

SCCU National Six Stage Road Relay Champs, East Kilbride -

1, ESH (D Ross 15-19; G Grindlay 31-08; I Steel 14-58; K Lyall 32-00; G Mathieson 14-57; A Hutton 30-43) 2-19-05; 2, DHH (B Cook 15-17, C Haskett 31-19; C Ross 14-19; P Fox 31-30; P McGonigle 15-40; P McColgan 30-53) 2-19-58; 3,

Aberdeen (P Cresswell 14-49; J Doig 31-49; I Matheson 14-53; F Clyne 31-39; M Murray 15-11; C Hall 31-55) 2-2-16; 4, Shettleston (A Swann 14-42; J McKay 32-06; J Evans 15-23; W Coyle 32-30; P Carton 15-24; N Muir 30-30) 2-20-35; 5, Cambuslang (D McShane 14-52; E Stewart 31-50; G Getty 15-06; C Donnelly 32-48; R Arbuckle 15-01; A Gilmour 31-33) 2-21-14; 6, EAC (R Williamson 15-09; A Weatherhead 32-12; A Ward 15-42; G Harker 32-12; G Crawford 16-08; M Ferguson 31-37) 2-23-01; 7, Teviotdale 2-23-12; 8, GGH 2-23-15; 9, Springburn 2-23-15; 10, Kilbarchan 2-24-42; 11, Ayr Sea 2-26-35; 12, Bella 2-26-43; 13, Cambus "B" 2-26-59; 14, HELP 2-27-04; 15, Liv & Dist 2-28-30; 16, E Kilbride 2-29-03; 17, Calderglen 2-29-08; 18, Gala 2-29-32; 19 Spango 2-29-36; 20, Pitreavie 2-30-22.

Fastest Times:

Short lap (3.1 miles): 1, K Logan (Teviot) 14-41; 2, A Swann (Shett) 14-42; 3, R Creswell (Aber) 14-49; 4, K Rankin (FVH) 14-51; 5, D McShane (Cambus) 14-52; 6, I Matheson (Aber) 14-53; 7, G Mathieson (ESH) 14-57; 8, I Steel (ESH) 14-58; 9, R Arbuckle (Cambus) 15-01; 10, G Getty (Cambus) 15-06.

Long lap (6.4 miles): 1, N Muir (Shett) 30-3; 2, A Puckrin (GGH) 30-40; 3, A Hutton (ESH) 30-43; 4, P McColgan (DHH) 30-53; 5, R Quinn (Kilb) 31-05; 6, G Grindlay (ESH) 31-08; 7, A Callan (Spring) 31-09; 8, C Haskett (DHH) 31-19; 9, T Murray (GGH) 31-27; 10, P Fox (DHH) 31-30.

EDINBURGH SOUTHERN TAKE SCOTTISH RELAY

**The Scottish National
Six Stage Road Relay
Championships, East
Kilbride, March 25**

As in 1988, pre-race favourites Cambuslang Harriers after dominating the winter scene failed to win the Scottish National Six Stage-Road Relay Championships reports Bill Blair.

Despite it being Easter weekend the race attracted one of the best fields in recent years with nearly all of Scotland's top distance men turning out. Edinburgh Southern Harriers, even though they were without John Robson and Tom Hanlon, eventually

emerged clear winners but not before a race-long battle with Dundee Hawkhill and Aberdeen.

Stage 1

On the first of the short hilly 3.1 miles legs a strong wind meant that with a mile to run a group of 10 runners were still locked together trying to shield themselves from the worst of the weather. Keith Logan of Teviotdale Harriers a Scottish indoor international at 800m proved to have the strongest finish. The first five fastest times for the short leg came from this stage.

Stage 2

This, the first of the 6.4 mile long legs, set the pattern for the remainder of the race. Charlie Haskett had taken Dundee up from 10th to second with a fine 31:19 but even faster was Gary Brindley who brought Edinburgh Southern in nine seconds clear. Aberdeen were in third only two seconds further down following a 31:49 from Jim Doig, the winner of January's Bermuda Marathon.

