

SENIOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP OF SCOTLAND.

PATERSON (EDINBURGH) RETAINS THE TITLE.

WATSONIANS WON THEIR FIRST SENIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP.

Officials: Judge—Vice-president, A. M. Bryson. Marksmen: J. B. Kelly (Dennistoun H.), J. B. Colquhoun (Maryhill H.), G. Stirling (Edin. Northern H.), and W. C. Davis (West of Scot. H.). Timekeepers: D. S. Duncan (Hon. General Secy. S.A.A.A.), and Wm. McCua (President S.C.C.A.). Clerk of the Course: A. Ross Scott, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

On Saturday afternoon, the fourteenth yearly Cross-country Championship of Scotland, for the blue ribbon of the field, and for of Scotia was run from Hampden Park, Crosshill, on the environs of Glasgow, and the head-quarters of the world famous Queen's Park F.C. The Scottish Cross-country Union, under whose jurisdiction, the race is run, are to be congratulated on the passing of the rule which now debars the first twelve men and winning team from again competing in the Junior Championship of Scotland, and this has done much to bring the Senior event back to the popularity which followed it a few years ago. For Saturday's race, five teams competed, this being with the best entry yet received for the event. If the entry was small, the quality was good, the list containing the names of Jack Paterson winner of the Junior Championship 1897, and holder of the championship under note last year; Arthur Pitt, Motherwell Harriers (winner of Junior Championship, 1897); William Marshall, Springburn and West of Scotland Harriers, Glasgow (S.C.C.A. Championship winner 1898, and Junior champion of Scotland, 1899). The teams entered were Clydesdale Harriers, Glasgow (holders 1888, '89, '90, '92, '93, '94, '96, '97, and '98), Edinburgh Harriers (1886, '87, '91, and '95), Watsonians C.C.C., Edinburgh (Junior champions 1895 and '97), Edinburgh Northern H., and Maryhill H., Glasgow (champions 1899).

Hampden Park was an animated sight an hour before the contest, and as the time drew near the roads and bye ways where the competitors would pass were becoming impassable. The Clydesdale intimated to the officials that they would only run seven representatives, Edinburgh Harriers twelve, Watsonians seven, Edinburgh Northern Harriers six, and Maryhill eight. Fifteen minutes late the runners were mustered on the cinder path, and after receiving instructions from Vice-president A. M. Bryson (W.S.H.), that official sent the field of runners on their journey 19 min. after the advertised time. After going once round the track (half-mile) the men left the field for the open, the leaders being A. R. Dunn Clydesdale; Jack Paterson, Watsonians, second; W. Marshall, West H., third; and Pitt, Motherwell, fourth. The course was a double one, and after a wait, which was relieved to some extent by a football match, the leaders bore in sight, and after circling the track once, again left for the country in the following rotation:—Mill, Clydesdale; Pitt, Motherwell; Marshall, West of Scotland H.; Paterson, Watsonians; A. R. Gibb, Watsonians; L. Jack, Watsonians; Smith, Maryhill; S. P. Ebb, Watsonians. The chances of the Watsonians at this point looked exceedingly rosy, and, as we predicted in Saturday's *Sporting Life*, they secured double honours, this being the first time of winning the team championship.

Order of finishing:—

	M. S.		M. S.
J. Paterson, Watsonians...	64 36½	J. D. Sloan, Edin. H.....	68 17½
D. W. Mill, Clydesdale....	64 48	W. Mill, Maryhill H.....	68 24½
A. R. Gibb, Watsonians....	65 45	J. P. Gibb, Watsonians...	68 29
L. Jack, Watsonians.....	65 15	W. Laing, Edinburgh H....	68 31
R. Smith, Maryhill.....	65 32	J. Hall, Maryhill H.....	68 33
W. Marshall, West of Scotland H.....	65 40	G. Graham, Clydesdale...	68 35
W. M. Badenoch, Edin. H. 66 36		H. Girdwood, Edinburgh Northern.....	68 36½
Jas. Thynes, Clydesdale H. 67 28		W. Paterson, Watsonians...	68 42½
G. Morrison, Edin. H. ...	67 8	R. A. Hay, Edin. H.	68 42½
A. Douglas, Watsonians...	67 40	W. Batchin, Edin. H.....	69 15
Jas. Gervan, Maryhill H.. 67 49		A. G. Mitchell, West of Scotland H.....	69 19
P. A. Ferguson, Clydesdale H.....	68 52	D. S. Mackay, Edin. H....	69 33
A. M. Wyse, Maryhill H.. 68 15			

Won by seventy-five yards: 100 yards between second and third.

