

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

SCOTTISH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP.

Edinburgh Harriers Win Team Honours.

J. Rankin, Individual Champion.

Splendid Performance by W. Robertson.

Individual Entrants in Form.

(SPECIAL BY "PACE.")

In ideal weather and clear atmosphere, the nineteenth annual contest for team and individual honours in cross-country racing, held under the auspices of the National C.C. Union of Scotland, was on Saturday afternoon decided for the present year. The snell east wind, with its biting, bitter blast, must to some extent have affected the attendance at Scotsdown Show Yard, but all the old and young athletes and enthusiasts were in evidence. Men who had seen many a great race on the track and across hill and dale, who had themselves figured with credit in the several branches of athletics from rowing and swimming to gymnastics, were there, even a number who had, indeed, taken part in the first cross-country championship race in Scotland, were there, happy-looking evidences of the life-long benefits and pleasures of physical culture and athletic practice, among them being Messrs F. A. Lunley, who ran so gamely in the first championship; J. C. Lawson, who ran for the Clydesdale seventeen years ago; T. G. Connell, one of the West of Scotland reserves in those times of so many years since, with Andrew Hannah; Chas. Pennycook, champion, 1882; Messrs Geo. Hume, present president of the S.A.A.A., who has run regularly for the Edinburgh Harriers since 1890, and has now reached the highest rung in the ladder of athletic fame and position; G. A. Gourlay, of Whiteinch; Sd J. Cornish, the old Walthamstow, Edinburgh, and now West of Scotland Harriers; and had we not running in the race under notice our old friend, Wm. Robertson, ex-champion, who on Saturday ran in his well-known style and form, and brought credit to himself and his club by running into seventh place for the Clydesdale, an almost wonderful performance for one who had been lying dark for years.

THE ARRANGEMENTS

for Saturday were complete, although it was a matter for regret at the time that the late arrival of the Edinburgh competitors delayed the start for the greater part of an hour. An easily-defined trail had been laid by the Maryhill Harriers under the experienced eye of Mr J. McCulloch, and the scout lay once round the track, out by Scotsdownhill, Yoker Road, Bankhead, Knightswood, skirting Jordanhill policies, Crow Road, uphill and across the field to the east, and in to the grounds. This was gone over twice, and so at half-distance a good idea of the positions and forms of the men could be obtained. There were

SEVEN TEAMS AND EIGHT INDIVIDUAL

entrants. It was, however, hard lines on some of the clubs that their best men had for uncontrollable circumstances, to intimate non-attendance. Notably was this the case with the West of Scotland, who were minus W. T. Marshall, while their other mainstay, Tom Mulrino, ran with a maimed foot the result of an accident during the past week. Edinburgh benighted the fact that the committee of the Union had deprived them of the services of Rankin and Wallace. Bellahouston, too, ran with only six men, and Falkirk Victoria with seven. Greenock Glenpark ran without Allan, Brodie, W. Elliot, Martin, and Walla. However, a grand start was made from the west end of the park, although by reason of some misunderstanding, more than a dozen or so of the contestants to some extent muddled their chances by mistaking the race round the track. A spanking pace was set by the stronger pacemen, and the running was of a very satisfactory description, although there was an early tailing off. Great was the enthusiasm of the East of Scotland visitors when Rankin's well-known figure and light hair was seen leading his rivals, and at half-distance he ran first by 20 yards, those in his immediate rear being Smellie, Hughes, Wallace Reston, McGough, Barrie, Stevenson, McKenzie, Ure, Cumming, Kennedy, S. Elliot, Kinnsaird, W. Robertson, Laine, Kirkpatrick, Arnot, Frew, Carson, Russell, Brown, and D. W. Mill. Time at this juncture, 35 min. Many dropped off at this too convenient, but others were going strong, and were heartily cheered on to still enhanced exertions by clubmates and friends. Rankin forged further and further ahead, and to the delight of his many adherents, ran in at the finish quite 200 yards to the good, and the cheering all round was hearty and prolonged as the young athlete bounded past the judges in 63 min 44sec.

The order in which

THE FIRST FIFTY

men ran in is as follows, and the list includes individual entrants:—1. J. Rankin, Edin. Watsonsians (individual); 2. T. C. Hughes, Edin. H.; 3. S. Stevenson, Clydesdale; 4. James Barrie, Motherwell (individual); 5. James Reston, Clydesdale; 6. Geo. McKennie, West of Scotland; 7. Samuel Kennedy, Garscube; 8. Robt. Wallace, Edin. and Waverley (individual); 9. Alex. Kinnsaird, Edin. Harriers; 10. W. Robertson, Clydesdale; 11. Geo. Arnot, Victoria Harriers, Falkirk; 12. D. Kirkpatrick, West of Scotland; 13. A. Wright, Greenock Wellpark and Maryhill (individual); 14. A. Carrick, Edin. Harriers; 15. Wm. Adam, Greenock; 16. A. P. White, Edin. Harriers; 17. Sam Carson, Garscube; 18. W. Laing, Edin. Harriers; 19. J. R. Renwick, West of Scotland; 20. H. L. Cumming, Bellahouston; 21. R. Aitkenhead, Greenock Glenpark; 22. W. Carrick, Edin. H.; 23. J. Gilchrist, Falkirk Victoria; 24. J. S. Craig, Edin. H.; 25. A. Wilkinson, West of Scotland; 26. James Girvan, Garscube; 27. Sam Elliot, Greenock Glenpark; 28. D. W. Mill, Greenock Glenpark; 29. Dan Beattie, Garscube; 30. Sam Porter, Garscube; 31. Wm. Low, Garscube; 32. James A. Ure, Glenpark; 33. Wm. Dick, Clydesdale; 34. A. Wilson, Edin. H.; 35. Robt. Frew, Clydesdale; 36. J. Russell, Falkirk Victoria; 37. D. R. Brown, Glenpark; 38. W. G. Kerr, Clydesdale; 39. R. Brown, Motherwell (individual); 40. W. McIntyre, Bellahouston; 41. W. D. Clark, West of Scotland; 42. J. McDougall, Bellahouston; 43. R. McKenzie, Edin. H.; 44. W. Kirkcaldy, Edin. H.; 45. James Thyne, Clydesdale; 46. J. Mockersie, Edin. H.; 47. J. Borthwick, Falkirk Victoria; 48. J. Cockburn, Falkirk Victoria; 49. R. Lee, Greenock Glenpark; 50. W. Neil, Falkirk Victoria.