Stage 3

Former Scottish steeplechase champion Ian Steel kept Edinburgh Southern in front with a sub 15 minute run. Aberdeen had moved into second only six seconds back thanks to a fast 14:53 from Ian Mathieson. Cambuslang moved into the medal positions for the first and only time, 17 seconds down on the leaders with Dundee slipping to fourth. Brian Whittle made a surprise appearance for his club Ayr of Seaforth and clocked a creditable 15:49 as part of his build-up towards 800m.

Stage 4

Aberdeen, Edinburgh Southern and Dundee tightened their grip on the medal positions. Marathoner Fraser Clyne overhauled Edinburgh's Keith Lyall and took Aberdeen into a 15 second lead with a 31:39. The cut and thrust nature of the race was emphasised by Lyall and Dundee's Peter Fox reaching

the changeover point together. Fox, third in last month's Scottish cross country championships, intends making his marathon debut in the London event on April 23rd. Back down the field at Greenock Glen Park's Alan Puckrin clocked a speedy 30:40, ultimately proving to be the second fastest long leg of the day.

Stage 5

Edinburgh Southern's Scottish international steeplechaser George Mathieson helped set the scene for an exciting final stage by pulling his club up to within one second of Aberdeen with a 14:57 effort. Dundee's hopes of winning the title slipped as they were now 44 seconds down in third but still almost half a minute clear of Cambuslang in fourth.

Stage 6

The final leg saw the appearance of Tommy Murray (Greenock Glen Park), the current Scottish cross country champion and two former title holders, Nat Muir (Shettleston) and Allister Hutton (ESH).

Hutton has several times before in this event proved to be Edinburgh's trump card setting off just behind Aberdeen's Chris Hall. The Edinburgh man took his club to victory with the third fastest time of the day (30:43). Hall, perhaps not fully recovered from his third place in the previous weekend's Inverness Hall Marathon, was also overtaken by Dundee's international steeplechaser Peter McColgan (30:53). Muir with

the day's fastest time of 30:30 pulled Shettleston into fourth ahead of Cambuslang. Murray however was unable to take his club into the top six despite a fast 31:27, being held at bay by Edinburgh AC's Martin Ferguson (31:37) and Teviotdale's Dave Cavers (31:43).

Men - 1, Edinburgh Southern Harriers 1:39:05 (D Roff 15:19; G Grindlay 31:08; I Steel 14:58; K Lyall 32:00; G Mathieson 14:57; A Hutton 30:43); **2, Dundee Hawkhill 1:39:58** (B Cook 15:17; C Haskett 31:19; C Ross 15:19; P Fox 31:30; D McGonigle 15:40; P McColgan 30:53); **3, Aberdeen AAC 1:40:16** (R Cresswell 14:49; J Doig 31:49; I Mathieson 14:53; S Clyne 31:39; M Murray 15:11; C Hall 31:55); **4, Shettleston H 1:40:35** (A Swann 14:42; 2, J McKay 32:06; J Evans 15:23; W Coyle 32:30; P Carlton 15:24; N Muir 30:30); **5, Cambuslang H 1:41:14** (D McShane 14:52; E Stewart 31:50; G Getty 15:00; C Donnelly 32:48; R Arbuckle 15:01; A Gilmore 31:37); **6, Edinburgh AC 1:43:01** (R Williamson 15:09; A Weatherhead 32:12; A Ward 15:42; G Harker 32:13; G Croft 15:16; M Ferguson 31:37); **7, Teviotdale 1:43:13**; **8, Greenock Glen Park 1:43:15**; **9, Springburn 1:43:59**; **10, Kilbarchan 1:44:42**; **11, Ayr Seaforth 1:46:35**; **12, Bellahouston 1:46:43**.

Fastest Legs - Short 3.1 Miles - 1, K Logan (Teviot) 14:41; **2, A Swann (Shettie) 14:42**; **3, R Cresswell (A'deen) 14:49**; **4, K Rankin (Falk) 14:51**; **5, B McShane (Cambus) 14:52**; **6, I Mathieson (A'deen) 14:53**. **Long 6.4 Miles - 1, N Muir (Shettie) 30:30**; **2, A Puckrin (Green) 30:40**; **3, A Hutton (ESH) 30:43**; **4, P McColgan (Dund) 30:53**; **5, R Quinn (Kilb) 31:05**; **6, A Callan (Springb) 31:09**.



Nat Muir - fastest on the long stage. Pic: ASP.

Athletics Weekly

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Team Times out by
20 mins