

Oxfordshire Cross Country League AGM
Monday 29th June 2026 7.30pm Online

Present

Dan Wymer – Manager
Matthieu Marshall – results
Ros Kelling – Treasurer
Tammi Williams – Committee (and Harwell Harriers)
Theresa Lamble – officials
Julie Rees – Committee (and Reading AC)

Kit Villiers – Headington RR
Richard Hart – Hook Norton Harriers
Caroline Johnstone – Woodstock Harriers (non voting)
Tom Preskett – Woodstock Harriers
Mark Lewy – Abingdon AC marklewy6@gmail.com
Ian Robinson – Banbury Harriers AC
Theo Potter – Kidlington RAC
Duncan Lawrence – Oxford City
Regina Johnnys – Witney RR
John-Paul - Cherwell R&J
Emma Gould – Bicester AC
Phil Marshall – Newbury AC
Laura Leach – Eynsham RR
Lucy – Oxford Tri
Alasdair – Alchester
James - Woodstock

1. Apologies for Absence

Simon Gale – Team Kennet
Will Atkinson - OAA
Michael Beard – Swindon Harriers
Ken Swan – Benson Striders

2. 2024-25 AGM Minutes and Matters Arising

Dan welcomed everyone. Good to see great turnout from around the league. Relatively straightforward AGM. Any corrections or observations from last years minutes? None.

3. Manager's Report – given by Dan Wymer

Thanks - Committee, Host Clubs, Bicester AC, Officials & Volunteers, Team Managers, Fit2Run, Tempo & everyone who has competed

Venues - We faced two potential cancellations – a new Swindon course falling through & flooding at Henley

Fortunately, Oxford City were able to host at Horspath twice & big thanks to Ros for finding the Finmere venue along with Abingdon & Radley for hosting

Cornbury Park continue to increase their fees so is a risk for the future

Need clubs to help locate venues and provide/make contacts with landowners

Races

The league continues to attract a wide variety of athletes, from under 9 to over 70

It's great to see both a friendly atmosphere alongside competitiveness

Finances

The reduction in the surplus was smaller than budgeted and the league still has a significant surplus to protect from future price rises (more on that from Ros later)

Committee

This year we say goodbye and thank you to Richard Hart after several years of service and welcomed Tammi and Julie to the Committee

I'm pleased to be handing over the League Manager reins to Matthieu

The Committee still need more help please

Goodbye

When I joined the Committee 7 years ago it looked very different, with Dene having run the league pretty much single-handed

A handful of us wanted to reduce the pressure on Dene, and give the league a stronger future

In that time the league I am proud of what the league has achieved: equalising distances for male & female athletes, introducing chip timing, combining junior races to rationalise the timetable, establishing strong financial footings, increasing rewards for host clubs and seeing participation rise above pre-Covid levels

There are familiar challenges still facing the league: more committee members and venues are required

Please support Matthieu & the committee, and see you next year (I'll still be racing!)

Any questions?

4. Treasurer's Report – given by Ros Kelling

Income

Sponsorship includes £35 received from Sarah Davies selling clothing at the last fixture. County champs – we agreed a reduced amount for one year only at their request

Expenditure

Trophies and awards has increased mainly due to additional junior teams being awarded medals as agreed at AGM.

Round costs have increased – much of this due to Cornbury increasing the amount they charged for the fixture relatively late on – we had to swallow it.

Host club fees were increased from £500 to £800 as agreed at the AGM

Entry system looks higher, but we paid the whole amount up front rather than having a percentage taken from each entry before we received it, so no actual increase

The committee have agreed, after looking at the budget figures for the 2026/27 season, we are happy not to increase the athlete entry or club fees.

Thank you to Joe Lyne from Headington for giving me a grilling and going through the accounts for us for another year and giving us an independent audit report.

Any questions? There were none.

5. Entry & Results Report

Matthieu shared and entry and results report – attached to minutes.

