

Kingston upon Hull Athletic Club

Annual General Meeting

Date – Thursday 12th February 2026

Time - 7pm

Location – Clubhouse

1- Welcome by Chairperson

Brian Long welcomed everyone, thanked the room for their attendance and explained the context of the AGM.

2- Apologies

Apologies received from Karen Lonsdale and Adam Cole.

3- Confirmation of minutes

The minutes from the previous AGM meeting were circulated. These were approved as an accurate record.

4- Chairperson's report

Brian Long presented his report as follows:

Opening Remarks

In my report, I attempt to measure the health of the club using these key metrics:

- 1. Membership growth and waiting List*
- 2. Facilities and equipment*
- 3. Coaching capacity*
- 4. Competition performance*
- 5. Volunteer support*

In my Closing Remarks, I will give my view on what is required going forward.

1. Membership growth and waiting List

Membership has continued its steady recovery since the post-COVID low of 186 in 2021. We reached 268 members in 2023, passed 300 early in 2025, and closed the year with 351 members- an increase of 51 (17%).

<i>Section</i>	<i>2025</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Track & Field</i>	<i>214</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>156</i>	<i>52%</i>
<i>Road Runners</i>	<i>137</i>	<i>39%</i>	<i>144</i>	<i>48%</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>351</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>-</i>

The most significant growth has been in the Junior Academy.

The Academy and Steve's late Thursday group have continued to grow and are now operating at full capacity. We currently have 56 athletes across the Monday sessions and 52 on Thursday evenings. The young athletes who attend are committed, enthusiastic, and clearly enjoying their training. This is the starting point for their athletic journey, and once ready, many will progress into the Club's specialised training groups. These athletes are the future of the Club, and it is inspiring to see their confidence and ability develop.

The Academy remains a vital part of the Club, offering younger and newer athletes the chance to experience age-appropriate disciplines in a fun, safe, and friendly environment. This is only possible thanks to our dedicated team of coaches, assistants, and helpers, to whom we are extremely grateful.

Demand continues to rise, and we now have a waiting list of around 100 athletes. This growth has been driven by word of mouth, our new website, and the number of children who try athletics at school and wish to continue throughout the year. We also receive enquiries from parents whose children have taken part in school competitions and want to explore their potential further through club athletics.

Janette now manages the waiting list. Her close involvement with the Academy and regular communication with coaches have given her a strong understanding of how the groups operate.

Attendance is monitored, and places are retained only by athletes who commit to attending regularly. When an athlete progresses to another group, we can immediately offer the space to the next person on the waiting list.

All of this is possible only because of the commitment of our volunteers. We will always need more helpers, as circumstances change and we inevitably lose some of these wonderful people. There are many ways to get involved, and even small tasks—such as holding a high-jump bar or raking a sandpit—make a real difference. It is also rewarding and a great way to learn more about the sessions your child attends.

Note that England Athletics aims to increase UK athletics participation by 4% annually, targeting around 225,000 athletes by 2032. While our 17% growth is impressive, sustained progress depends on achieving consistent gains across all ages and disciplines.

It is worth noting that our club is one of the most affordable clubs in Northern England. Our junior fees (£10–£15) and senior fees (£20) are significantly lower than the regional norm. Most northern clubs set their fees for Juniors between £40 and £70, and for Seniors between £70 and £100. I will make further comments on this in my closing remarks.

The pattern for the Road Running membership is that it generally starts at around 140, then drops to a minimum of 100 by the end of the membership year and then builds back up to 140 again.

The main boost comes from "Couch to 5k", with as many as 10 or a dozen people signing up after each programme. Then, of course, they get the regular enquiries from people wanting to

do trial runs, and in most cases, they go on to become members. That gives them a steady two or three recruits each month, and the regular parkrun takeovers also generate interest, resulting in several new members.

2. Facilities and equipment

The new track and associated facilities have improved the training environment for athletes and coaches. We also invested in new equipment during 2025, supported by funding from the Centrica Sports Kit Ballot and facilitated by Chris McClane. These improvements ensure high-quality resources across all disciplines.

3. Coaching capacity

We currently have 27 Track & Field coaches (15 Athletics Coaches and 13 Coaching Assistants) supporting 214 athletes, giving an average ratio of 7.9 athletes per coach (up from 6.5 last year). Ratios vary significantly by discipline.

