

## Cross Country Secretary Report – AGM 2026

Cross Country events on the EMAC calendar this year were not as active as we wished for. Herewith my annual report of EMAC Cross Country races.

**Annual Inter Area XC Challenge** in Corwen, North Wales in March was cancelled by England Masters AA and no team was formed. A few of our XC enthusiasts, usually, travel to the event every year, but for most of us, it is too far and too costly to travel for each individual to consider participating. There are so many XC races for our 2<sup>nd</sup> claim members who have team commitments for their respective 1<sup>st</sup> claim club during the short winter season. Over 90% of our members are 2<sup>nd</sup> claim.

We, regrettably, did not have the **Annual EMAC Cross Country Championship** this year. Usually, our championship is incorporated into the East of England XC Championship. The reason for the change was that we wanted to try a different format, i.e. a less formal and more sociable event, but it ran out of time after the initial set up with Orion did not go ahead. They did not allow inclusion of 35 -39 age group.

Lastly, **the International Team Selection Trial** in September at Betley Court Farm was well attended by EMAC members and as always, everyone ran home with great satisfaction running against top club runners from all over the country. 10 EMAC members including 3 reserves, 5 men and 5 women were selected for **the 36<sup>th</sup> British & Irish Masters XC International** held at Roundhay Park, Leeds on 15<sup>th</sup> November. The England team won and regained the championship lost last year to the Ireland team. Individually, our top men, James Connor (M40 silver), Andrew Leach (M60 silver) and Jonathan Haynes (M70 bronze) ran extremely well against world class opposition.

Yuko Gordon

Cross Country Secretary