



**STEEPLECHASE – *and nothing else.***

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2018 - Saffron Lane Stadium – Leicester**

The launch of the UK's first Steeplechase only track event is set to go ahead on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at Saffron Lane Athletics Stadium in Leicester. The morning's schedule, the first race of which will begin at 10.30 am will include events over 1500, 2000 and 3000m for both male and female athletes. The date has been set so that athletes can get meaningful competition in their preparation for the county championships weekend the following week and set an early marker for the rest of the season.

Event director John Skevington who is coach and event coordinator for the Leicestershire Athletics Network (LRAN) explained *“Having coached steeplechase for the first time over the winter it became ever apparent that there was certainly a lack of events for those involved in the event to race over the range of distances. The obvious answer was to put on an event to plug the gap!”*

UK Athletics have introduced into the rulebook a development opportunity for both male and female under 15 athletes to compete over the shorter 1500m distance using the lower height 762mm hurdles. If there is sufficient interest this event this will be included in the timetable as a standalone event.

John Skevington added *“ LRAN are pleased to be able to offer this great opportunity and are so pleased that England Athletics have given their full backing and support. It is hoped that we can develop the event into an annual one and certainly, if there is sufficient interest, we will be staging a further match during 2018.”*

Entries are on-line only through the following link:

<https://www.evententry.co.uk/steeplefest>

Event queries to Race Director John Skevington

[john.skevington@hotmail.com](mailto:john.skevington@hotmail.com)

**For more information on the event areas that England Athletics supports**

<https://www.englandathletics.org/coaching---central-to-successful-athletics/coach-development/endurance-coach-development#Steeplechase%20programme>