

ESAA – BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ROLL OF HONOUR

The *Buckinghamshire Elementary Schools Athletic Association* was formed in 1926.

It held its first County Championship on the 17th July, 1926 at the Dolphin Ground in Slough. The four local branches of the association were permitted to have 2 entrants per event. These branches covered Aylesbury and District, Olney, Wolverton, Newport Pagnell, Bletchley, Eton and Slough. Other parts of the county were also invited to send boys and girls to ensure that the best team could represent the county at the ESAA Championship at Stamford Bridge 2 weeks later.

Buckinghamshire were 1 of the 13 counties who competed in the inaugural ESAA Championship in 1925 at Crystal Palace. D. Crowdy won the Boys 880 yards to become the first Buckinghamshire ESAA champion.

In 1946 Buckinghamshire hosted the ESAA Championship for the first time when it was held on the Playing Fields of Eton College with 867 competitors from 20 counties taking part.

OLYMPIC GAMES MEDALLISTS

Marilyn Okoro	2008 x 400m Bronze 2002 S 400m-2
Nicola Sanders	2008 4 x 400m Bronze 1998 I 300m-2, 1999 S 400mH-1, 2000 S 400mH-1
Keith Connor	1984 Triple Jump Bronze 1974 I TJ-1
Greg Rutherford	2012 Long Jump Gold, 2016 Long Jump Bronze 2004 S LJ-4

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALLISTS

Nicola Sanders	2005, 2007, 2009 and 2011 4 x 400m Bronze, 2007 400m Bronze 1998 I 300m-2, 1999 S 400mH-1, 2000 S 400mH-1
Marilyn Okoro	2007 4 x 400m Bronze 2002 S 400m-2
Craig Pickering	2007 4 x 100m Bronze 2002 I 100m-1, 2005 S 100m-1
Greg Rutherford	2015 Long Jump Gold 2004 S LJ-4

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALLISTS

Stephanie Douglas	1990 4 x 100m Bronze
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(also Oxfordshire)	1983 J 200m-3, 1984 and 1985 I 80mH-2, 1986 S 100mH-3, 1987 S 100mH-2
Marilyn Okoro	2010 4 x 400m Silver 2002 S 400m-2
Nicola Sanders	2010 4 x 400m Silver 1998 I 300m-2, 1999 S 400mH-1, 2000 S 400mH-1
Keith Connor	1982 Triple Jump Gold 1974 I TJ-1
Greg Rutherford	2006 Long Jump Silver, 2014 and 2016 Long Jump Gold 2004 S LJ-4

COMMONWEALTH GAMES MEDALLISTS

Stephanie Douglas (also Oxfordshire)	1990 4 x 100m Silver, 1994 4 x 100m Bronze 1983 J 200m-3, 1984 and 1985 I 80mH-2, 1986 S 100mH-3, 1987 S 100mH-2
Morgan Lake (also Berkshire)	2018 High Jump Silver 2010 J LJ-1, 2010 J PEN-1, 2012 I LJ-1
Keith Connor	1978 and 1982 Triple Jump Gold 1974 I TJ-1
Jeff Gutteridge	1982 Pole Vault Silver 1973 I PV-2
Greg Rutherford	2010 Long Jump Silver, 2014 Long Jump Gold 2004 S LJ-4

BRITISH CHAMPIONS

Stephanie Douglas (also Oxfordshire)	1990 100m, 1991 200m, 1996 100m 1983 J 200m-3, 1984 and 1985 I 80mH-2, 1986 S 100mH-3, 1987 S 100mH-2
Emma Beales	1995 Heptathlon 1988 I DT-1, 1989 S DT-2, 1989 S HEP-2, 1990 S DT-3
Nicola Sanders	2005 400m Hurdles, 2006-07 400m 1998 I 300m-2, 1999 S 400mH-1, 2000 S 400mH-1
Marilyn Okoro	2008 and 2013 800m 2002 S 400m-2