There were no questions

6. Officials & Volunteers Report

Theresa thanked all the clubs for being proactive and sending their volunteer marshal through. Everything went smoothly despite the venue changes. Average of 5 officials/round. Hasn't dropped off for introducing chip timing – just spread them out more. Theresa thanked the officials. They get a little goody bag at the end. Theresa said being an official was a very rewarding role and encouraged anyone who was interested to step contact her. There were no questions.

7. Proposals

- a. New member club applications – Cirencester Ac, who were a member of OXL some time ago and responsible for us getting Cirencester Paark as a venue some years ago. They gave a submission of what they could contribute to the league. As they are outside of

Oxfordshire they need to be voted in to the league. Dan asked if there were any objections to them joining the league. There were none so it was fully passed.

- b. Third party parking fee clarification – Matthieu clarified that South Parks or Cutteslowe would need use a council car park or park and ride – the venue would not take a parking fee but there would be one charged. This means the wording needs to be clarified to allow for third part car park charges.

Regina asked – Cutteslowe have on site parking charges – would this be council charges? Matthieu confirmed.

Any objections to the change of wording? There were none.

8. 2026-27 Season

- a. Fixtures – Mtthieu shared a provisional timetable

R1 Cornbury Park, Charlbury – but may have alternative venues

R2 Finmere

R3 – Horspath

R4 – Cotswold Farm Park

R5 – Henley Showground

Ian confirmed that he hasn't heard from Cornbury, but we do need to be careful of giving out figures.

Laura – Eynsham – asked if having a potentially waterlogged car park for the March fixture was a good idea. Dan confirmed that it was very unusual for the parking field to be too wet, and Henley can only host R5. Ascott u Wychwood was another potential venue, but wanted the option to cancel at the last minute. First year at Cornbury we nearly had to cancel due to high rain levels. Cotswold Farm Park – we are limited to February as they are shut to the public for that period. They did ask if they could be open to the public during a fixture – but Dan declined due to the problems of managing runners alongside the public.

Emma Gould shared a bit about the buddy runner which Bicester AC trialled. They have a number of athletes who required additional support. One athlete came to Cornbury very anxious and unfortunately fell during the race. Emma approached the league to ask if they could supply a buddy runner from Bicester – in hi viz – and at least start the race with them. He increased in confidence as the season went on, and eventually didn't need additional support. Emma felt if the league was willing to adopt it, it could potentially help a number of clubs and athletes.

Dan confirmed that we had discussed this as a committee and didn't want to make it too restrictive so didn't want to vote it in. Currently we see it working well for the U10/U12 age group, but please approach the committee if you feel we can help additional athletes.

Phil (Newbury) confirmed they have a visually impaired senior athlete who does a number of park runs with a guide. Most courses would not be suitable for a visually impaired athlete – but could this be facilitated? Dan said it was about the athletes coming forward and we would look at each case individually. Finmere could be OK, but most courses too hazardous.

Woodstock – if clubs have potentially interested athletes they could come along when the course is being set up, or similar. Dan – if they get in touch with the committee we can make provision if possible.

New age groups – Matthieu explained EA had changed the age groups from April 2026. This has little impact on us and the timetable will remain the same. Distances for each of the new age groups will remain the same – just up a year.

Ian asked about the distances – our current distances fall within the guidance distances EA are giving, so most of the courses can use existing routes.

- b. Budget – Matthieu confirmed we have a healthy position, carrying approx. £26,000 surplus going into next season. We have made a conservative estimate for next season, giving a deficit of about £4,275, which represents a worst case scenario. We may make cost savings by moving away from Open Track. Revenue is likely to be higher than forecast.
- c. Website – Matthieu – we are in the process of designing a new website. We had a few outages, and problems with results from Open Track. One of the aims will be increased functionality, including results and standings. Matthieu gave a viewing of a ‘work in progress’ new website, and asked if anyone present knew people who could help develop the website.

