

Basingstoke & Mid Hants Athletic Club

Life President: Reg Eade

Life Vice-Presidents: Ian Byett

Vice-Presidents: Mrs. S. Knight K. Best MBE
Klix Ltd P. Turner LLB



Chairman: Peter Nicholson

Hon. Secretary: Chris Berry

Hon. Treasurer: Duncan Reid

Affiliated to: England Athletics, H.C.A.A.,

"LET'S GET THE CLUB ON TRACK APPEAL"

August 2008

Dear Members and families,

What we intend to do

The senior men's team have been promoted for the second year in succession and will now compete in Division 1 of the British Athletics League (BAL). The veteran men retained the Surrey & Hampshire league title and the women's team were promoted to Division 1 of the Southern League in 2007. Our current facilities do not allow us to host home meetings in the BAL because an 8 lane track is needed. In order to support the needs of our increasingly successful Club we are planning, in partnership with the Council, to upgrade the facilities of the Club at Down Grange in three main areas.

- 1) Upgrade from 6 lanes to 8 lanes all the way round the track.
- 2) Improve spectator facilities with a covered stand to hold approximately 200 spectators and toilets situated near the track.
- 3) Provide weight training facilities and electronic timing and photo-finish equipment.

The cost is estimated be about £300,000. A project like this is something all of us can be involved in. No contribution is too small and none is too great.

Why are we doing it?

When the Club was reformed in 1948, the year of the Olympic Games at Wembley, there was a membership of 35 to 40 athletes and officials. Today, in our Diamond Jubilee year, we have ten times that number. During this time the Club has produced many international athletes and we have many promising juniors representing Hampshire AA. We also have a team of first class officials some of whom officiate at national and international level. All of our coaches are UK Athletics qualified and through their dedication and commitment athletes are able to progress and achieve their best. We look back with gratitude to those who reformed the Club all those years ago and it is fitting that in another Olympic year we have the vision to pass on the baton to the next generation.

Who will benefit?

- Our men's team will have the benefit of not needing to travel 40 miles to Abingdon for "home" matches in the BAL.
- If you are a current athlete or if your child is being coached and representing the Club then you will understand the value and importance of being able to provide the best facilities for this generation and the generations to come.
- Spectators will benefit from improved facilities to watch high quality athletics.
- Our local community will benefit. The Down Grange track has been named as a selected venue being offered to national teams and their athletes in the run-up to the 2012 London Olympics. The track improvements will help ensure Basingstoke attracts one of the top countries.

How to raise the money

Email: gensecretary@bmhac.co.uk

Web site www.bmhac.co.uk

£300,000 sounds like a lot of money but could we raise that amount?

Well, we have already raised £5,000 and are guaranteed at least £1,000 from the Norwich Union Community Sports Fund. We have set ourselves a target of raising £50,000 towards the costs of the upgrade and are confident that if we achieve that then the Council and others will recognise the efforts being made by the Club and will work with us to achieve our aims. We hope that a significant amount will be raised through personal donations and tax reclaimed through Gift Aid. Remember, no amount is too small and no amount too large.

What can I do?

.....for less than £5

- 1) Vote for the Club in the Norwich Union Community Sports Fund. We could be awarded £12,500 if we are a regional winner. All you have to do is follow the link from the Club website www.bmhac.co.uk to vote online or complete a voting paper available from a member of the Fundraising Committee. It will cost you nothing!
- 2) Buy a Diamond Jubilee Lottery ticket for £2 and you could win a cash prize in the draw on 25th October. Available from committee members. All proceeds to the track fund.
- 3) Buy a Diamond Jubilee t-shirt for only £4. On sale in the car park on most Club nights – all profits will go to the track fund. Why not wear it for the Club Championships on 14th September?

.....for £10

Get together with work colleagues and enter a team of 6 in the Corporate Diamond Relay on 21st September. Download the entry form from the Club website. Entry fee £60 per team.

.....for any amount

We really hope that you will be able to give a one-off gift. The Club has registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club, which means that we can reclaim tax on personal donations under the Gift Aid scheme, currently worth 28p for each £1 that you give (provided that you have paid sufficient tax to cover the tax that we will reclaim). For example, a gift of £100 is worth £128 to the Club with the reclaimed tax.

How to give

Complete the enclosed form and sign the Gift Aid declaration if your gift is eligible for tax reclaim. Cheques are payable to “**Basingstoke & Mid Hants AC – Track Refurb**”.

Return the form together with your donation in the envelope provided to our Treasurer:

Duncan Reid, 47 Ravel Close, Brighton Hill, Basingstoke, Hants. RG22 4ED.

If you have any questions about your donation or Gift Aid then speak to Duncan on 01256 460140 or e-mail duncanreid@sky.com

Your gift will be treated in strict confidence and need only be known by the Treasurer.

In the event that the plans do not go ahead or there is a surplus, the BMHAC Committee ~~reserves the right~~ to use the funds at their discretion for the work of the Club. If you would prefer your donation to be returned to you under these circumstances then please inform the Treasurer in writing. The Club will of course take reasonable steps to contact you or close family members should this situation arise.



Peter Nicholson
Chairman

Duncan Reid
Hon. Treasurer

Chris Blow June Carine
Fundraising Co-ordinators