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Morgan Lake (also Berkshire)	2016-25 High Jump 2010 J LJ-1, 2010 J PEN-1, 2012 I LJ-1
Keith Connor	1979 Triple Jump 1974 I TJ-1
Jeff Gutteridge	1983, 1984 and 1987 Pole Vault 1973 I PV-2
Martin Gillingham	1984 400m Hurdles 1978 J LJ-3, 1980 I 400mH-3, 1982 S 400mH-3
Rafer Joseph	1998 Decathlon 1985 S DT-3
Greg Rutherford	2005, 2006, 2008, 2012, and 2015 Long Jump 2004 S LJ-4
Ben Gregory	2018 Decathlon 2005 J PV-3, 2007 I PV-1, 2007 I OCT-2, 2008 S DEC-3, 2009 S LJ-3

Notes regarding the athlete details shown above :

An entry for each athlete consists of the first line detailing their Major Championship medal win or their British Championship title win. Second (and subsequent) lines show their ESAA Championship performances in the abbreviated format – *yyyy a eeee p* where :

yyyy Championship Year

a Age Group (I – Intermediate, J – Junior, S – Senior, pre-1948 the age groups were Under-14 (U14) and Under-16 (U16))

eeee Event

p Place achieved (note an 'h-' indicates the performance was in a heat and 'r-' indicates it was in a preliminary round)

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ESAA GIRLS CHAMPIONS

1946	U14	150y	Joan Tunn	2002	I	4x100m	Buckinghamshire
1946	U14	75yH	Dorothy Harper	2003	I	1500m	Stephanie Wilson
1947	U14	75yH	Jean Edgerley	2003	S	100m	Nicole MacDermott
1947	U16	LJ	Lorna Lee	2004	I	PV	Bryony Gibbens
1949	J	70yH	Jean Edgerley	2004	S	100m	Nicole MacDermott
1949	I	80yH	Dorothy Harper	2004	S	400mH	Marika Reed
1950	I	80yH	Jean Edgerley	2004	S	PV	Rachel Gibbens
1951	I	80yH	Barbara Milledge	2006	J	100m	Clarice Underwood
1951	S	LJ	Janet Findlater	2008	I	100m	Clarice Underwood
1953	S	80mH	Jean Edgerley	2010	J	PEN	Morgan Lake
1954	I	LJ	Josie Bassett	2010	J	LJ	Morgan Lake
1955	J	DT	Josephine Clarke	2010	S	1500mST	Pippa Woolven
1957	J	JT	Barbara Nicholls	2011	S	1500mST	Pippa Woolven
1962	J	SP	Jean Davies	2015	I	HJ	Octavia Cavill
1971	S	LJ	Linda Beverley	2015	S	100mH	Jess Hunter
1973	I	80mH	Jane Long	2017	J	1500m	Kirsten Stilwell
1980	J	1500m	Elise Lyon	2017	I	HJ	Temi Ojora
1982	I	1500m	Elise Lyon	2018	I	HJ	Temi Ojora
1988	I	DT	Emma Beales	2019	J	300m	Emilia Rock
1989	I	100m	Debbie Tank	2019	S	TJ	Temi Ojora
1991	S	400m	Alison Thorne	2021	J	JT	Ayesha Jones
1994	S	200m	Louretta Thorne	2023	I	JT	Ayesha Jones
1997	I	300m	Karlene Palmer	2023	S	LJ	Chisom Nwafor
1999	J	HJ	Catriona Christie	2024	S	JT	Ayesha Jones
1999	S	400mH	Nicola Sanders	2024	S	LJ	Chisom Nwafor
2000	S	400mH	Nicola Sanders	2025	I	1500mST	Evelyn Wildman

