

ESAA – HEREFORDSHIRE / WORCS ROLL OF HONOUR

The *Herefordshire Schools Athletic Association* was formed in 1950 and a team was sent to the ESAA Championship that year.

There was immediate success with Yvonne Taylor winning the Senior Girls javelin throw for Herefordshire.

The *Worcestershire Schools Athletic Association* was formed in 1948.

Its first County Championship was held at Halesowen Grammar School on 12th July, 1948. 8 districts were represented with Evesham and Pershore District winning the Boys Championship and the Kidderminster District winning the Girls Championship.

The first Worcestershire ESAA champion was J. Baldock, the Junior Boys 100 yards champion in 1953.

In 1975, following the implementation of the Local Government Act 1972 on 1st April 1974, the school associations amalgamated to form the *Hereford and Worcestershire Schools Athletics Association*.

There was immediate success for the new association in 1975 with Debbie Bunn of King Charles I School, Kidderminster winning the first of her 3 ESAA titles, the Junior 100 metres.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALLIST

Clara Evans (for Hereford and Worcs)	2024 Half Marathon Team Gold 2011 S CC-43
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COMMONWEALTH GAMES MEDALLISTS

Averil Williams (for Herefordshire)	1958 Javelin Throw Bronze 1952 S JT-3, 1953 S JT-2
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Angela Tooby (WAL) (for Hereford and Worcs)	1986 10000m Bronze 1979 S CC-21
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BRITISH CHAMPIONS

Averil Williams (for Herefordshire)	1957 and 1958 Javelin Throw 1952 S JT-3, 1953 S JT-2
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Angela Tooby (for Hereford & Worcs)	1988 10000m 1979 S CC-21
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Kerry Jury (for Hereford & Worcs)	1996 Heptathlon 1986 S 200m s-6
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Joel Clarke-Khan (for Hereford & Worcs)	2020, 2022-23 and 2026 High Jump 2017 S HJ-2
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Charlie Husbands
(for Hereford & Worcs)

2025 High Jump
did not compete in the ESAA Championships but won a bronze medal at
the Hereford and Worcs Schools Championship in 2018

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)

eeee Event

p Place achieved (note an 's-' indicates the performance was in a semi-final)

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ESAA GIRLS CHAMPIONS (Herefordshire)

1950	S	JT	Yvonne Taylor
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ESAA GIRLS CHAMPIONS (Worcestershire)

1963	S	100y	Julie Need
1973	J	SP	Yvonne Stewart

ESAA GIRLS CHAMPIONS (Herefordshire & Worcestershire)

1975	J	100m	Debbie Bunn
1976	J	4x100m	Hereford & Worcs
1978	I	200m	Debbie Bunn
1979	I	200m	Debbie Bunn
1980	J	2.5k Walk	Karen Bowers
1983	I	3k Walk	Ruth Sugg
1985	I	400m	Nicki Lamb
1989	S	JT	Dawn Haywood
1991	J	100m	Jo Sloane
1991	I	3k Walk	Carla Jarvis
1992	S	5k Walk	Carla Jarvis
1993	I	200m	Jo Sloane
1995	S	400m	Jo Sloane
2000	I	300m	Eleanor Caney
2008	I	300mH	Jenny White
2010	J	3k Walk	Tasha Webster
2011	I	3k Walk	Tasha Webster
2013	S	HJ	Ella Gibbons
2021	J	LJ	Ella Woods

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ESAA BOYS CHAMPIONS (Herefordshire)

1954	J	220y	William Cale
1955	J	440y	Michael J. Donovan
1957	J	HJ	Glyn Williams
1957	J	LJ	Mike Harris
1963	S	HJ	Charles Njoku

ESAA BOYS CHAMPIONS (Worcestershire)

1953	J	100y	J. Baldock
1954	S	440y	Harold Smith
1956	S	1M	Jeff Eales
1960	S	1M	John Cliff
1961	I	CC	Barry Smith
1966	I	HJ	Keith White
1970	I	3k Walk	Paul Sturdy
1972	I	3k Walk	Kevin Sturdy
1973	S	5k Walk	Kevin Sturdy
1974	J	3k Walk	Neil Oldnall

ESAA BOYS CHAMPIONS (Herefordshire & Worcestershire)

1979	J	3k Walk	Neil Corbett
1981	I	3000m	Adrian Passey
1985	S	10k Walk	Carl Tonks
1988	I	DT	Glen Smith
1990	S	JT	Damian Wilkes
1992	I	100mH	Chris Pember
1996	J	HJ	Dan Plank
2000	I	DT	Chris Levett
2003	I	LJ	Oliver McNeillis
2004	I	OCT	Oliver McNeillis
2004	I	LJ	Oliver McNeillis
2006	S	LJ	Oliver McNeillis
2009	I	DT	Adam Damadzic
2011	S	4x100m	Hereford & Worcs
2013	I	OCT	Linton Gardiner
2014	J	4x100m	Hereford & Worcs
2019	J	HT	Dylan Menhennet

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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

1985	I	400m	Nicki Lamb
1991	I	1500m	Esther Merchant
1991	U16	i60m	Jo Sloane
1993	I	200m	Jo Sloane
2000	I	300m	Eleanor Caney
2002	J	CC	Kirsty Law
2007	I	300mH	Jenny White

BOYS WINNERS

1981	I	3000m	Adrian Passey
1988	I	DT	Glen Smith
2003	U18	iPEN	Oliver McNellis
2004	I	LJ	Oliver McNeillis
2013	O16	iPEN	Linton Gardiner

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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EUROPEAN U23 MEDALLISTS - GIRLS

1997	Jo Sloane	4 x 400m Gold
2015	Alice Wright	10000m Bronze

EUROPEAN JUNIOR / U20 MEDALLISTS - GIRLS

1987	Nicki Lamb	4 x 400m Bronze
1995	Jo Sloane	4 x 400m Bronze
2001	Eleanor Caney	4 x 400m Bronze

EUROPEAN JUNIOR / U20 MEDALLIST - BOYS

Alex Houchin (2023 4 x 400m Gold) ran in the relay heat but not in the final.

MULTI-SPORT ATHLETE

Many 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 a Worcestershire ESAA competitor who went on to have a successful career in another sport :

FOOTBALL – ALUN EVANS

Alun represented Worcestershire in the 1965 ESAA Intermediate Long Jump but was eliminated in the qualifying round. He was already a regular in the England Schoolboy Football team at this time and was playing for Wolverhampton Wanderers FC youths. Another boy eliminated in the same ESAA long jump event was Paul Shoemark of Northamptonshire, the 1964 ESAA Junior long jump silver medallist. Paul was also an England Schoolboy teammate of Alun's and went on to sign for Tottenham Hotspur.

Alun played one full season, the 1967/68 one, for Wolves making 22 appearances. In September 1968, Liverpool paid £110,000 for him, the highest fee for a British teenager at that time. He spent 4 years at Anfield making 111 appearances and earning 4 England Under-23 caps.

He then moved to Aston Villa (60 appearances in 2 and a half seasons) before ending his Football League career in 1978 after a further 2 seasons with Walsall (87 appearances).