

CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONS.

SUTTIE SMITH FIRST AT FALKIRK.

By "Ggroe."

J. Suttie Smith, Dundee Thistle Harriers, beat M. Stewart, Edinburgh Northern, by five yards in the seven miles contest for the Eastern District Junior Cross-Country Championship at Victoria Park, Falkirk, on Saturday. His time—37 mins. 1 sec.

Edinburgh Southern won the team race. Their counting six:—

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

Edinburgh were second—E. Stenhouse (7), J. C. Bannatyne (12), D. D. Mitchell (17), J. M. Thin (20), J. A. Sinclair (23), and D. A. Cameron (24)—103 points, and Edinburgh Northern (holders) third with 122 points; Dundee Thistle were fourth with 144; Falkirk Victoria fifth, 160; and Canon A.C. sixth, 173.

First six in the race:—

1. J. S. Smith, Dundee, 37 mins. 1 sec.; 2. M. Stewart, Northern, 37 mins. 3 secs.; 3. J. F. Wood, 38 mins. 9 secs.; 4. W. Gibson, Canon, 38 mins. 9 secs.; 5. R. H. Boxwell, E.U.A.C., 38 mins. 38 secs.; 6. T. F. Mulholland, Northern, 38 mins. 44 secs.

CLUB RUNS

CROSS-COUNTRY NOTES.

EASTERN DISTRICT JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP.

The weather was cold and dry, and the going good for the 25th annual Eastern District Junior Championship at Musselburgh last Saturday afternoon. There was a record entry of sixteen clubs, and only two of these—Grange and Penicuik—did not face the starter.

The following clubs were engaged:—Edinburgh Rover Scouts, Heriot's Cross-Country Club, Edinburgh Harriers, Hawkhill Harriers, Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A. Harriers, Edinburgh Southern Harriers, Edinburgh University H. and H. Club, Falkirk Victoria Harriers, Edinburgh Northern Harriers, Linlithgow Harriers, Gala Harriers, Teviotdale Harriers, Canon Athletic Sports Club, and Thistle Harriers (Dundee).

Among the judges was Dr Thomas Fraser, who formally presented to G. M. Grant, president of the Eastern District Executive, the Fraser Memorial Challenge Shield, to be competed for annually by club teams. In doing so, Dr Fraser thanked the National Cross-Country Union and the Eastern District Executive for allowing him to give this trophy to keep green the memory of his father, the late Mr Tom Fraser, a former president of the N.C.C.U.

Dr Fraser said that the record of his father in connection with sport was well known. He was a man who worked whole-heartedly and ungrudgingly to promote amateurism in all branches of athletics. He delighted in sport for sport's sake. It would be his father's wish that Edinburgh and district should uphold the same amateurism which was his ideal. After the race it was arranged that Dr Fraser should present the trophy to the winning team.

The course was about seven miles, and about half of it was on Musselburgh race-course, with the rest in the open country.

The timekeepers were D. Taylor, Heriot's C.C.C.; George Hume, Edinburgh Harriers; G. M. Grant, Edinburgh Northern Harriers; and J. Miller, Greenock Glenpark. Close upon 200 runners were engaged.

Oswald Barclay, J.P., who was accompanied by Provost Bourhill, Musselburgh, started the men. There was a crowd of over 500 spectators in the grand-stand, and many more on the course at that time.

The runners went down the course with the wind behind them, and coming up the back course on the sea side the field had strung out, over 200 yards separating the first man from the last. W. Gibson, Canon A.S.C., was leader after a mile and a quarter, but there was a pack of a dozen men of various clubs almost abreast of him at that stage.

At the half-distance the field was badly strung out. J. Wood, Heriot's Cross-Country Club had established a great lead and was running strongly. He was fully 200 yards ahead of H. M'Intosh, Edinburgh Northern; D. Ross, Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A.; and W. Gibson, Canon A.S.C. About five yards covered this bunch, who had then a considerable task.

The individual championship was won by J. F. Wood, Heriot's, in 45 mins. 11 secs. Wood kept up his good going all the way, and finished 200 yards ahead of D. Ross, Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A., who finished first in the League championship race at Musselburgh a fortnight ago. Ross's time was 45 mins. 52 secs. The third man home was W. Gibson, Canon A.S.C. There was a sprint between H. M'Intosh, Edinburgh Northern, and D. A. Cameron, Edinburgh Harriers, for the fourth place. M'Intosh got it by a foot.

The team championship was won by Edinburgh Harriers with 72 points. Their team members were—D. A. Cameron, 2; R. Stevenson, 6; J. M. Hill, 10; J. T. Bannatyne, 12; J. T. Sutte, 17; D. D. Mitchell, 12.

The runners-up were Dundee Thistle Harriers (125 points). The third place was gained by Edinburgh Northern Harriers (17 points).

THE HARRIERS.

EASTERN CHAMPIONSHIP.

The Eastern District Cross-Country Championship, held at Musselburgh on Saturday, saw the Edinburgh Harriers repeat their success of 1921 and become the first holders of the Fraser Trophy.

The championship was a complete success, the field being big (151 runners) and the public interest being manifested by a crowd of 500 spectators.

The Edinburgh Harriers were favourites for the trophy, and their win was a popular and deserved one, their nearest challengers being Dundee Thistle with 123 points as against the winners' 71 points.

Northern did well to finish in the third place, but the Capons were badly handicapped through the absence of W. Rutheen and C. Harkins, and occupied the disappointing position of seventh.

The individual championship was won in convincing fashion by J. T. Wood, of Heriot's, repeating a Heriot's success in 1921, when A. P. Hamilton won at Galeshield. The Heriot's man took the lead early, and at the half-way stage was 220 yards in front of the field, a lead he increased to 300 yards at the close, to finish on his own. D. Ross, Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A., winner of the last League race, was runner-up, and W. Gilson, Capon, occupied third place.