

2994 Stan Taylor Timekeeping during a recent very wet Cross Country  
7125 Stan Taylor with the Northern Athletics President's insignia  
9162 Some of Stan Taylor's young training squad

Dated 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Stan Taylor is a long term popular coach at Blackpool, Wyre & Fylde AC, and runs several sessions each week for an enthusiastic group of athletes assisted by Sarah Scott. Many of his athletes are Under 11 or Under 13. Stan recently celebrated his 83rd Birthday, having spent a lifetime in Athletics.

In the late 1950s, Stan was a promising junior at Manchester AC (now Manchester Harriers and AC), before leaving to serve two years of National Service. After his return to training at Manchester AC, he found his best form during 1962.

After building his stamina during the 1961/62 winter, Stan Taylor put his fitness to the test during May, in the Pembroke 20 Mile Road Race, recording a time of 1:49:26. Early in June he won the Lancashire Three Mile Championship in a Best Championship time of 15:38.2. Later in the month, Stan won the Northern Championship 880 yard race in 1:52.6, followed by a AAA Mile win in 4:04.8. At the end of July in a representative match, he reduced his best 880 yard time down to 1:49.5.

Stan was in the form of his life, when he ran in the 1962 Emsley Car Mile held at the White City City Stadium in London. He was running against two top American runners Jim Beattie and Jim Grelle, who had both competed for the USA Athletics Team, at the 1960 Rome Olympics. They took the first two places, however Taylor was a close third in a Sub 4 Minute Mile of 3:58.01.

In the November of 1962, he represented England at the Perth British Empire Games in Australia, where he was 3rd in the 880 yards heats, while after qualifying 3rd (4:08.7) in the Mile heats, Stan finished 7th in the Final, which was won by Peter Snell of New Zealand.

Stan Taylor continued to put in impressive performances, and in later years gave much of his spare time to coaching many of Manchester AC top junior middle distance runners, before moving to Blackpool to set up a business, where joined Blackpool & Fylde AC.

As well as Coaching, Stan has been a Committee member, serving as Treasurer from 1990 to 2005, and then as Track & Field Secretary since. He regularly acts as Chief Timekeeper at many track & field meetings, Cross Country meetings and some Road Races - what ever the weather. In 2015 he was awarded the British Citizen Award for his services to Coaching and recently served as the Northern Athletics President.

Currently of course face to face training is not possible because of Coronavirus regulations. Consequently individual plans are sent out each Sunday evening to each member. Many of the group are involved in other sports such as swimming, triathlon and netball, which require bike riding and strength training. A typical training week maybe three runs - long, steady and interval running, with two bike training, and two active recovery days. If one of the sports is netball, strength training will also be included.







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