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP.

EDINBURGH WATSONIANS' CROSS-COUNTRY CLUB.—J. Paterson, 1; A. R. Gibb, 2; A. R. Gibb, 3; L. Jack, 4; A. Douglas, 10; and W. O. Paterson, 21—total, 56 points, first.

MARYHILL HARRIERS, GLASGOW.—Randy Smith, 5; A. Morris, 6; J. Gervan, 11; A. M. Wyse, 13; R. R. Mitchell, 15; J. Hall, 18—total, 66 points, second.

EDINBURGH HARRIERS.—W. M. Badenoch, 7; G. Morrison, 9; J. D. Sloan, 14; W. Laing, 17; R. A. Hay, 22; W. Batchin, 23—total, 92 points, third.

CLYDESDALE HARRIERS, GLASGOW.—D. W. Mill, 2; J. Thynes, 8; P. A. Ferguson, 12; G. Graham, 19; D. Bonar Thomson, 29; A. R. Dunn, 33—total, 103 points, fourth.

Edinburgh Northern Harriers finished four men only, their placings being—H. Girdwood, 20; F. Addison, 32; J. Hunter, 34; and A. Moyes, 35, the total being 121 points.

WINNERS SINCE INSTITUTION OF THE RACE.

Year.	Individual.	Club.	Won by
1886 ...	A. P. Findlay (C.H.) ...	Edinburgh Harriers...	12 points
1887 ...	J. Campbell (C.H.)	Do.	6 "
1888 ...	A. P. Findlay (C.H.) ...	Clydesdale Harriers ...	39 "
1889 ...	C. M. Cunn (C.H.)	Do.	22 "
1890 ...	A. Hannah (C.H.)	Do.	10 "
1891 ...	A. Hannah (C.H.)	Edinburgh Harriers...	6 "
1892 ...	C. Pennycook (C.H.) ...	Clydesdale Harriers ...	7 "
1893 ...	A. Hannah (C.H.)	Do.	16 "
1894 ...	A. Hannah (C.H.)	Do.	10 "
1895 ...	R. A. Hay (R.H.)	Edinburgh Harriers...	11 "
1896 ...	A. Hannah (C.H.)	Clydesdale Harriers ...	23 "
(Edinburgh H., the only other team, did not finish.)			
1897 ...	S. Duffie (C.H.)	Clydesdale Harriers ...	18 "
1898 ...	J. Paterson (Watsonian C.C.C.)	Do.	27 "
1899 ...	J. Paterson (Watsonian C.C.C.)	Watsonians	13 "

A supper was held in the evening, in Whyte and Smith's Hotel, Gordon-street, Glasgow, Mr. George Hume (president) in the chair, when the prizes were formally handed over to the successful winners.

Scottish Cross-Country Championship.

WATSON'S FIRST DOUBLE WIN.

Maryhill Still Trying.

"Referee's" Tips Come Off.

The last of the classic events of the C.C. season in Scotland was reached on Saturday, when with Hampden Park, Crosshill, as the starting place, five teams assembled to do battle for the blue riband of harriers' work for the last time in the nineteenth century. There was a large attendance of onlookers and interested spectators, and a busy stir pervaded dressing-rooms, pavilion, and the slopes furth of the stands and outside of the ground. All the officials as appointed by the Union were present, with the exception of Messrs J. R. Scott, secretary, who was to have acted as clerk of the course, and William Sellar, president Q.P.F.C., whose duties were to have been those of referee. Mr D. S. Duncan took up the latter office, and Mr William M'Caa acted with Messrs Hannah and Duncan as timekeepers. The trail over the distance of ten miles was laid by way of the north-east end of the park, skirting Polmadie Road, Mount Florida, across country to Giffnock, and circling round to Battlefield Bridge of the Cart, and down hill to Queen's Drive, Cathcart Road, and into the park by the ordinary entrance gate—the course being gone over twice to complete the ten miles. On the lists being called 43 answered their names from an entry of 76, inclusive of reserves and three individual competitors, and of this number only five failed to finish the somewhat trying race. Perhaps the principal absentees were Donald Cameron, the brothers Bell, and J. C. Lindsay, all C.H.; J. B. Gibb, Watsonians; the E.D. champion, Harcus; Millmaker, and George Thomson, both Maryhill. The only club to run a full team was the E.H., with the two reserves, Mackie and Wight. At 3.30 the large contingent trotted on to the field, and were mustered in lines in front of the uncovered stand at the point where so many important races have been lost and won. After the usual preliminaries, Mr A. M. Bryson, vice-president S.C.C.U., sent the lot on their journey, and the first to lead was A. R. Dunn, closely followed by Mill and the favourite Paterson. After running round the track twice, the lot bounded into the open, the leading man being a good six yards in front, Paterson at this juncture having fallen back to sixth place. Marshall and Pitt were going strong, forcing the pace and cutting out the work, Mill, Dunn, and Paterson following in the order named; and it may be worthy of note that at this point, without one exception, the Maryhill team were remaining close together on each other's heels.