Regina – will it sync with EA? Matthieu confirmed. We will continue to use Open Track for the following season if the website is not ready. Regina offered to test it with Witney entries if needed.

Emma – would it just be team managers who did the entries? Matthieu confirmed it would as it works well.

9. Committee Officials

Dan said we could do with more help – 8 people would be a good number. Ros is still managing secretary and treasurer roles which are both full jobs.

Are there any questions or objections to the 5 current committee members continuing? There were none.

Dan asked if anyone had any ideas how to increase committee members. He had learned a lot from being manager for a number of years, and appreciated the experience. Matthieu suggested DofE volunteers.

Ros suggested that anyone could join a committee meeting – we will send out the date of the next meeting to all clubs.

10. AOB

Message from Will Atkinson - Inter Counties will be held in March as usual. OAA would like county cross country champs to be held within the January fixture as per previous years please.

Duncan thanked the committee for all their work in running the league.

Dan thanked everyone for giving up their time to support the league.

Meeting finished at 20.40.

Entry & results report – adults promotion & relegation

Not received too much feedback on change last season to division structure.

Men

Swindon Harriers won division 1. Didcot and White Horse relegated to division 2.

Alchester Running Club won division 2 and are promoted along with Thame Runners. Highworth and Banbury Harriers are relegated to division 3.

Radley AC won division 3 and are promoted alongside Oxford Tri.

Women

Oxford City won division 1. Abindon AC and Swindon Harriers relegated to division 2.

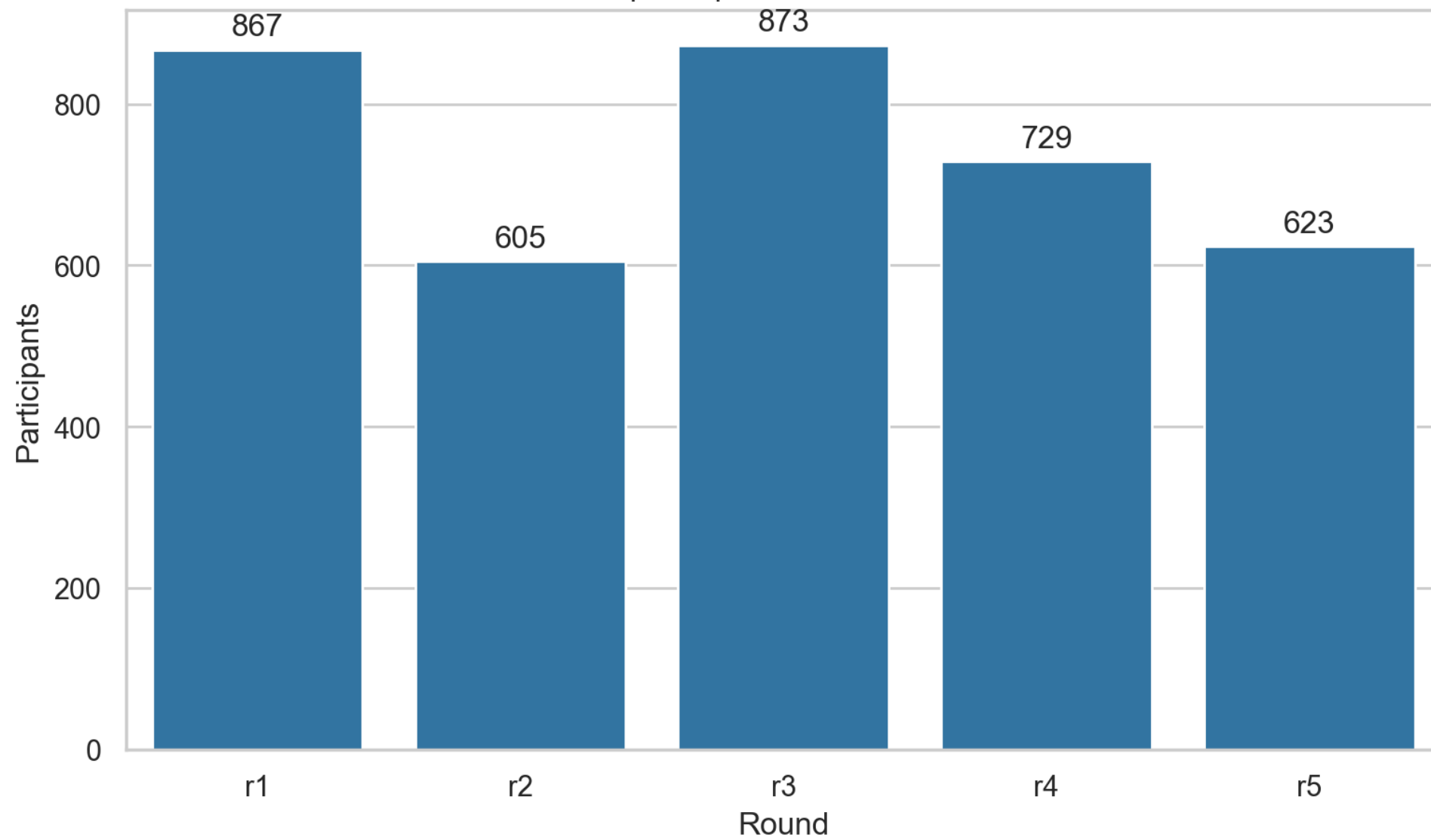
Woodstock Harriers won division 2 and are promoted along with Thame Runners. Eynsham RR and White Horse are relegated to division 3.

