

Cross-Country Championships.

The ninth annual team and individual Novice Championships of the National Cross-Country Union of Scotland were held on Saturday in the policies of Bothwell Castle, kindly granted by the Earl of Home. The entry of 37 teams—31 from the West and 6 from the East—set up a new record for an N.C.C.U. championship. All the previous winners of the team event were represented—viz., Maryhill Harriers (1919), Shettleston Harriers (1920, 1921, 1923); Garscube Harriers (1922, 1924, 1925); and Eglinton Harriers (1926). The conditions of entry restricted competitors to those who had not won an award in a cross-country race prior to October 1. Teams comprised eight runners each, but only the first four counted in the team placings. The judges were Messrs J. C. A. Bogie, G. M. Grant, and J. W. Dickson; the referee was Mr A. M. Bryson, while Mr James Donald acted as starter. The $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles course was made up of three circuits, mostly on grass, but rain had made the going very heavy. The big field of almost 300 competitors was got away to a fine start, and a most interesting contest was witnessed by a large crowd. The team championship went, as anticipated, to the newly formed Doon Harriers, who had three men in the first 12. Their total of 51 points was ample to ensure the honour remaining in Ayrshire. Hamilton Harriers did very well to finish second, while Shettleston Harriers were a good third. At one point Maryhill Harriers threatened the leaders, but their first two men did not receive the requisite support. Results:—Individual Championships.—1, M. Stobbs, Catrine A.A.C., 26min. 42sec.; 2, J. Donnelly, Hamilton H., 26min. 49sec.; 3, G. P. Inglis, Maryhill H., 27 min. 3sec.