

MIDLAND DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS



By EDWIN TAYLOR
(Hon. Secy., Midland District N.C.C.U.)

ENTRIES for Midland 7 Miles' Junior titles promised attractive competition for the individual and team honours. The race was held at Hamilton Racecourse on Saturday, 5th February, 1949. As the results show, both finishes were close. Olympic runner, J. J. Barry of St. Machan's A.C. getting there by 1 sec. before Jim Fleming of Motherwell Y.M. followed by Jim Stuart of Shettleston 20 secs. behind.

These three dominated the race, taking it in turn to be in the lead and trying to "break away." John Joe made an effort twice in the wood to cut loose, Stuart had one or two tries, and Fleming about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to go tried to shake off the opposition, but all these endeavours were unsuccessful and it was "cat and mouse" to the finish. Barry obviously has the class and these three reputed milers will shake up our long distance stars for National honours.

The team race was an open affair among the leading clubs and I believe Glasgow University nursed hopes with a team of experienced runners and prior successes in Inter-Varsity races. However at the finish 1 point separated Shettleston and Victoria Park with Springburn 3rd and the Varsity 4th. It is interesting and instructive to note that 600 yards from home Victoria Park were leading by 10 points from Shettleston, to prove once again no race is won or lost till the finishing line has been crossed.

The provinces proved successful in the $\frac{1}{2}$ miles youths' race, W. Nelson of Motherwell Y.M.C.A. taking the individual award and Hamilton Harriers making sure of the team honour by 9 points from Garscube with Shettleston 3rd 1 point behind.

F. Robertson (Garscube) was second individual and Hamilton Harriers, J. Craig and H. Gibson, were 3rd and 4th.

The close results all round show keen competition and no runaway victories, winners and runners-ups alike providing two good races.

DETAILS—

INDIVIDUAL—

1. J. J. Barry, St. Machan's A.C. 38.13
2. J. F. Fleming, Motherwell Y.M.C.A. 38.14
3. J. Stuart, Shettleston Harriers ... 38.34
4. W. Gallagher, Vale of Leven A.A.C. 38.45

TEAM PLACINGS—

1. Shettleston Harriers—

1. J. Stuart, 2. E. Bannon, 9. C. Wallace, 11. E. Summerhill, 13. W. Laing, 19. H. Mills, 25.—79 Points : J. Burton, 28. G. H. Taylor, 34. T. Clark, 55. A. Maxwell, 57. A. Campbell, 86. J. Miller, 109.

2. Victoria Park A.A.C.—

1. J. Ellis, 4. J. Reid, 8. R. O'Hara, 12. J. Stirling, 16. D. Shuttleworth, 17. C. Forbes, 23.—80 Points : A. Johnston, 46. A. Jenkins, 51. J. Simpson, 54. B. Smith, 94. J. McClure, 114.

3. Springburn Harriers—

1. T. Tracey, 6. A. C. Stevenson, 14. R. F. McLean, 15. D. Fyffe, 18. D. McLachlan, 24. T. McGill.—106 Points : J. Rankin, 40. H. Frith, 47. N. McGowan, 63. S. L. Neilson, 88. A. Miller, 110. H. Harrold, 118.

4. Glasgow University Hare and Hounds—

1. J. McGhee, 27. J. Gourlay, 33. J. Spence, 37. W. S. Rathie, 43. C. J. Risk, 49. J. H. Jardine, 52.—241 Points : W. G. Jardine, 60. D. Johnstone, 61. H. C. Garven, 68. J. D. Hamilton, 71. I. F. Manning, 78.

5. Maryhill Harriers—

1. H. B. Morrison, 21. J. Nelson, 26. T. K. Wilson, 31. R. Brymner, 44. J. Brymner, 65. F. McRae, 74.—261 Points : J. Bissell, 81. G. Anderson, 101. A. McRae, 104.

6. Bellahouston Harriers—

1. J. Christie, 20. A. Dunwoodie, 22. G. McArthur, 53. T. Kelly, 56. D. Muir, 70. J. L. Ferguson, 72.—293 Points : J. W. Allan, 79. E. Oxburgh, 90. G. McAllister, 93.

7. Plebeian Harriers—

1. A. C. Robertson, 30. E. Latham, 32. W. McInnes, 45. J. Latham, 58. F. Cassells, 89. C. Heaney, 100.—354 Points.

8. Garscube Harriers—

1. T. A. Gourlay, 48. A. Gold, 50. D. G. Causon, 59. P. McGrath, 62. W. Robertson, 80. J. Andrews, 82.—381 Points : R. Smith, 83. J. McGarity, 84. I. Edwards, 92. W. J. Ross, 96. A. Veitch, 99. J. Croall, 115.

9. Motherwell Y.M.C.A. Harriers—

1. J. Fleming, 1. G. Wood, 7. H. Shields, 77. W. Watson, 97. G. Gordon, 103. A. Morrow, 107.—392 Points : D. Sommerville, 123. R. Devon, 128.

10. Clydesdale Harriers—
G. White, 10. D. Scott, 39. D. Bowman, 64. W. Howie, 85. E. Murphy, 111. A. Hylan, 124.—433 Points : D. Stewart, 126.
11. Vale of Leven A.A.C.—
W. Gallagher, 3. T. Wilson, 67. D. McPherson, 75. A. Campbell, 76. W. Crowe, 86. A. Murray, 129.—436 Points.
12. Glasgow Police A.A.—
K. Sigrist, 35. A. Allan, 36. A. McGregor, 69. J. McLeish, 91. S. Martin, 102. G. Girvan, 105.—438 Points : W. Walker, 125. W. McSevenney, 127. W. T. Carson, 130.
13. Monkland Harriers—
F. Bradley, 38. T. Jackson, 106. G. Jackson, 108. J. Tennant, 113. J. Geddes, 121. D. Steel, 122.—608 Points.
14. Glasgow Y.M.C.A., A.C.—
S. Mowbray, 73. J. Herd, 95. J. Redman, 112. D. McLean, 117. H. Clark, 119. R. Donald, 120.—636 Points.