Swindon Striders won division 3 and are promoted alongside Kidlington Running Club.

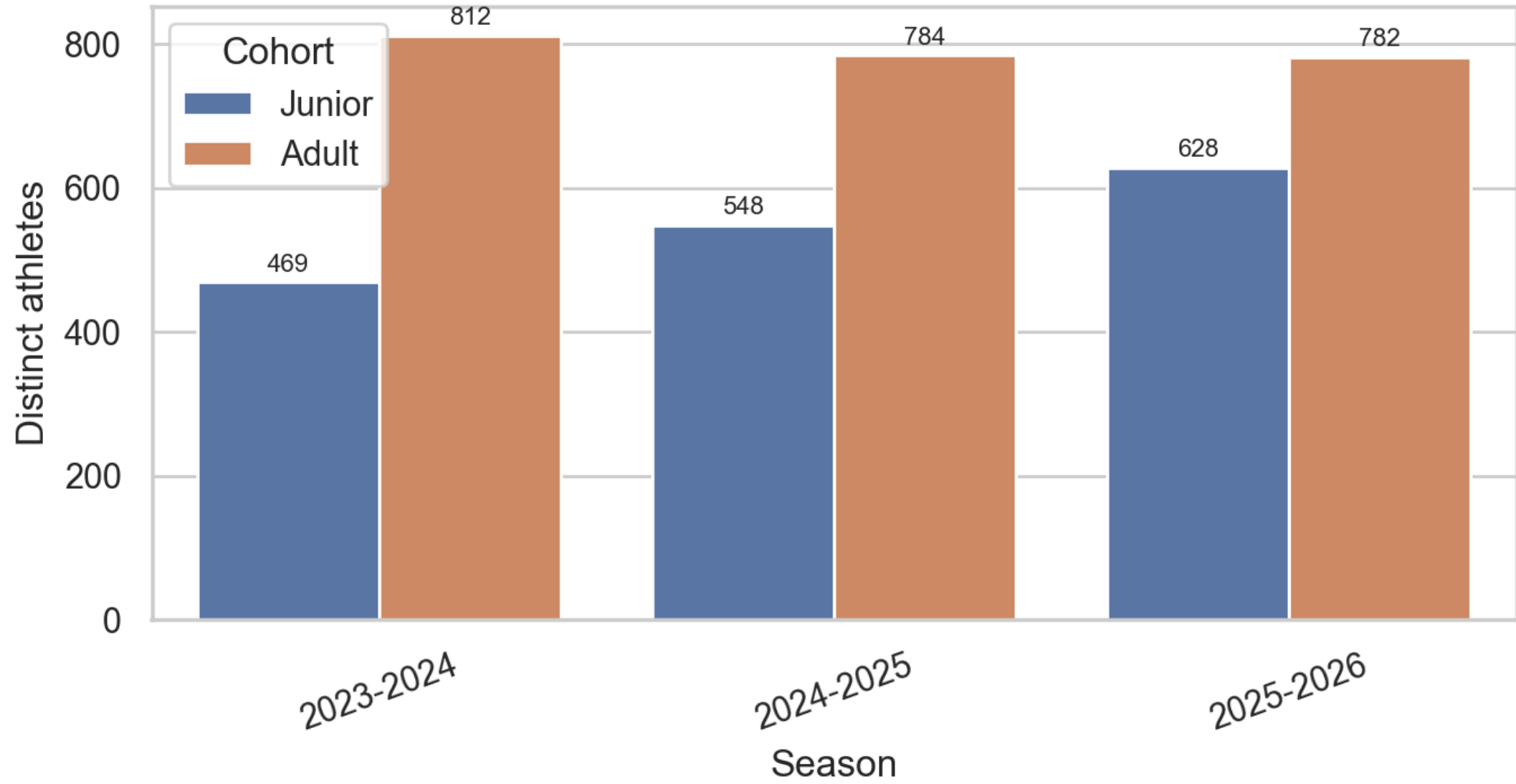
Entries and participation

Season	Entries	At least one participation	Percentage
2023-2024	1453	1281	88%
2024-2025	1399	1332	95%
2025-2026	1466	1410	96%

