

HARRIERS.

EDINBURGH LEAGUE RACE.

CHAMPIONS' EARLY DEFEAT.

Ideal weather condition favoured the opening race of the season of the Edinburgh and District Cross Country League at Portobello on Saturday. There was an entry of eight clubs, compared with ten last year. The competing clubs were:—Edinburgh Southern Harriers (holders of the championship), Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A., Edinburgh Northern Harriers, Cameron Highlanders, Penicuik Harriers, Heriot's C.C.C., Canon A.S.C., and Kirkcaldy Boys' Club. Edinburgh Harriers, who have withdrawn from the League, and Rover Scouts were the absentees.

The course, a 4½ miles one, was laid by a pack in charge of W. Dempsey, Edinburgh Northern Harriers, and, starting from St Mark's Place, went by way of the railway bridge, Milton Road, and Marischal estate, then by field and path to Niddrie. Turning at Jewel Cottages, the trail led over the Magdalene Burn into Millou Road, finishing at the starting point in St Mark's Place.

The officials were:—Timekeepers, Messrs G. M. Grant and D. Taylor; marksmen, T. Jack, D. Holland, G. K. Aitchie, and A. Good; referee J. W. Dickson, with W. Carmichael, chairman of the League.

One hundred and sixty runners were sent off by the starter, Mr Theo. Jack, president of the L.C.C.U., in presence of a large crowd of spectators. The field by the end of the first mile was strung out, and on taking to the country off the Milton Road, M. Stewart, E.N.H., and J. F. Wood, H.C.C.C., the Scottish internationalist, had drawn away, and were leading from J. J. P. Laidlaw and H. McIntosh, E.N.H., by about 15 yards. Stewart was running very easily, but it was obvious Wood had something in hand. The Northern and Southern Clubs were packing well at this stage, with the balance slightly in favour of the Northern. Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A. did not seem to be favourably placed. At the 3 mile stage, Wood had established a lead of twenty yards from Stewart, and was running strongly. Stewart was followed by his clubmates, McIntosh and Laidlaw, with J. Mercer, Penicuik, and T. Lockhart, the first Southern representative. Although he made a determined effort in the last mile, Stewart failed to catch Wood, and the Heelster broke the tape 20 yards ahead of the Northern man. McIntosh maintained his place, but Mercer, Penicuik, had moved into fourth place, while T. Lockhart beat Laidlaw in the run in his fifth place.

Edinburgh Northern Harriers secured a victory over Edinburgh Southern by the narrow margin of 7 points, while Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A., who last year won the opening race, could only finish third, 115 points behind the leaders. A surprise was the poor running of the Cameron Highlanders, who finished last.

Individual results:—1, J. F. Wood, Heriot's C.C.C., 26 mins. 21 secs.; 2, M. Stewart, E.N.H., 26 mins. 27 secs.; 3, H. McIntosh, E.N.H., 26 mins. 53 secs.; 4, J. Mercer, Penicuik H.; 5, T. Lockhart, E.S.H.; 6, J. P. Laidlaw, E.N.H.; 7, C. Harkins, Cameron Highlanders; 8, J. Ross, E.S.H.; 9, W. Gilchrist, Canon; 10, D. B. McKenzie, Heriot's C.C.C.

Team results:—1, Edinburgh Northern Harriers (M. Stewart, 2; H. McIntosh, 3; J. P. Laidlaw, 6; P. Addison, 14; D. L. Mackie, 18; S. Lethian, 19), 62 points; 2, Edinburgh Southern Harriers (T. Lockhart, 5; J. Ross, 8; R. Laing, 11; W. Gibson, 12; A. A. Bowman, 16; G. J. Kepple, 17), 69; 3, Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A. (W. Gibb, 13; A. Terrace, 15; A. Wharal, 20; J. Reid, 22; J. Grant, 25; J. Adie, 27), 177; 4, Heriot's, 140; 5, Penicuik, 175; 6, Canon, 200; 7, Kirkcaldy Boys' Club, 201; 8, Cameron Highlanders, 207.