After an absence of 31 minutes the leaders were sighted, and when the run round the track, which signified the half-distance had been traversed, saw the men in places as follows:—1, Mill; 2, Pitt; 3, Marshall; 4, Paterson; 5, A. R. Gibb—all in a bunch, about three yards covering the lot; 6, L. Jack; 7, Randy Smith; 8, L. P. Gibb; 9, Bill Paterson; 10, Thyne; 11, Morris; and 12, T. A. Ferguson. This order was maintained until leaving the ground again. Once in the open, the favourite, who had been running well within himself, asserted his pace, and forged to the front, being cheered on by D. W. Mill. The race for individual premier position was at eight miles practically settled, for although the leader never tried to be more than a few yards in front, it was plain that the others were being let close up on sufferance.

Team runners were endeavouring to close on their clubmates with the view to pointage reduction.

The Watsonians have always been famed for close finishes, and that of Saturday was no exception, as their sixth representative finished 21st in the race. Bully Maryhill had certainly come this year, as the team ran most consistently throughout, and their last man counted three places less than the ultimate winners, Hall finishing eighteenth.

Paterson won by 75 yards, although Arthur Pitt, whose style is not unlike that of Willie Robertson, made a bold bid to reduce the gap. Order of arrival of every one who finished:—

1. J. Paterson, Watsonians.
2. D. W. Mill, Clydesdale.
3. Arthur Pitt, Motherwell.
4. A. R. Gibb, Watsonians.
5. W. Marshall, West of Scotland.
6. L. Jack, Watsonians.
7. R. Smith, Maryhill.
8. A. Morris, Maryhill.
9. W. M. Eadenoch, Edinburgh Harriers.
10. James Thyne, Clydesdale.
11. G. Morrison, Edinburgh Harriers.
12. A. Douglas, Watsonians.
13. James Girvan, Maryhill.
14. Thomas A. Ferguson, Clydesdale.
15. A. M. Wyse, Maryhill.
16. J. D. Sloan, Edinburgh Harriers.
17. W. Mill, Maryhill.
18. J. P. Gibb, Watsonians.
19. W. Laid, Edinburgh Harriers.
20. John Hall, Maryhill.
21. Geo. Graham, Clydesdale.
22. H. Girdwood, Edinburgh Northern.
23. Will Paterson, Watsonians.
24. E. A. Hay, Edinburgh Harriers.
25. W. Barchin, Edinburgh Harriers.
26. J. Wight, Edinburgh Harriers.
27. J. Hurliman, jun., Edinburgh Harriers.
28. C. D. Paton, Edinburgh Harriers.
29. D. S. Mackie, Edinburgh Harriers.
30. Geo. Hume, Edinburgh Harriers.
31. D. B. Thomson, Clydesdale.
32. Geo. W. Black, Watsonians.
33. J. C. M'Donald, Edinburgh Harriers.
34. A. G. Mitchell, West of Scotland.
35. Peter Addison, Edinburgh Northern.
36. A. R. Dunn, Clydesdale.
37. J. Hauger, Edinburgh Northern.
38. A. Buchan, Edinburgh Northern.

Three called a halt at half-distance, and J. E. R. M'Intosh and R. R. Mitchell, both Maryhill.

RESULTS:—

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP.

EDINBURGH WATSONIAN CROSS COUNTRY CLUB.—J. Paterson, 1; A. R. Gibb, 2; L. Jack, 4; A. Douglas 10; J. P. Gibb, 15; W. Paterson, 21. Total 55 points (first).

MARYHILL HARRIERS, GLASGOW.—Randy Smith, 6; A. Morris, 8; J. Girvan, 11; A. M. Wyse, 15; R. R. Mitchell, 22; J. Hall, 25. Total 61 points (second).