

# YHOA Junior Squad Report: Sep 21 to Aug 22

## Membership

In 2022 we introduced an annual membership fee for the squad (£20) and dropped the small charges levied for the 1 day training sessions. This proved a very popular move with parents (and much appreciated by the Treasurer and Co-ordinator!). It also helped reduce the squad numbers slightly to just those who remained keen to participate. At the end of August 2022 the number of "Full squad" members stood at 31 with a further 16 associate members (associates come to the 1 day trainings and are invited to join the Full squad once they have shown us they are keen, and have potential, to develop further).

## Training

During the last 12 months we organised 6 one day training sessions (Skipwith, Royds Hall, South Gare (joint with North-East), Brimham, Timble and Middleton Park) where we had an average attendance of 26 athletes and two weekends away at Hathersage (joint with East Mids using Longshaw and Burbage) and Great Tower where we averaged 24 athletes. There were also two online coaching sessions held to prepare for the JK and British Long Championships.

## Competition

The 2021 JIRCs was held in September hosted by North-East at South Gare. YHOA had, arguably, its best performance for 10 years coming second overall and winning the relay day. At an individual level squad members produced many good performances in the major championships. From the eight junior categories (M/W12 through to M/W18) we have 6 Northern Champions, 4 British Champions and 2 JK Champions plus several other podium places.

## Representation (National teams)

Across the two England and three GB representative opportunities each year we had eight members make the England JHI (2021) team, seven selected for Interland (which was cancelled), two for EYOC and one for JWOC. Most notably, Imogen Pieters (W18) was selected for all four and Euan Tryner for three plus he was named as the reserve for JWOC.

## Representation (JROS Tours)

This year there were JROS tours at each single year age group from MW14 through to MW18 including a new MW16 tour to the Czech Republic. Seventeen members of the squad were selected across the five tours, a tremendous achievement. This included Lagganlia for MW14s where we had six of the 24 places. As well as the tours there was the JROS Hawkshead weekend for MW16s attended by eight athletes.

## Coaching

This activity and success as a squad only comes thanks to the dedication of our volunteer coaching team led by Pauline Tryner. Although largely run by a small core team we are grateful to all the 20 coaches and other adults who have helped at at least one of our sessions and weekends. A big thanks too to all the parents who make it possible for the athletes to attend the training and races.

## Finance

Full accounts are provided separately by our treasurer. With no squad tour and a relatively local JIRCs there was less pressure on the finances this year. Money was also raised from cake stalls at some events. This, plus the support from YHOA, will go towards subsidising an expensive 2022-23 with JIRCs in Northern Ireland this weekend and a squad tour to Sweden pencilled in for next summer.

Mike Pedley, YHOA Junior Squad Co-ordinator. Sept 2022