My sincere thanks to all coaches and parent helpers for their commitment and support for our club and our athletes. Strengthening our coaching base is essential for safe, high-quality training and for reducing pressure on existing volunteers, and our coaching priorities continue to be:

- *Recruit more coaches of both levels*
- *Support Coaching Assistants to progress to Athletics Coach level*
- *Encourage parents to train as Coaching Assistants*

4. Competitive performance

Youth Development Leagues (YDLs)

- *Upper Age Group (U17/U20): 3rd, an improvement on 2024.*
 - *Lower Age Group (U13/U15): Also 3rd, a significant step forward from 2024.*
- Both teams showed excellent depth, strong participation, and many PBs.*

Northern Athletics

- *Consistent mid-table finishes.*
- *Improved event coverage, particularly in women's throws, relays, and middle-distance.*
- *Several juniors successfully transitioned into senior competition.*

East Yorkshire Cross Country League

- *No participation*

Road Runners

- *Strong participation across local and regional road races.*
- *Numerous PBs and age-category successes.*

Across all sections, 2025 saw improved participation, stronger depth, and better competitive outcomes than 2024.

5. Volunteer support

Volunteer capacity remains a challenge. We continue to lose volunteers due to changing circumstances or the need for a break. The Committee now has eight members, which is workable - but only if we don't lose any over the next 12 months. We currently need volunteers

for the Clubhouse Team, Welfare Team, Timing Equipment Team, Data Protection, Health & Safety and Officials.

Closing Remarks

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the club's operation throughout 2025. It has been a good year in many ways. However, the club is now at a crossroads. Membership is rising, demand is high, and our waiting list continues to grow - but our athlete pathway needs further development if we are to support athletes from the grassroots level through to regional and national competition.

We remain a grassroots club, but we also want to ensure that talented athletes can progress within our club rather than feeling they must move elsewhere or just give up on the sport. Balancing inclusivity with ambition is one of our key challenges.

To move forward, I believe we must adopt more progressive strategies:

- investing in coaching*
- expanding our volunteer base*
- strengthening our links with schools, colleges, and community partners*
- investing in a Club App to better connect our coaches with athletes*

Furthermore, I wish to highlight the strategic risk associated with maintaining low membership fees. This approach could result in insufficient investment in the club, potentially leading to the following outcomes:

- The club is being less ambitious than it should be*
- Athlete pathway programmes are being limited*
- Facility improvements are not being fully realised*
- We are not expanding our coaching capacity*
- We are not improving governance*
- We may not be representing Hull as well as we could*

All of the above requires careful consideration so that we can build a clearer, more sustainable pathway that reflects the scale and potential of a club representing a city the size of Hull and the surrounding area.

Thank you once again for your support, commitment, and enthusiasm.

Dave Smith thanked Brian for his tenure as Chair and members acknowledged Brian's success in the role with their gratitude.

5- Treasurer's report

Brian Long presented this report, thanking Dave Smith for having carried out the role of Treasurer in 2025.

Overview

The Treasurer role has swapped hands a few times in recent years, with Brian Long in the role up to 2023, Elliot Marling replacing Brian for 2024, and replaced by Dave Smith in 2025. Because of this most recent change, we have reverted back to the previous presentational style for the statements.

Income and Expenditure

The club's normal operating activities produced a solid financial outcome in 2025, showing a slight improvement over 2024. Both revenue and expenditure increased during the year; however, several key income streams performed better than in the previous year. This is reflected in the figures below:

Net Revenue Items

Membership Fees increased in line with increased membership. In addition, Competition Fees, Timing Equipment, the Presentation Evening, Tuck Shop and Donations all increased in 2025, generating a combined uplift of £7,639.

Competition Fees continue to benefit significantly from the efforts of our Road Runners section and their flagship event, the South Cave 10k, which generated £9,880 (2024: £8,170). We remain extremely grateful for their contribution.

Kit sales, however, recorded a loss of £561, compared with a £638 surplus in 2024. The loss is likely due to the mis-coding of kit sales, as we shouldn't make a loss on Kit. It continues to be an area that requires some thought in terms of how much we invest in merchandise.

Expense Items

Buses & Travel: £2,905 (2024: £2,527).

The increase reflects higher usage of coaches for events.

Equipment: £1,330 (2024: £1,038).

Purchases included indoor and outdoor training equipment (using the Centrica Sports Kit Ballot) and officials' equipment.

Website Development: £1,804 (2024: £0).

This represents the one-off cost of developing the club's new website.

Clubhouse: £4,464 (2024: £1,603).

Clubhouse expenses include regular Property Insurance and minor maintenance items. However, thanks to Dave Smith's carpentry skills, we invested in new storage cupboards for the meeting room (cost £760). And finally, we revised our depreciation policy, increasing the depreciation charge on the clubhouse from 1% to 10%, resulting in an additional charge of £2,600.

