



England Masters Athletics Association



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Chairman : Jon Clarke email : jonbclarke@hotmail.co.uk tel : 07808 1750705

Acting X/C Secretary : Roland Gibbard email : xc@englandmasters.org.uk

Treasurer : John Borgars email: john.borgars@btinternet.com tel : 01920 464783

England Team Manager : Roland Gibbard email : xc@englandmaster.org.uk

ENGLAND MASTERS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM SELECTION RACE BETLEY, CREWE SATURDAY 27th SEPTEMBER 2025

The EMMA cross country team selection will follow a similar process to last year with selection races held on at the venue of **Betley Court Farm CW3 9BH** near Crewe. Following this event, teams will be selected for the British & Irish Masters' Cross Country International at Leeds on Saturday 15th November 2025. Teams will be selected in all five year age categories from 35 years to 80 years plus.

Organisation : The races will be held in conjunction with a North Staffordshire Cross Country League (NSCCL) meeting. There is free parking for athletes next to the course with the entrance being off the main road (A531). NSCCL has the organising responsibility and the actual local host club, Stone Masters Marathoners, will have undertaken all of the preparatory administrative and setup work in order for our EMMA selection races to be combined with their events.

Pre Race : There will be one race registration desk to collect race numbers for both those running in the EMMA selection race and the NSCCL race, with the timing chips programmed to distinguish between our EMMA finishers and the NSCCL finishers. A member of the EMMA team will be available to deal with any race registration queries at the race registration desk. There are no changing facilities but there will be some portable toilets.

Race Details : All women's age categories and men 65 to 80 plus – 5k. Men 35 to 64 – 8k. Start times are 13.30pm for the 5k race and 14.10pm for the 8k race.

Results : Race results for all age groups will be found on the JCracetiming results page at <https://jcracetiming.uk/category/results/>. All results and finishing positions will be notified and publicised in the week following the race.

Refreshments : There is a farm café on site but will be extremely busy given the number of competitors, staff and supporters on the day. It is recommended to come prepared with your own food and drink.

Race Entry : The entry fee has been raised this year to £20 (UKA registered athletes and members of their Area Masters/Veterans club) for all categories. It is realised that this a significant increase from previously but costs are increasing each year. Any surplus will go towards hosting the Home International at Leeds in November.

All those who wish to be considered for selection for the England team for the Home International must apply via BMAF OpenTrack and the **closing date for entries will be Friday 19th September 2025**. There will be no entries on the day. **Applicants are also required to complete the attached application form below in CAPITAL LETTERS and be legible.** All the details are required and forms on which details of any sort are omitted will be discarded since the number to be processed does not allow for contacting individual entrants when the forms are to be considered. **Once completed the form should be either posted or sent as an email attachment to the entrants area selector.** The list of the area



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selectors is given below with their email and postal addresses. The purpose of the application form is to provide the area selectors, the England team manager and the Acting EMAA XC secretary information to allow them to make their final determination of the selection of the England team for the Home International. Although most of the places in each age group team are automatically selected from the finishing positions at Betley there will be two discretionary places in the age group teams of five and one discretionary place in the age group teams of four. All personal details and performance information will be destroyed and deleted once the team has been finalised and the selected team members notified.

Performances : Performance details must have been accomplished in the period from 1st January 2025 to the date of the completion of the application form. This enables the selectors to assess athletes form in all standard events be it in road, track or cross country.

Selection : There is a change to the team sizes for both the M35 to M50 and W35 to W50 age categories.

The first three from the M35, M40, M45, M50, W35, W40, W45 & W50 age categories will be automatically selected (teams of five).

The first three from the M55, M60, M65, M70, M75, W55, W60, W65 & W70 age categories will be automatically selected (teams of four).

Teams of 4 will be selected for the W75 and M80 categories, who will compete for individual medals only.

The remainder of the teams plus three reserves for each category will be selected in the week following the Betley race. Selected team members will be notified by the EMAA team manager. Care and welfare for the team as a whole then passes to the England team manager Roland Gibbard (xc@englandmasters.org.uk) with whom team members will communicate as necessary during the period up to the Home International. If any team member considers that they will be unable to compete at the Home International they should contact the team manager at their earliest opportunity so that a reserve may be found.

Mitigating Circumstances : All athletes who wish to be considered for a place in the England team for the Home International are expected to compete at Betley and to finish high to ensure automatic selection. There will be mitigating factors for an athlete who does not run at Betley but only for athletes that have finished high in previous years selection races and thereby have automatically qualified for the team and have performed well in previous Home Internationals.

These mitigating factors are :

- a) injury incurred in training or competition or proof being serious enough to prevent competing in the immediate two-week period prior to the race.
- b) illness or sickness or severe family crisis or emergency of the same conditions as in (a) above.
- c) unavailability due to competing in an international competition over the same weekend.

Mitigating circumstances will not be deemed to be a clash of competitions with the Betley event. Athletes who decide to run elsewhere will be viewed as an express decision not to be selected for the England team.



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APPLICATION/ENTRY FORM

This form must be completed by all entrants who wish to be considered for the Home International at Leeds on November 15th. Once completed in both CAPITALS and legibly the form should be either emailed or posted to your area selector at their address below. Submission of this form means consenting to the following statements.

- 1) It is my responsibility to ensure that I am medically fit to compete.
- 2) I declare that I will abide by Rules of UK Athletics.
- 3) I am not under the minimum age to compete in this event.

Any questions regarding the completion of the application form should be made to your area selector or the Acting Cross Country Secretary - xc@englandmasters.org.uk

ENGLAND MASTERS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM SELECTION – 2025 APPLICATION FORM

Full Name

Address

..... Post Code

Date of Birth (D/M/YYYY) Male/Female (delete as necessary)

Age Category: Please circle – W35, W40, W45, W50, W55, W60, W65, W70, W75

Please circle – M35, M40, M45, M50, M55, M60, M65, M70, M75, M80

Telephone Number (mobile if possible)

Email Address

UKA Club.....Registration Number.....

BMAF Area Club..... Registration Number.....

Relevant 2025 Performances:

Date	Event	Distance	Time	Position
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.....
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England Masters Area Club Selectors

Area Club	Area Selector	Address & Email Address
EMAC	Yuko Gordon	Broadway, Letchworth Garden City, Herts SG6 3PQ Yukogordon238@gmail.com
MMAC	Mick Smedley	12a Bagshaw Street, Crewton, Derby DE24 8TX mandmsmedley@gmail.com
NEMAA	Kim Matthews	6 Watermill, Ryton, NE40 3RB kimrunner11@hotmail.co.uk
NMAC	Sue Cordingley	Coiners House, 12 Coiners Fold, Mytholmroyd, West Yorkshire HX7 5BS suebeconsall@btinternet.com
SCVAC	Michael Jefferies	55 Snowdon Ave, Maidstone, Kent M14 5NT jefferies_478@hotmail.com
SWVAC	Andrew Matthews	27a Regent Street, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 4HR swvac_xc@yahoo.com
VAC	Mike Mann	90 Crescent Lane, London SW4 9PL mcmann90@yahoo.co.uk
Isle of Mann	Mo Kelly	47 Ballacriy Park, Colby, Isle of Man mokelly@manx.net
Team Manager Roland Gibbard		xc@englandmasters.org.uk