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ESAA BOYS CHAMPIONS

1925	U14	880y	D. Crowdy	1992	J	400m	Craig Slater
1938	U16	220y	W. Rose	1993	S	DEC	David Vidgen
1946	U16	880y	R. Buzzard	1995	I	3000m	Paul Fisher
1948	J	80yH	B. Nicholas	1996	I	HT	Ross Kidner
1948	I	100y	John E. Woodward	1998	S	HT	Ross Kidner
1950	I	HJ	Derek Lillistone	2001	J	JT	Chris Record
1953	J	880y	Keith Davies	2001	I	400mH	Rupert Gardner
1953	I	440y	A. J. Gordon	2002	I	100m	Craig Pickering
1954	I	110yH	Gordon Fitton	2004	J	200m	Chris Clarke
1956	I	1M	Peter Dean	2005	I	OCT	Will Lambourne
1959	S	TJ	Michael Holliday	2005	I	400m	Chris Clarke
1962	S	TJ	David Macbeth	2005	S	100m	Craig Pickering
1963	I	220y	Nigel Rice	2006	I	400m	Chris Clarke
1964	I	1M	Gerry King	2006	I	JT	Daniel Pembroke
1964	S	4x110y	Buckinghamshire	2006	S	HJ	Alan McKie
1966	J	LJ	D. Price	2007	I	PV	Ben Gregory
1967	J	CC	Ian Whittle	2007	S	HJ	Alan McKie
1967	I	HT	John Gregory	2009	I	JT	Sam Taylor-Outridge
1967	S	SP	Kazimierz Kicinski	2010	J	SP	Lewis Barnes
1970	I	HT	John Bowyer	2014	J	TJ	Ben Harris
1971	S	2000mST	Ian Kilpatrick	2017	S	2000mST	Alfred Yabsley
1972	S	110mH	Michael Jackson	2021	J	1500m	Alden Collier
1974	I	TJ	Keith Connor	2021	J	LJ	Daniel Ayodele
1974	S	100m	Alexander Gillies	2022	I	LJ	D'mitri Varlack
1975	J	800m	Ian Stewart	2023	I	LJ	D'mitri Varlack
1985	I	LJ	Tony McMurray	2026	J	CC	Luis da Silva
1986	J	SP	Barry Nash	2026	J	LJ	Duncan Williams
1990	J	PEN	Andrew Partington	2026	J	PV	Ben Phillips
1991	I	OCT	David Vidgen	2026	U18	110mH	Emile Morti

In 2026 the height of hurdles was changed for certain ages so Under-16 (U16), Under-18 (U18) and Under-19 (U19) races were held.

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SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL ATHLETICS BOARD (SIAB)

The SIAB hold 2 annual international meetings for school athletes from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. These are for *Cross Country* and *Track and Field*. The *Indoor Pentathlon International* (commonly referred to as the *SIAB Indoor Pentathlon*) is actually organised by the *Scottish Schools' Athletic Association (SSAA)*.

A fourth championship, the *British Schools Indoor Athletics Championships* was also held from 1990 to 2000.

GIRLS WINNERS

1975	I	HJ	Alyson Thompson	2010	U16	iPEN	Morgan Lake
1981	I	CC	Elise Lyon	2017	I	HJ	Temi Ojora
1982	I	CC	Elise Lyon	2023	I	PV	Lilianne Jervis-Allen
2000	U16	iHJ	Catriona Christie	2025	I	1500mST	Evelyn Wildman
2003	I	1500m	Stephanie Wilson				

BOYS WINNERS

1967	S	SP	Kazimierz Kicinski	2002	I	100m	Craig Pickering
1971	S	2000mST	Ian Kilpatrick	2005	I	400m	Chris Clarke
1985	I	LJ	Tony McMurray	2005	U18	iPEN	Will Lambourne
1992	U16	i400m	Craig Slater	2006	I	JT	Daniel Pembroke
1993	I	400mH	Matt Douglas	2007	I	PV	Ben Gregory
1993	U18	iPEN	Matt Douglas	2023	I	1500m	Alden Collier
1995	I	3000m	Paul Fisher	2026	I	100mH	Emile Morti
2001	I	400mH	Rupert Gardner				