The times of the first twelve men were as follows—63min. 44sec., 64min. 20sec., 65min. 3sec., 65min. 29sec., 66min. 41sec., 65min. 47sec., 66min. 20sec., 66min. 37sec., 66min. 41sec., 66min. 44sec., 66min. 48sec., and 66min. 48sec.

THE FULL TEAM PLACINGS

were as follows, exclusive of individual positions:—First—Edinburgh Harriers—T. C. Hughes 1, A. Kinnsaird 6, A. Carrick 10, A. P. White 12, W. Laing 14, and W. Carrick 17—total number of points, 60. Second—Clydesdale Harriers—Sam Stevenson 2, Jas. Reston 3, Wm. Robertson 7, Wm. Dick 28, Robert Frew 30, W. G. Kerr 35—total, 103 points. Third—Garscube Harriers—Samuel Kennedy 5, Samuel Carson 13, James Girvan 21, Daniel Beattie 24, Samuel Porter 25, and Wm. Low 25—total, 114. Fourth—Greenock Glenpark Harriers—Wm. Adam 11, Robt. Aitkenhead 16, Sam Elliot 22, D. W. Mill 23, James A. Ure 27, and D. R. Brown 32—total, 131. Fifth—Falkirk Victoria Harriers—Geo. Arnot 8, J. Gilchrist 13, J. Russell 31, J. Cockburn 42, and Wm. Neil 44—total, 134.

West of Scotland finished with five men—Geo. McKenzie 4, D. Kirkpatrick 9, J. R. Renwick 15, A. Wilkinson 20, and W. D. Clark 56. Bellahouston finished with two men—W. McIntyre 34, and J. McDougall 35.

PAST RESULTS

Results of the championship since its institution:—1886—Edinburgh Harriers (team); A. P. Findlay, Ayr (individual).

1887—Edinburgh Harriers (team); Jas. Campbell, Edinburgh (individual).

1888—Clydesdale Harriers (team); A. P. Findlay, Ayr (individual).

1889—Clydesdale Harriers (team); Chas. McCann, Cumbernauld (individual).

1890—Clydesdale Harriers (team); A. Hannah, Glasgow (individual).

1891—Edinburgh Harriers (team); A. Hannah, Glasgow (individual).

1892—Clydesdale Harriers (team); Chas. Pennycook, Glasgow (individual).

1893—Clydesdale Harriers (team); A. Hannah, Glasgow (individual).

1894—Clydesdale Harriers (team); A. Hannah, Glasgow (individual).

1895—Edinburgh Harriers (team); R. T. Hay, Edinburgh (individual).

1896—Clydesdale Harriers (team); A. Hannah, Glasgow (individual).

1897—Clydesdale Harriers (team); Stewart Duffin, Ayr (individual).

1898—Clydesdale Harriers (team); Jack Paterson, Edinburgh (individual).

1899—Edinburgh Harriers (team); Jack Paterson, Edinburgh (individual).

1900—Edinburgh Harriers (team); Jack Paterson, Edinburgh (individual).

1901—Edinburgh Harriers (team); D. W. Mill, Greenock (individual).

1902—Clydesdale Harriers (team); D. W. Mill, Greenock (individual).

1903—Edinburgh Harriers (team); P. McOafferty, Glasgow (individual).

1904—Edinburgh Harriers (team); Jas. Rankin, Edinburgh (individual).

SCOTTISH CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP.

VICTORY FOR THE EAST.

The nineteenth annual cross-country championship of Scotland was decided at the Agricultural Grounds, Scotstoun, Glasgow, on Saturday in ideal weather. A capital entry was received, six clubs in all sending full teams of twelve to participate, while the individual entrants included some prominent and strongly fancied runners. A five mile course to be covered twice was laid, and a large field faced the starter.

J. M'Gough, Bellabouston Harriers, set a fast pace from the beginning, but on entering the open country was quickly displaced from the leading position by J. Ranken, Watson's College, and T. C. Hughes, Edinburgh Harriers, who were the first to enter the grounds on the second and concluding circuit, followed closely by Reston, Clydesdale, and Barrie, Motherwell. The two Eastern runners easily maintained the advantage secured in the first round. S. Stevenson, Clydesdale Harriers, materially improved, and, passing Reston and Barrie, ran into third place.

Coming on to the course for the last time Ranken held a lead of over 400 yards, which he maintained to the finish. Hughes was a like distance in front of Stevenson.

Final placings—1 J. Ranken, Watson's College; 2 T. C. Hughes, Edinburgh Harriers; 3 S. Stevenson, Clydesdale Harriers; 4 Jas. Barrie, Motherwell Harriers; 5 Jas. Reston, Clydesdale Harriers.

In the team championship Edinburgh Harriers were first with 51 points, Clydesdale Harriers being second with 103 points, and Garscube Harriers third with 114 points.