

VAC Annual General Meeting

Thursday 23 September 2021 using Zoom

Membership Secretary's Report

VAC membership numbers were 543 at the end of March 2021, compared with 450 in September 2020. Now, however, the numbers are up to 575 as of 31st August.

There are 50 members who have not renewed their membership since it lapsed in April. The current membership numbers are still distorted by the coronavirus pandemic – more would have re-joined if regular competition without restrictions had returned. Judging by the new members we have gained, I think the underlying trend is upwards and I would expect us to have a record number of members next year as our plans to offer more competition should be able to take effect properly.

Four of our members died since last year's AGM:

Peter Ryan – died on 13th November 2020, aged 66, winner of the British 100 miles' race walking championships in 2003

Mary Worth – died on 20th January 2021, aged 92, former British record holder in race walking at 3 km (track), 5 km and 10km (road)

David Stephens – died on 31st January 2021, aged 84, former British record holder in race walking at 3km (track), 10 km and 20 km (road)

Maurice Doogan – died on 14th April 2021, aged 81. Track & Field Secretary for the BMAF 2002-2021 and team manager at EMA and WMA championships, including the 2018 WMA championships at Malaga when the GB team of 704 athletes, including 100 VAC members, headed the medals table.

There have been 46 new members since April.

There are currently 74 first claim members compared with 64 a year ago, but 12 of the lapsed members are also first claim with VAC.

7% of the membership are currently not UKA registered, which is more than a 50% reduction on numbers a year ago, not surprising now that competition has resumed. This is made up of 5% who need to become registered in order to compete, but some of them may not do so again, and the rest who are declared as non-competing.

Peter Kennedy
VAC Membership Secretary
23 September 2021