SCVAC Finals 21st September Horspath

A last minute change of weather forecast resulted in a very pleasant day for the SCVAC regional league finals bringing together the winning teams from the six leagues around the South / South east of England.   The top two from the larger Kent league, although the second placed women's team from Blackheath and Bromley were again unable to raise a team.

The enthusiasm from the competitors was infectious with terrific master's athletics comradery and appreciation of others efforts and performances.  Incredibly in the men's competition there were only 7 gaps out of 343  in 49 events!!!   The women's was not far off with 22 gaps.

The leading scorer on the day Teresa Bowden of Wimbledon who scored 59 points out of the teams 242 total in 12 events and wins the Brian Harlick Memorial trophy.

We are all indebted to the amazing efforts and professionalism of the team of Officials who really stepped up at the start of the day when there were issues with the duty roster and equipment distribution.   In particular Dawn Hookway and Tony Fullbrook who stepped in at the last minute to be Track and Field refs respectively.   Phillip Maron was chief time keeper.

In the women's competition last year's winners Wimbledon and runners up (by half a point) Tonbridge AC were in a tight battle from the start separated by no more than 3 or 4 points for most of the day.  It was only in the final last few events when Wimbledon had a couple of gaps that Tonbridge were able to open up a gap to win by 20.5 points.

In the Men's events Tonbridge were always slightly ahead and steadily accumulating points ahead of challenging Basingstoke and Oxford City, eventually winning by 38 points and reclaiming the title they won in 2019 before the Covid break.

Thank you to everyone that took part, Oxford for hosting, the officials and team managers for all their efforts.

There are improvements and lessons  to be learn't for next year but with this level of participation it is well worth while.

Mark Pitcairn-Knowles