

Werrington Joggers protocol for Young People joining the senior section of the Running Club

Definitions:

1. A Young Person (YP) for the purposes of Werrington Joggers is aged 16 or 17 years.
2. The senior section includes Tuesday night runs, any club organised speed session, Sunday runs and any other run organised by the Club for the benefit of members aged 18 and over.

Initial criteria to be met by the YP:

1. The YP has indicated a wish to run with the senior section.
2. If the YP is an existing member of the junior section, the transfer to the senior section is with the agreement of the coaches supervising the junior section.
3. If the YP is not an existing member of the junior section, contact must be made with the club prior to attending the senior section.
4. The YP and their parents or carers must agree to be bound by the terms of this protocol.

Role of Club coaches:

1. A club coach will be assigned to the YP who will establish contact with the YP and their parent or carer to establish their motivation, goals and current running ability. The club coach will also speak to the relevant coach from the junior section if they are an existing member.
2. The appointed coach will arrange for the YP to run with an appropriate group in the senior section ensuring that the group is aware of the YP's capability.

Role of YP's parents or carers:

1. They agree to support the Club coaches in establishing the motivation, goals and current running ability of the YP and understand that their YP will be expected to run with a group and stay with that group for the duration of the run.
2. They understand that they can raise and discuss any issues they may have either with the coach, or if necessary, the Club welfare officers or the Club Chair.
3. They understand that the ethos of the Club and England Athletics is to be athlete focused and this will guide all the advice given to the YP.
4. If the purpose of the YP attending the senior section is connected to A level study or another academic qualification, responsibility for ensuring that the requirements of the course are met rests with the parents/carers and the YP. Requests for assistance with the completion of any documentation should be communicated to Club coaches with sufficient notice. If any filming is required, this is to be undertaken by the parents/carers using their own equipment.

In drawing up this protocol it was presumed that the reasons the YP wishes to join the senior section of the Club may include the following:

1. Their athletic ability is clearly much greater than those being catered for in the junior section.
2. They are undertaking a course of study such as A level PE where they are expected to follow a training programme, maintain a record of achievements and target key events such as School Championships.
3. They aspire to join an occupation which requires them to reach a specific level of running ability e.g., a branch of the military or emergency services.

Both the Junior and Senior club websites will include the requirement for any YP wishing to run with the senior section to contact the Club prior to attending the senior section to allow the terms of this protocol to be put in place.

Club welfare officers act independently of club structures and in the event of a serious matter being raised by the YP, their parent or carer, or any club member, would liaise directly with EA and bypass the Club management.

This protocol ends on the YP's 18th birthday.