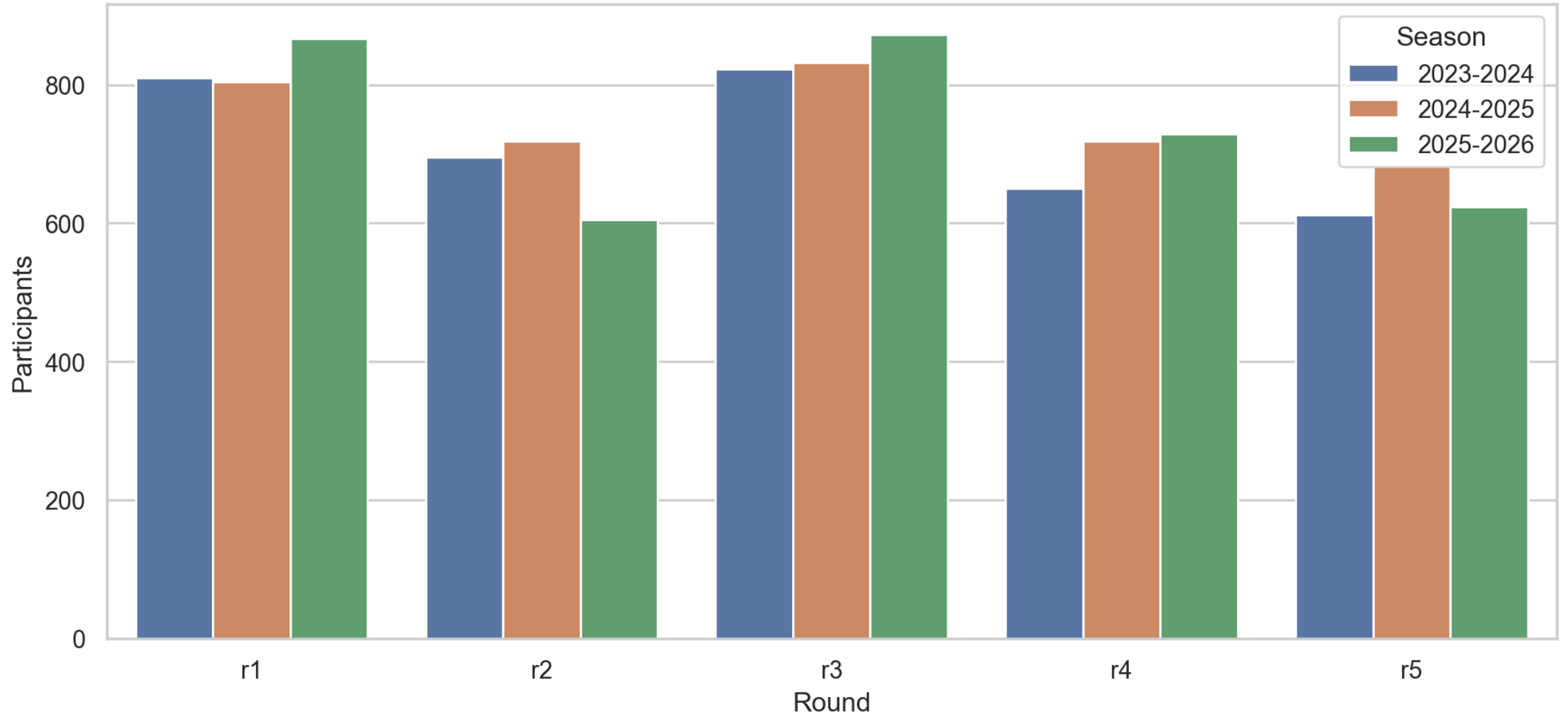
Participants per round - 2025-2026