Winning performances are shown in the abbreviated format – *yyyy a eeee* where :

yyyy Championship Year

a Age Group (I – Intermediate, J – Junior, S – Senior, Under-16 (U16), Over-16 (O16) and Under-18 (U18))

eeee Event (preceded by an 'i' indicates at an indoor meeting)

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WORLD JUNIOR / U20 MEDALLISTS - GIRLS

2014	Morgan Lake	High Jump Gold and Heptathlon Gold
2018	Ebony Carr	4 x 100m Bronze

WORLD JUNIOR / U20 MEDALLISTS - BOYS

2006	Chris Clarke	4 x 400m Bronze
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WORLD YOUTH / U18 MEDALLISTS - BOYS

2003	Craig Pickering	100m Bronze
2007	Chris Clarke	400m Gold

EUROPEAN U23 MEDALLIST - GIRLS

2024	Phoebe Anderson	Cross Country Gold
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EUROPEAN U23 MEDALLISTS - BOYS

1997	Tayo Erogbogbo	Triple Jump Bronze
2007	Craig Pickering	100m Silver and 4 x 100m Gold

EUROPEAN JUNIOR / U20 MEDALLISTS - GIRLS

1995	Louretta Thorne	4 x 400m Bronze
1999	Nicola Sanders	400m Hurdles Bronze
2003	Kadi-Ann Thomas	4 x 100m Silver
2015	Morgan Lake	High Jump Gold
2017	Ebony Carr	4 x 100m Bronze

EUROPEAN JUNIOR / U20 MEDALLISTS - BOYS

1995	Matt Douglas	400m Hurdles Bronze
2003	Rupert Gardner	400m Hurdles Bronze
2005	Craig Pickering	100m Gold
2005	Greg Rutherford	Long Jump Gold
2009	Chris Clarke	400m Gold and 4 x 400m Gold
2021	Ethan Wiltshire	4 x 100m Gold

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MULTI-SPORT ATHLETES

Many gifted young athletes who competed in the English Schools' Athletic Association (ESAA) Championships have become very successful in a wide variety of sports including Bobsleigh, Boxing, Cricket, Cycling, Darts, Football, Hockey, Modern Pentathlon, Netball, Powerlifting, Rowing, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Skeleton, Triathlon and Weightlifting.

Details follow of three of Buckinghamshire's ESAA competitors who have gone on to have a successful career in other sports :

BOBSLEIGH - CRAIG PICKERING

Craig represented Buckinghamshire when winning the 2002 ESAA Intermediate and the 2005 ESAA Senior 100 metres titles. He went on to win a World Championship 4 x 100 metres bronze medal in 2007.

He joined the Great Britain Bobsleigh team in December 2012 and, with pilot John Jackson, finished in 19th place in the 2013 World Championship 2-man bob. Unfortunately a back injury forced him to withdraw from the 2014 Olympic bobsleigh squad.

RUGBY UNION – CHRISTIAN WADE

Christian represented Buckinghamshire when finishing 8th in the 2008 ESAA Inter 100 metres. At this time he was also an England Under-16 rugby union international.

After school he joined the Wasps RFC Academy and stayed with Wasps until 2018 making 165 appearances. He won 1 cap for England in 2013.

In 2019 Christian decided to try for a career in American Football. He spent 3 years with the Buffalo Bills but never played an actual league game. He returned to rugby union in September 2022, signing for the French club Racing 92.

RUGBY UNION – JOHN WOODWARD

John represented Buckinghamshire when winning the 1948 ESAA Inter 100 yards title. He was known as Ted (from his middle name of Edward). By the end of 1948 he was already playing rugby union for Wasps RFC and for the England Schoolboys rugby union team.

He played for Wasps for the whole of his rugby union career. In 1952, at just 20 years of age, he made his England debut. It was the first of 15 caps he accumulated in 4 years.