

The Scots Athlete

TO STIMULATE INTEREST IN
SCOTTISH AND WORLD ATHLETICS

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SCOTTISH NOVICE CHAMPIONSHIPS



THE START:—W. BROWN (Edinburgh Southern) (98) leading.

The National Novice Cross-Country Championship held at Pollok Estate on 22nd November, 1947, under adverse weather conditions, proved to be as excellent and thrilling a race as any of the series. The five-mile trail was a double-lap circuit similar to the course of the 1946 race.

Prior to the start, the popular fancies for the Individual title were D. Jackson (Shettleston), T. Garry (Glasgow Univ.) and Youths Cross-Country Champion Wilfred Young (Vic. Park). Another fancied candidate before the day of the race, R. Smith (Garscube) Youths Mile Champion and a fine fourth in the previous "Novice," was convalescing in hospital after having undergone an urgent operation.

There were over 200 starters. When the "field" came into view approach-

ing half distance, only D. Jackson of the "fancies" was "in the hunt," and then he seemed to falter badly and had to retire, as Garry did also, with leg injury. A group of four, all running sweetly, were out in front, with C. Forbes (Vic. Park) leading, followed by W. Brown (Edinburgh Southern) and D. McLachlin (Springburn), whilst J. Duffy (Garscube) seemed to be content in fourth position.

With a timed effort, Duffy forced the issue with just over a mile to go, and his company could not respond. But W. Lennie (Vale of Leven), who had been closing up, gave chase. Over the last mile Lennie gradually closed in a ten-yard gap, and about 200 yards from the tape actually passed Duffy. In an uphill gradient to the finish Duffy rallied, and his strong finish wa-



Leaders at half-distance in the "Novice":—C. Forbes, W. Brown, D. McLachlin and J. J. Duffy.

too much for the weakened but gallant Lennie.

Judging by the shouts of "Come on, Joe!" along the finishing stretch (by ardent female enthusiasts), the winner was not entirely unknown or without popularity.

A grand Victoria Park A.A.C. team packed well from the start and were worthy winners of the team championship.

RESULTS

- 1—J. J. DUFFY (Garscube)—26 min. 34 sec.
- 2—W. LENNIE (Vale of Leven A.A.C.)—26m. 44s.
- 3—W. BROWN (Edinburgh Southern H.)—26m. 50s.
- 4—C. FORBES (Victoria Park A.A.C.)—27m. 22 seconds.

TEAM PLACINGS

- 1—Victoria Park A.A.C.—C. Forbes 4, A. Johnston 10, W. Young 12, R. O'Hara 17, Total, 43 points. 34, 58, 145.
- 2—Shettleston H.—W. Burns 13, R. Wilson 16, W. Laing 20, C. Wallace 22. 71 pts. 35, 48, 84.
- 3—Edinburgh University H. and H.—R. R. Rowies 6, R. J. Sherwin 8, R. F. Willy 40, D. G. Cumming 46. 100 points. 50, 61, 122, 127.
- 4—Garscube H.—J. Duffy 1, 26, 41, 43. 111 points. 59, 72, 74, 89.
- 5—Maryhill H.—J. Robb 15, 29, 32, 66. 142 points. 76, 86, 94.
- 6—Vale of Leven A.A.C.—W. Lennie 2, 27, 52, 68. 149 points. 100, 110, 106.
- 7—Greenock Glenpark H.—J. W. Armstrong 5, 30, 55, 60. 150 points. 95.
- 8—H.M.S. Condon—Weller 14, 21, 56, 63. 154 points. 79.
- 9—Doon H.—J. Bigham 7, J. Munro 18, 49, 81. 155 points. 104, 120, 136, 149.

- 10—H.M.S. Caledonia—31, 37, 38, 64. 170 points. 97, 106, 107, 114.
- 11—Edinburgh Southern H.—W. Brown 3, 33, 87, 101. 224 points. 112, 115, 130.
- 12—Plebeian H.—45, 51, 62, 78. 236 points. 161.
- 13—Clydesdale H.—36, 65, 67, 73. 241 points. 128, 160, 160.
- 14—Bellahouston H.—53, 57, 67, 93. 272 points. 103, 125, 141, 171.
- 15—West Kilbride A.A.C.—G. Adamson 11, 80, 83, 108. 282 points.
- 16—Glasgow University H. and H.—23, 75, 91, 98. 287 points. 116, 146.
- 17—Auchmountain H.—44, 47, 92, 113. 296 points. 140, 154, 157.
- 18—Hillington H.—24, 82, 105, 109. 320 points. 133, 152, 158, 163.
- 19—Kilbarchan H.—39, 42, 117, 131. 329 pts.
- 20—Glasgow Y.M.C.A.—54, 71, 102, 111. 338 points. 172.
- 21—Beith H.—25, 77, 129, 134. 365 points. 137, 164.
- 22—Springburn H.—D. McLachlin 9, 118, 138, 147. 412 points. 151, 156, 159.
- 23—Edinburgh Eastern H.—88, 90, 96, 142. 416 points. 150.
- 24—Uddingston Welfare A.C.—28, 123, 135, 162. 448 points.
- 25—Ayr A.A.C.—85, 121, 124, 132. 462 points. 144, 168.
- 26—Greenock Wellpark H.—70, 139, 143, 165. 517 points.
- 27—Kilmarnock H.—126, 153, 155, 170. 604 points. 173.

Individual Entrants:—A. K. Lynch (D.A.A.C.), 34; G. McGill (Ham. H.), 40; A. McNeill (Shotts M.W.A.C.), 46; R. McVey (Airdrie H.), 62; W. Green (Shettleston H.), 66; R. Dawkins (Moth. Y.M.C.A.), 91; A. Foster (Airdrie H.), 136; D. McLennan (Ham. H.), 129; G. Pollock (St. Modan's A.A.C.), 137; W. Conville (Ren. Y.M.C.A.), 156; J. Stewart (Ham. H.), 157; J. Page (Moth. Y.M.C.A.), 171.