

Dundee Courier - Monday 04 February 1907

CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

INTERESTING EVENT AT DUNDEE.

LOCAL TEAM'S FINE EFFORT.

A carnival of junior sport was provided at Victoria Park, Dundee, on Saturday, when football and cross-country events took place. The functions were witnessed by one of the largest assemblies of spectators seen in the park, and this in spite of unfavourable atmospheric conditions, the afternoon being dull and threatening and the field heavy and sodden. The cross-country championship, in which much interest was manifested, was the ninth held under the auspices of the Eastern District, and there was a very keen struggle for the premier honours. Ten clubs were entered, and each had a well-balanced team in the field as each team comprised twelve members, there was the large aggregate of 120 runners and the start on the eight miles race was an interesting and striking event.

An enormous crowd of spectators were present, and in the first fifty yards the body of runners passed along a narrow avenue between the crowd of onlookers. A circuit was made of Victoria Park, and by the time the leaders were heading for the gateway the line of runners was more drawn out. Tosh and Ireland, Dundee Thistle, led the pack as it left the field, Hughes, Edinburgh Harriers, being third.

Proceeding towards Downfield, the harriers traversed the trail that had been laid earlier in the day. A quarter of a mile along the Downfield road the trail led into the fields and the course was on Balmuir, and by way of Bankhead, North Powrie, New Mains, Castle Mains, and fields to Fairmuir, the route being about eight miles. The thaw that had set during the morning made the travelling exceedingly heavy, yet some fine work was displayed. About three-quarters of an hour after the start the first bunch of runners re-entered Victoria Park, and after a fine race A. J. Grieve, Teviotdale Harriers, reached the finishing-point first, his time being 45 mins 18 seconds. Seven seconds later T. Jack, Edinburgh Southern, who was looked upon as a likely candidate for leading honours, passed the post, and in another seven seconds J. S. Matthew, Thistle, Dundee, had also finished. The next arrivals were:-A. Thomson, Edinburgh Southern (45 mins. 43 secs.); John Tosh, Thistle, Dundee (45 mins. 56 secs.); W. Watson, Edinburgh Harriers (46mins. 2 secs.); A. Follon, Thistle, Dundee (46 mins. 4 secs.); followed by W. McGregor, Victoria, Falkirk; R. Grierson, Teviotdale; A. Brown, Waverly; G. Chalmers, Edinburgh Harriers; and V. Douglas, Thistle, Dundee. Runners continued to arrive in batches and singly, and ultimately it was ascertained that all the teams had finished the course with the exception of Stirlingshire Central. As they arrived the harriers showed trace of the heavy ground traversed, every one of the competitors being liberally bespattered with mud.

CHAMPIONSHIP GOES TO EDINBURGH. On the officials completing their statistics and markings, the result of the competition was intimated.—1 Championship, Edinburgh Southern 56; 2 Thistle Dundee, 81; 3 Edinburgh Harriers 4 Teviotdale, 167; 5 Edinburgh Northern, 168 ; 6 Victoria, Falkirk, 181; 7 Waverley 278, 8 Aberdeenshire, 333 ; 9 Watsonians, 360.

The members of the winning team, Edinburgh Southern, were .--James Cockburn, H. Fairley, A. Hogg, T. Jack, J.A. Lees, A. Moore, W. A. Muir, P.W. Sinclair, A. Thomson, J. Thomson.

The Thistle team was:— L. Barclay, G. Crichton, A-F. Cunningham, H. Douglas, G. Ireland, James Ireland, T. Longair, J. S. Matthew, W. Martin, W. S. Milne, A. Follon, and John Tosh.

The meeting proved very successful from every standpoint, and the local and district, arrangements worked smoothly and efficiently.

