

Eastern District Championship

The twenty-fourth annual Eastern District of Scotland Cross-Country Championship was decided from Victoria Park, Falkirk, last Saturday, when over 140 runners faced the starter, an office which Provost Gilchrist kindly filled.

The course was one of six and a half miles. The start was a very good one, and the lap of Victoria Park, which is half a mile, occupied only 2 minutes 9 seconds. At half-distance the strong lead of the first stage still was held by J. Suttie Smith, Dundee Thistle; M. Stewart, Edinburgh Northern; J. F. Wood, Heriot's; and W. Gibson, Canon A.S.; only Smith and Stewart were abreast and ahead of the other two a little. Entering the park on the final circuit by the bottom gate, 300 yards from the tape, Smith and Stewart were still abreast, and a sprint for the tape ensued. Both runners took every ounce out of themselves, and it was only in the last 20 yards that Smith took command to win by three yards in 37 minutes 1 second.

The first twelve home were:—1. J. Suttie Smith (Dundee Thistle H.); 2. M. Stewart (Edinburgh H.); 3. J. F. Wood (Heriot's A.C.); 4. W. Gibson (Canon A.S.C.); 5. P. H. Boxwell (Edinburgh U.H.H.); 6. T. F. Mulholland (Edinburgh Northern H.); 7. R. Paterson (Edinburgh Southern H.); 8. E. Stenhouse (Edinburgh H.); 9. J. D. Wilson (E.S.H.); 10. W. Wright (Falkirk Victoria H.); 11. A. A. Bowman (E.S.H.); 12. R. Sinclair (E.N.H.).

The team race was won by Edinburgh Southern Harriers (R. Paterson 6, J. D. Wilson 8, A. A. Bowman 11, J. A. Henderson 13, W. Gorrie 15, S. Craig 29), with 81 points. Edinburgh Harriers were second with 103 points, and Edinburgh Northern third with 122 points. The other placings were:—4. Dundee Thistle, 144 points; 5. Falkirk Victoria, 160 points; Canon A.S.C., 173 points; 7. Linlithgow, 319 points.

The presentation of prizes took place in the Union Hall—Mr D. Holland, president of E.D. Committee, presiding. Amongst those present were Messrs J. W. Dickson and Geo. Dallas, president and secretary respectively of the National Cross-Country Union of Scotland. The judges were J. C. A. Bogie, D. Holland, G. Dallas, J. Howieson, T. Fraser, W. Love. Referee—J. W. Dickson. Timekeepers—D. Taylor, G. Hume, G. M. Grant. Clerks of course—G. M. Grant, hon. secretary, E.D.N.C.C.U., and S. W. Barkhouse, hon. secretary, Falkirk Victoria Harriers.

THE HARRIERS.

CHAMPIONSHIP AT FALKIRK.

The race at Falkirk on Saturday for the Eastern District championship will be remembered for the magnificent running of the two leaders, who practically hammered at one another all the way till the last 300 yards, when a neck-and-neck struggle ensued, with the little bit extra giving J. Smith, Dundee Thistle, the verdict by three yards from M. Stewart, E.N.H.

The team honours were won by the principal city clubs, as follows:

1—Edinburgh Southern Harriers (R. Paterson, 6; J. D. Wilson, 8; A. A. Bowman, 10; J. A. Henderson, 13; W. Gorrie, 15; and S. Craig, 29)—81 points.

2—Edinburgh Harriers, 7, 12, 17, 20, 23, and 24—103 points.

3—Edinburgh Northern Harriers, 2, 5, 11, 25, 30, and 49—122 points.

The other placings were as follows: 4—Dundee Thistle; 5—Falkirk Victoria; 6—Canon A.S. Club; 7—Linlithgow; 8—Teviotdale; 9—Hawkhill; 10—Gala; 11—Heriot C.C. Club; 12—Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A.