in throughout the venue by Tech4Sports where deemed useful



BIG on TOUR

High Jump competitions

- 45 (1 bed) or 75 (2 beds) athletes
- BIG will do all **Seeding & Progressions** which will be athlete-friendly – avoiding 00 cm & 05 cm where possible – and will change each time
- **Starting heights** in each Pool will be planned for athletes in that Pool
- **Standards** for majority of Major events in 2026 will be passed through
- HJ Beds will be positioned to facilitate wind advantage - even across the fan!
- Tablet used for result input with 1 paper back up
- Electronic Scoreboards to ensure everyone knows what is happening

Long Jump competitions

- 45 athletes
- In direction of Wind
- **No Jump Camera, Electronic Scoreboard, Clocks & wind gauge mandatory**
- Tablet used for result input with 1 paper back up
- Electronic Scoreboards to ensure everyone knows what is happening



BIG on TOUR

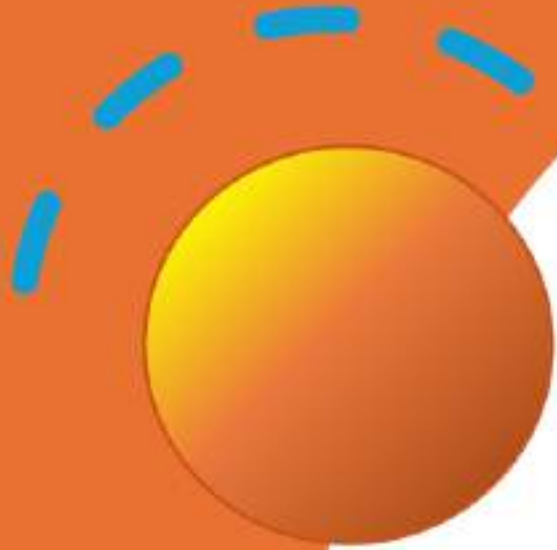
ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- **Club links** to provide profile, officials development and fund raising opportunities – spectator fee, car park, catering
- **Local Development Officials** to work alongside the High Level Officials who will provide mentoring on high level comps, use of technology, athlete-friendly officiating, etc
- **Local Organiser** will be appointed to liaise with club, source Development Officials, set up, oversee everything on the day, clear up and feedback after the event
- Athletes and Officials having to **travel** shorter distances in a shorter day
- Opportunities for **Coaches** to network
- **Officials** – less than 10 are required and 7 of these will be local Development Officials.
- **3 High Level Officials** appointed by BIG will act as Meeting Manager, Field Referee & Equipment Officer before returning to their judging duties – they will then provide mentoring for the Development Officials during the day



BIG on TOUR

WHY DO WE NEED THIS?



Aligning with EA Field Event Review

Short Term:

- Ensure field events are central within development of new competition formats for U10s and U12s, ensuring rewards/incentive for athletes competing in multiple events
- **Continue to promote and showcase competition best practice through England Athletics communication channels**

Medium term:

- Work with and support league competition providers at all levels to adapt scoring to better encourage participation in field events
- **Develop a regional framework/competition model for field event only competition for clubs to adopt**

Long term:

- **Explore and embrace technology changes to reduce the officiating requirements for field events and identify pilot competitions for implementation**
- Work with broadcasters and streaming companies to **find innovative ways to engage new audiences with high performance competition, and better promote elite athletes**
- **Embrace technology changes and engage new audiences with streamed elite competitions**



BIG on TOUR

SUMMARY

- Deliver an exciting, new format for Field Event competitions in England
- Provide a format that could be spread to many venues and other events
- Provide a format that is easily replicated in a sustainable way
- Give athletes the competitions they have been asking for and need
- Raise the profile of Field Events in the country
- Give Field Event Athletes the **RESPECT** and **RECOGNITION** they deserve.
- Get clubs involved to raise their profiles and much needed funds
- Provide an informal mentoring programme for Development Officials
- Provide informal opportunities for Coaches to network



BIG on TOUR

Q&A



Breakout 3

Field event vision

As a competition provider what do you commit to do at your events to support the findings of the field event task group

2

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fMC – Dean Hardman & Clive Poyner





that hopefully will keep them coming back for a long time.



fMC – the story so far...

- The athlete development model advocates a multi-events approach for primary aged children to provide the best grounding in the sport.
- Other sports capture the interest of young people from earlier ages.
- Age group changes provide an opportunity for a distinctive format for primary school aged children.
- FMC was therefore designed to be a format that:
 - o Measures both improvement and performance
 - o Can be delivered in under 2/2.5 hours
 - o Can be delivered safely by volunteers rather than a team of officials
- o Is flexible and can incorporate different events/disciplines
- Ambition is to be both a well-used format, but also a nationally co-ordinated programme. From one off internal events to summer-long inter-club series.
- Digital support via the Roster app and flexible in approach.

Pilot Events

The purpose of the pilot events was to understand: - Gateshead

- Whether children enjoyed it
 - How easy (or otherwise) are fMc events to deliver?
 - How many volunteers are required
 - Can they be fitted into two hours?
 - What should entry fees be (where relevant)
- Tavistock
 - Plymouth
 - Hampshire

Over 40 events have taken place using the Roster platform, including pilots in:

- Norwich

Competition Conference

Feedback

Feedback has been positive, which is no surprise given the fact fMC builds on existing, successful formats.

Key pieces of positive feedback include:

- Roster app is easy to use for entries and meeting management
- Meetings can take place within the two hours
- Inexperienced volunteers can support delivery
- Pricing to cover costs worked for clubs and parents

Areas for improvement included:

- Tinkering with the scoring tables to ensure balance between the events.

Recognising that talented athletes might outperform the scoring tables

- Focus on athlete experience by incorporating music and high quality announcing
- Recognising the differing requirements of smaller and bigger events in terms of volunteer requirements
- Recognising the need to "officiate" differently with this age group

Competition conference

fMC pilot – August 2025

165 U10 and U12 athletes took part from 26 clubs and 6 schools across the east region (Northampton, Kings Lynn, Great Yarmouth and Brentwood – the demand is real)

Aims ... keep it slick (max 2 hours), upbeat, professional, fun fun fun.

What events Sprint, long jump, vortex and middle distance.

How (for the athletes) ... everyone does all four events and scores points like a multi event competition. Ideally during the summer there is a series and athletes try to increase their personal

points score each time.

How (for the event organisers) Roster is available for results (slight tweaks in progress), have music / banners etc if possible, 10 minute mass warm up, give each age group M & F a team leader who moves the athletes between events, have three/ four officials who know the ropes, ensure encouragement around the track for the middle distance, two admin personnel – one scoring and one acting as meeting manager.

Next Steps

- Ahead of the 2026 season, our ambition is to have clusters of clubs/competition providers delivering fMC series in each English region.
 - Over the last few months, interest has remained high and we are aware of a number of fMC series being developed/planned.
 - We are developing a more visible digital presence
 - Refresh of the resources and training webinars
 - fMC will be the recognised School Games format from April onwards.
- Interested? Get in touch!

Q&A



Chris Jones – CEO England
Athletics

THANK YOU