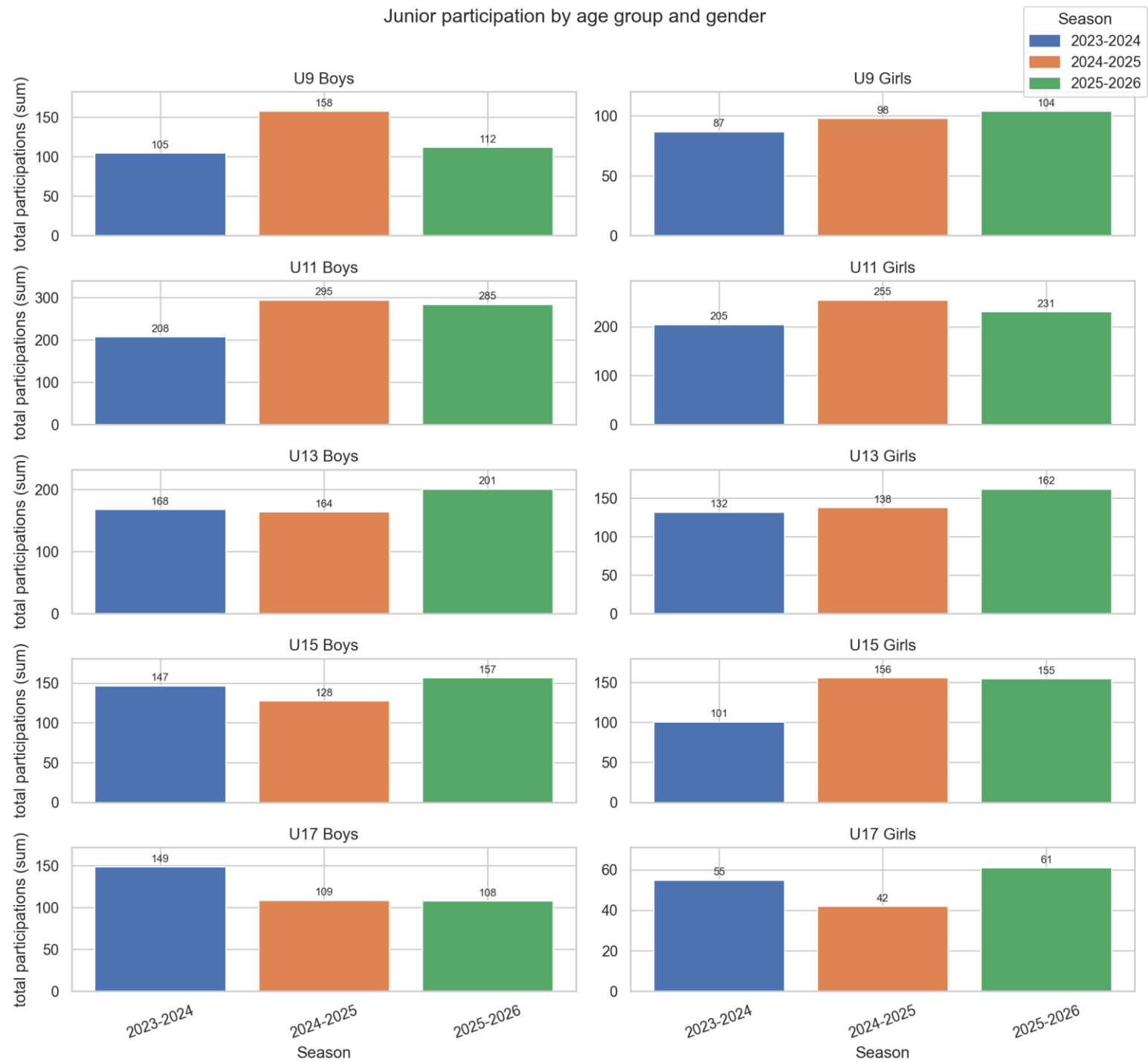
Distinct athletes per season split by cohort



