

## Pilot Cross Country Event: Herringthorpe Playing Fields Rotherham

### Outline

The intention is to hold an inter club team XC relay event, involving teams of athletes from the South Yorkshire affiliated clubs. The event will be one of the XC pilot events, organised by South Yorkshire CAA and supported and monitored by England Athletics, as part of the EA Restricted return to Cross Country competition plan.

The event will offer races for all age groups from U11 to senior (U11 and U17 team numbers will be lower so may be mixed gender races. Each race will have a maximum of 25 teams. Each race will be of 3 legs for the young athletes and senior women and 4 for senior men.

There are 7 clubs who have young athlete members

The intention is to have club meeting areas defined in Herringthorpe stadium with the 2300m (1700m for U11s) one lap course and start / finish areas outside the stadium on the playing fields (See attached course and start / finish layout).

The start line will consist of 25 start pens each 2m wide with one pen per club. The 1<sup>st</sup> leg runners will be brought from the stadium and will line up at the front of the pen, with each race being timed and manually recorded separately, Once the first leg runners have started the 2<sup>nd</sup> leg runners will be brought out and enter the start pens around 3 minutes after the start.

The intention is to release the runners when the incoming runner crosses the finish line. A finish line official will advise the start control team (possibly 4 /5 in number) by 2 way radio of the team number who can be released. This will be repeated for the 3<sup>rd</sup> leg runner, and the final team times and finishing positions recorded when the final runner finishes.

The above assumptions could mean an event timetable as follows:-

10:30 U11 race

10:55 U13 G

11:25 U13 B

11:55 U15 G

12:25 U15 B (race finish 12:55)

Break

14:00 U17

14:25 Sen W

15:10 Sen men Event finish 16:15.

Total competitor numbers are estimated at around 600

On line entry would be via the Sportsoft website ([www.race-results.co.uk](http://www.race-results.co.uk))

### Covid / Social distancing Precautions for the Event

Event Covid Officer to be appointed

One-way system in place in the stadium.

Defined areas for clubs, with portaloos in the stadium.

Limit young athletes to one parent / guardian.

Entry / team declaration system incorporates Pre activity healthcheck – all competitors can only run if this has been completed and verified on the morning of the event.

No parent / spectator access into the start / finish areas.

No display of results – results would be completed and displayed on line after the event.

No presentation of awards at the event, Social distancing essential in the competition area, clear communication in advance and reinforced by marshals / stewards on the day.

Steve Gaines

Event / Meeting manager