Education & Coaching: £2,475 (2024: £1,480).

Investment in coaching and athlete development increased in 2025. Expenditure included:

- New Sports Psychologist costs*
- More Run Leader courses for Road Runners*
- Officials' courses*

- *One Level 2 coaching course*

Athlete Funding: £1,000 (2024: £0).

This was a new cost for us, sending two of our athletes to the summer World University Games.

Overall Summary

The club's revenues and costs both rose slightly, leading to a small surplus increase to £11,149 (2024: £10,690).

Balance Sheet

Our Funds have increased by the Surplus for the year, £11,149, with an accounting adjustment for the Restricted Funds created last year. So we finished the year with Funds of £131,751. This is essentially the aggregate of capital assets, stock and cash.

6- Election of committee members

Anita explained the committee structure of the club.

Current Main Committee: Chair - Brian Long; Secretary – Anita Pace; Treasurer – Dave Smith; Welfare Team - Dave Smith, Abi Gabel; Membership Secretary - Karen Lonsdale; Coach Coordinator – Leroy McKenzie; Members - Adam Cole, Ben Thompson.

The election and re-election of the committee members then followed:

- Election of **new Chair** - Ben proposed by Anita, seconded by Brian.
- Re-election of **Secretary** – Anita proposed by Janette, seconded by Abi.
- Election of **new Treasurer** – Dave Smith is standing down. Brian proposed by Dave, seconded by John Twiddle.
- Re-election of **Membership** secretary – Karen Lonsdale proposed by Dean, seconded by Ben.
- Re-election of **Coach coordinator** – Leroy McKenzie – proposed by Gregan, seconded by Abi.
- Re-election of **Lead welfare officer** – Abi Gabel – proposed by Ben, seconded by Janette.
- Election of Mike Gill as **welfare officer** – proposed by Abi and seconded by David Rivers.
- **Committee members**
- Dave Smith - proposed by Anita, seconded by Ben.
- David Rivers – proposed by Dave, seconded by Anita.

- Adam Cole - proposed by Ben, seconded by Dean.
- **YDL team manager (Lower)**– Adam Cole – proposed by Ben and seconded by Dave.
- **YDL team manager (Upper)**– Nikki Wright – proposed by Janette and seconded by Dean.
- **Road Running Committee Chair:** David Rivers – proposed by Brian and seconded by Anita.
- **Trustees**
Re-election of: Dave Smith, Nicky Carter, Malcolm Brooks, Dean Lewis, Steve Wymark – all proposed by Brian and seconded by Ben.

7- Membership fees

Dave raised the issue of payment for buses for club meetings. Agreed to continue with athletes and coaches travelling FOC and parents paying for seats on the bus.

Proposed to leave the membership fees as they are currently are for 2026. Dave suggested that the Committee defines the membership subscriptions in November and calls an EGM before the end of the calendar year if necessary so that annual fees are agreed before the start of the new year. This would be reflected in the new club constitution.

8- Annual review of constitution

Dave presented his proposed amendments to the club constitution. It was agreed to:

- Remove the statement about the cheque book from the treasurer's duties.
- Remove the statement about honorary members.
- Amend and remove some of the liability statement requirements to ensure we are limiting our liability to the assets of the club
- Amend the statement about GDPR regulations
- Add Codes of Conduct
- Amend the subscription statement to allow the committee to define the new rate and require an EGM if there is any objection

Brian thanked everyone for attending the meeting with closing remarks. The formal AGM meeting was then closed.

9- AOB

Dave asked if we should modify club records in recognition of the new age groups. EA guidance is that it's up to individual clubs as to what they do with their age group records. Agreed to start a new set of records and leave the old ones as they are.

Annamarie Charlton asked about access to pole vault equipment as athletes are unable to access to equipment and can't train for the event. Access is dependant on Costello staff getting the equipment out of storage. It was suggested that we aquire an appropriate cover for our equipment (pole vault and high jump) so that it can be left out in the summer. Agreed that the committee will follow up.

Facebook – Gregan Clarkson raised that he's not happy with the recent restrictions on the Facebook account as it's delaying the posting of time-sensitive information. It was discussed that the changes should have made it better by increasing the reach to a larger audience and aligning our content with the website. Agreed that the committee will follow up.

25th Anniversary – Gregan announced that it's the club's 25th Anniversary this year. Agreed that we should celebrate the occasion – the committee will follow up.

Leroy asked if any progress had been made about track maintenance, especially the need to clean the track. We need a consultation meeting with the Costello management. Agreed to organise a meeting.