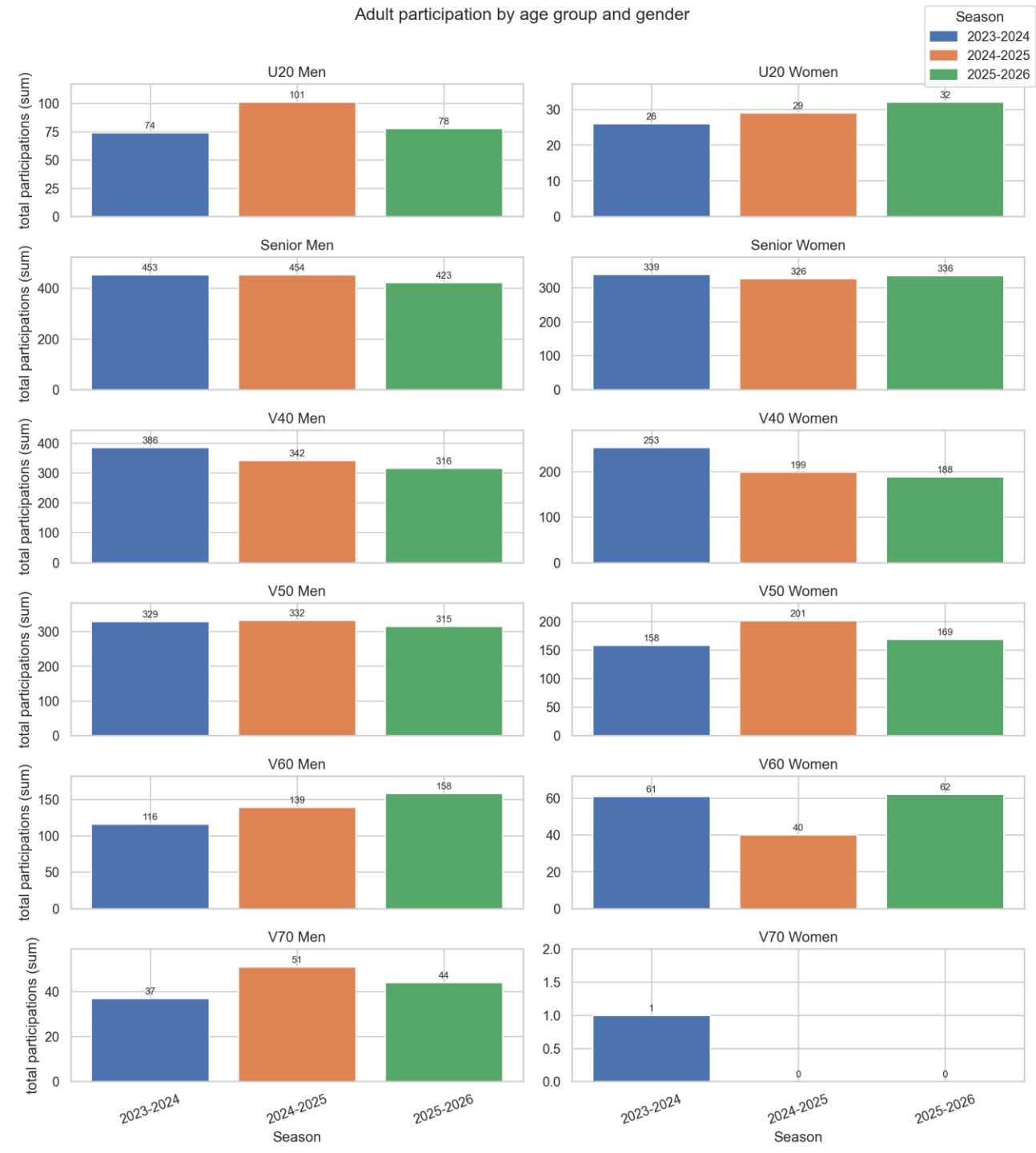
Participation per round by season



Junior participation by age group and gender



Adult participation by age group and gender



2026-2027 fixtures

Provisional timetable

Date	Location
Sunday 1 st November	Cornbury Park, Charlbury*
Sunday 6 th December	Finmere, near Brackley
Sunday 3 rd January	Horspath, Oxford
Sunday 7 th February	Cotswold Farm Park, Guiting Power
Sunday 7 th March	Henley Showground, Henley

* We would like to negotiate a lower fee with the venue for Cornbury. And if unable, would like to explore other venues.

New Age groups for juniors

Little impact on us.

Largely administrative.

Distance ranges for each group remain the same.

Old age group	New age group
U9	U10
U11	U12
U13	U14
U15	U16
U17	U18

2025-2026 budget

- The league is in a healthy financial position having £26, 194.45 going into the next season.
- In the 23-24 and 24-25 seasons we made healthy surplus of £9k and £4k respectively.
- In 25-26 season we forecast a deficit of £2137.68 which in fact was £871.91.
- We once again make a conservative estimate in 26-27 with a forecast deficit of £4274.64, which represents a worst case scenario.
- A few items we hope will mean this deficit will not happen:
 - Cornbury venue hire will not be as high as expected or an alternative will be found.
 - Potential entry cost savings should we move away from OpenTrack.
 - Entry revenue will be higher than forecast.

New website

We are in the process of designing and implementing a new website for the league.

We suffered from outages from the existing website and the committee found it was hard to maintain and add info to. The new website will host results & standings which have proved problematic with OpenTrack.

A new website is work in progress currently hosted at www.oxfordshirexcleague.uk. This will be migrated to the existing domain before the start of the season.

The new website will host documentation, fixture info and results & standings among other information.

Should development continue well, we will use the new website for entries and will communicate that out well ahead of entries opening in October.

Ask for help

- Open to help on website development
 - Maybe of interest to juniors looking for experience (as volunteer).
- New venues needed
- Committee members needed
 - Secretary
 - Entries & results backfill (and website help as above)
 - Committee discussion pending on league representative while I & Ros race