Our Sportshall journey started in 2022 with the Club league matches. 3 competitions were held in October, November and December at Gateway College in Leicester. 5 Clubs attended. Ivanhoe Robins, Charnwood AC, Hinckley RC, Wreake & Soar Valley AC and Saffron AC.

The under 11 girls and boys age groups were both won by Ivanhoe Robins.

The under 13 girls was won by Ivanhoe Robins, and U13 Boys won by Charnwood AC with the Overall trophy going to Charnwood AC.

Ivanhoe Robins claimed both the U15 Girls and Boys titles.

Our U15 Individual all rounder top 3 this year were:

U15 Girls – 1st Lila Wilkins (Ivanhoe Robins), 2nd Isla Fillary (Ivanhoe Robins), 3 rd Maddy Cufflin (Saffron AC)

U15 Boys – 1st Luca Axton (Ivanhoe Robins), 2nd Woody Holmes (Ivanhoe Robins), 3rd Ben Parker (Charnwood AC)

Thank you to all the officials and parent helpers at each match, we couldn’t do these events without you.

East Midland Regional Finals 18th March 2023

Next stop was the Regional Finals in Grantham. Competing against teams from Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire the athletes had a fantastic day.

Leicestershire and Rutland won the U11 boys, U15 Girls and Boys. Second place went to the U11 Girls and U13 Girls and Boys.

Some notable winning performances from the following athletes:

U11 Girls
Ella Swanepoel - Chest push, Emmie-May Perry – Target Throw and Constance Iselin – Balance test.

U11 Boys
Stanley Cawson – Balance Test and Rupert Bloor – Speed bounce.

U13 Girls
Chloe Pallett – Standing Triple jump, Suse Bregazzi – Speed bounce and Rebecca Wilkie – Vertical Jump.

U13 Boys
Bailey Dobb – Vertical Jump, Marcel Ewertowski – 4 Lap Race, Alex Suart – Speed Bounce and Carson Scott – 6 Lap Race

In the under 15 all rounder competition, both Luca Axton and Lilia Wilkins followed up on their success in the league matches by becoming East Midlands Champions. Mia Hancox was 2nd place in the U15 girls, only 1 point behind. Despite injuring himself in the 2 lap race, Cameron Riley managed to complete all of his events to earn himself joint 2nd place overall.

Notable winning performances from:

Luca Axton – Speed bounce
Lilia Wilkins – 4 Lap Race and Speed bounce
Evelyn Body – Shot Put
Mia Hancox – Vertical Jump

With only 2 weeks to prepare, our next stop with the winning U15 Girls and Boys teams was the UK Finals to be held in Stoke on Trent

UK Finals – Stoke on Trent – 1st April

Back closer to home this year, the U15’s teams headed to Fenton Manor Leisure Centre in Stoke on Trent to take on the rest of the best young athletes in the UK. Excited and slightly nervous about what was ahead the athletes turned up ready for a great day of competition.

Captained by Mia Hancox and Luca Axton, both teams put their heart and soul into their events and their efforts were not without reward.

In the U15 Boys competition we had a silver medal from Luca Axton with 88 bounces in the speed bounce. The 4x2 relay team of Anthony Cimurs, Jacob Theivendran, Ben Parker and Cameron Riley followed that up with a bronze medal.

The proudest moment of the day came when our U15 boys team captain, Luca Axton, in his last ever Sportshall competition, won a bronze medal in the individual all rounder competition, becoming the highest placed Leicestershire and Rutland athlete of all time. Such a talented athlete and very well deserved.

In the under 15 Girls Competition there was an individual silver medal for team Captain Mia Hancox achieving 65 in the Vertical jump. Mia also signed off her Sportshall career with her second top 10 finish in the individual all rounder competition in 10th place overall.

Both girls and boys teams finished a very creditable 5th place out of 9 teams. Competition was fierce on the day but we are so proud of each and every one of them. Several of our U15 athletes have taken part in their last competition and we wish them all the best for the future.

A huge thank you to parents for bringing the athletes to all the competitions and for being fantastic cheer leaders.

Thank you to all coaches at the Leicestershire clubs who organise the teams and bring the athletes to the league matches.

Thank you to everyone that has volunteered to help at any of the competitions this year. We couldn’t run them without you. Special shout out to Liz Hinds who came along to the UK finals to timekeep. Thank you to Leah Smith and Samuel Smith, who helped Gary and I team manage at the regional and UK finals, and to Neil Broomfield who helped team manage at the regional finals.

We are now looking forward to the next round of Sportshall league matches and already have dates booked for the league matches starting in September this year.

Gary and Sharon
Sportshall team managers L&RAA