



Development on Blackbridge Field:

The development of the new Sports Hub project on Blackbridge field is due to begin in January. We aren't expecting there to be any interference with our normal training, besides the fact we will not be able to use Blackbridge field any longer. If there are any issues relating to the development please let me know.

Car parking:

As we are now well into our winter season car parking at Blackbridge is more difficult than during the summer months when we can use the grass areas as an overflow, Until the spring please avoid parking on the grass at the bottom car park as you are likely to get stuck and cause a lot of damage.

Please would you ensure that you park carefully and if there is no space park on the roads around the track ensuring that you do not cause obstruction to our neighbours. We are making a specific effort to ensure that both the clubhouse car park at the end of Poplar Close and the track car park off Podsmead road are open at all club sessions however the fact that a car park is not open should not be an excuse to park irresponsibly.

On the subject of parking also: We would appreciate it if Parents could avoid sitting in their cars with their engine running in the car park during training. I appreciate that it is cold however it seems very wasteful for numerous people to be unnecessarily polluting the environment. It is also unpleasant for anybody who needs to walk past your car.

Thanks
Aaron

Not long now until the **next Birmingham League Division 1** fixture, and if we are to maintain hopes of staying in the top division, we do need a good turnout.

Hopefully, the date is already in everyone's plans for the New Year, as should be back to normal after the festivities, and wanting to burn off all the Christmas excesses.

Please let dave.gresswell@arrkeurope.com that you intend running, and if you would like to share a transport, or will be making your own way up.

Full details of the location and course, will be on the league website <https://www.birminghamccleague.co.uk/index.php/fixtures2022-23>

This is a course we have run twice before in recent years, and a good one for both racing and supporting.

It's not too far away either (approx. 60 miles), and therefore depending on traffic, just over an hours drive.

We only had six runners at the last fixture, and the guys did an excellent job of keeping us with in touching distance of survival within Division 1.

All is not lost! Let's not undo their good work.

There will be post race drinks in Gloucester for those who ran, supported, or just fancies joining us to hear stories of how the race went 😊.

Dave

Thanks to everyone who came to the Awards evening and AGM and a particular thanks to those who stood to be part of the committee this year. The committee are here to ensure that the club continues to function and that we represent the views of our members. If you have any questions for committee members, or would like to raise any issues at the committee meetings please get in touch with me chair@gloucesterac.co.uk and I can pass on anything to the correct committee member. All club members are invited to committee meetings should they wish to attend. The first committee meeting for the new committee was held on 13th December, please let me know if you'd like details.

For reference the committee is as follows:

Chair: Aaron Bennett.

Secretary: Chris Yates.

Treasurer: Nick Bishop

Membership Secretary: Owen Parry.

Coaching Coordinator: Steve Millward

Officials Secretary: Dave Hardy.

Track and Field Representative: Joel Townley.

Road Running Representative: James Walters.

Cross Country Representative: Dave Gresswell.

Web Master: Andy McKenzie

Press Officer, Events Manager, Property Manager and Junior Representative were unfilled.

The spring road relays are being held at Sutton Park, Sutton Coldfield on Saturday the 23/03/24.

As always the U20 and senior men compete over 12 stages and the U20 and senior women run over 6 stages.

There is also the individual U13, U15 and U17 5km challenge for girls and boys.

The organisers of the event are also looking for volunteers to help with the event.

The club is keen to enter as many teams as possible, if you are interested in running or volunteering please email James Walters (the Committee Road Running Representative) on james.r.walters13@gmail.com and put Spring Road Relays in the subject line of your email.

Haresfield 5k Race Director

For the last two years I've organised in mid-August a 5k race from the Beacon Inn Haresfield. This raises about £2000 for the club.

I'm planning on being less active in organising so I can focus on coaching and racing myself so I would love either someone to take over or to share the work as Deputy Director.

There's an extensive race manual to guide and both the pub and the village are keen to have the race. Speak to me after training or email me on gloucestershireaaa@athletics4u.co.uk. It is fun and satisfying organising such an event.