FAILED TO CLOSE IN—

Hamilton Harriers—

- A. C. Gibson, 55. G. McGill, 41. J. Stewart, 87. G. Craig, 98. —, —.

Hillington Harriers—

- J. Barber, 42. H. Wilkie, 116. —, —, —, —.

INDIVIDUAL ENTRANTS—

- A. N. Other, 10. D. Brown (Larkhall Y.M.), 22. T. D. Reid (Larkhall Y.M.), 30. A. N. Other, 40. G. Russell, 62.

[Youths' Race Details continued on page 18.]

SOUTH-WESTERN DISTRICT RACE

By GEO. PICKERING
(Hon. Secy. S.W. District N.C.C.U.)

TEN teams and nine individuals lined up for the District 7 Miles Championship, run from the Kilmarnock Harriers' A.C. Headquarters on Saturday, 5th February, 1949.

The trail, a double lap one, was a real cross-country test, with a mixture of hill, plough and grassland, with approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile road at start and finish.

After the runners had covered about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles T. McNeish, Irvine, who had set a good pace, led T. Stevenson, Wellpark, by about 15 yards. When the first lap was completed McNeish led Stevenson by about 50 yards with Lindsay, Auchmountain, close behind. Time for first lap, 20 mins. 25 secs.

The heavy nature of the ground would probably take toll at the next lap, and so it proved. When the runners came into view it showed that McNeish, with



Midland District Youths' 2½ Miles Team Race

At Hamilton Racecourse, Saturday, 5th February 1949.

Results -

- * 1. D. Nelson (Motherwell Y.M.).
- 2. F. C. Robertson (Garscabe H.).
- 3. J. Craig (Hamilton H.).
- 4. H. Gibson (Hamilton H.).
- 5. W. J. McCommon (Springburn H.).
- 6. R. McDonald (Maryhill H.).
- * 7. M. Kanley (St. Modans).
- 8. W. Duncan (Victoria Park).
- 9. E. Murray (Garscabe H.).
- * 10. J. Hume (Clydesdale H.).
- 11. C. Kirk (Bellahouston H.).
- * 12. D. McCullum (Clydesdale H.).
- 13. R. Graham (Bellahouston H.).
- * 14. D. Fisher (Waddington Welfare).
- * 15. C. Ballantyne (Monkland H.).
- 16. R. Bellis (Shettleston H.).
- 17. A. Hector (Victoria Park).
- * 18. A. Lafferty (St. Modans).
- * 19. A. R. Gilchrist (Plebeian).
- 20. J. Kirk (Shettleston H.).
- * 21. J. Ross (Airdrie H.).
- 22. D. Robertson (West of Scotland).
- 23. E. Dolan (Shettleston H.).
- 24. I. Ballantyne (Cambuslang H.).
- 25. F. Cowan (West of Scotland).
- 26. W. Anderson (Bellahouston H.).
- 27. J. Scaubar (Hamilton H.).
- 28. A. Brodie (Victoria Pt.).
- 29. W. Murray (Garscabe H.).
- * 30.
- 31. J. Coleman (Springburn H.).
- 32. J. Moore (Shettleston H.).
- 33. A. Gordon (Maryhill H.).
- 34. A. Henderson (Shettleston H.).
- 35. G. Houston (Hamilton H.).
- 36. J. Duffy (Springburn H.).
- * 37.
- 38. A. Campbell (West of Scotland).
- 39. D. Orr (Victoria Park).
- 40. T. McKenna (St. Ignatius C.C.).
- 41. W. Stanwick (Glasgow City).
- 42. A. Miller (Maryhill H.).
- 43. J. Davidson (West of Scotland).
- 44. J. Edgar (Springburn H.).
- 45. J. McElheen (St. Ignatius).
- 46. R. Beag (Cambuslang H.).
- * 47. W. Anderson (Clydesdale H.).
- 48. J. Carmichael (Bellahouston H.).
- 49. C. McGuire (St. Ignatius).
- 50. A. McGonigle (Hamilton H.).
- 51. J. M. Roberts (St. Ignatius).
- 52. G. Munro (Victoria Park).
- 53. M. Fletcher (Maryhill H.).
- 54. W. Appleby (Maryhill H.).
- 55. A. Gillies (Bellahouston H.).
- 56. C. Canning (St. Ignatius).

Individuals marked with star.

1st Team. Hamilton H. (J. Craig 2, H. Gibson 3, J. Scaubar 8, G. Houston 25) 48 Pts.

2nd Team. Garscabe H. (J. C. Robertson 1, E. Murray 4, W. Murray 20, W. Stanwick 29) 54 Pts.

3rd Team. Shettleston H. (R. Bellis 10, J. Kirk 12, E. Dolan 14, J. Moore 22) 58 Pts.

All our youths ran extremely well, and as can be seen from the above results the team race was decidedly close, so much so that I fancy our youths team chances in the National at Ayr.

It won't be easy, but I believe they can do it provided they train consistently till the Championships and on the day of the race, go out to run with that good team spirit which they displayed so recently. Roy Bellis, Jim Kirk, and Jim Dolan can all improve on their present positions and with J. Moore, A. Henderson, and A. Aitkenhead provided he is fit, should be as strong