

SAF NORTH DISTRICT RELAY CHAMPS Inverness

KEITH and District AC, bronze medallists in each of the previous two years, won the title for the first time ever with solid performances from Simon Pride, Willie Johnstone, Ross Arbuckle and Frank Barton, Fraser Clyne reports.

The Morayshire side were in the driving seat right from the start and ended up comfortable winners ahead of 1993 champions Inverness Harriers.

Minolta Black Isle dominated the boys race by taking the gold and silver medals for the second year in a row with Craig Poole, David Melville and Gary Martin all in fine form.

Wendy Steele was in a class of her own when leading Inverness Harriers to the women's title with a convincing win over Moray Road Runners.

Steele's opening stage 16:16 was almost a minute faster than anyone else managed during the course of the afternoon.

The difficulty of selecting the best formation at this early stage in the season was highlighted in the girls race in which Minolta's B squad surged home ahead of the A side thanks to a fine last lap from Ruth McCallum.

Jennifer Maclean, 15 (Fraserburgh RC) clocked the fastest time in the young athletes' event, bettering the quickest U17 time by over 30secs.

Men

1 Keith and District 53:15 (S Pride 13:29; W Johnstone 13:53; R Arbuckle 12:44; F Barton 13:09); 2 Inverness Harriers 53:41 (B Fieldsend 14:00; A Murchison 12:44; J Bowman 14:04; G Herbert 12:53); 3 Moray RR 55:08 (S. Paterson 13:55; G Sim 13:25; G Milne 14:06; R Milne 13:42); 4 Lochaber AC 55:20; 5 Peterhead AAC 56:52; 6 Moray RR B 58:00; 7 Minolta Black Isle 58:16; 8 Inverness B 59:45; 9 Wolves of Badenoch 60:30; 10 Peterhead B 61:18

Fastest: Arbuckle & Murchison 12:44; J Brooks (Loch) 12:47; Herbert 12:53; B Rodgers (Loch) 13:04; Barton 13:09; Sim, M40, 13:25; Pride 13:29; A Reid (P'head) 13:32; J Hepburn (Loch) 13:33

Boys

1 Minolta Black Isle A 28:10 (C Poole 9:51; D Melville 9:14; G Martin 9:05); 2 Minolta Black Isle B 28:59 (E Thorburn 10:11; A MacDonald 9:32; S Campbell 9:16); 3 Fraserburgh 29:44 (K McIntyre 9:43; B Irvine 9:42; A Watson 10:19); 4 Peterhead AAC 29:57; 5 Minolta Black Isle C 31:21; 6 Inverness Harriers 31:30

Fastest U17: Martin 9:05; Campbell 9:16; C Barnsby (MBI) 9:37

U15: Melville 9:14; McDonald 9:32; E Cameron (P'head) 9:38

U13: McIntyre 9:43; A Hastie (P'head) 9:43; Poole 9:51

Women

1 Inverness Harriers 51:59 (W Steele 16:16; A Smart 17:59; J Wilson 17:44); 2 Moray Road Runners 53:46 (P Mitchell 17:52; M Thompson 18:39; N Elder 17:55); 3 Moray B 62:38 (S Stronach 21:07; F Wardhaugh 21:05; S Henderson 20:26)

Fastest: Steele 16:16; Elder 17:15; Wilson 17:44; Mitchell 17:52; Smart 17:59; Thompson 18:39

Girls

1 Minolta Black Isle B 33:36 (D Fraser 10:57; I Ross 11:03; R MacCallum 11:36); 2 Minolta Black Isle A 33:42 (L Paton 10:52; L Campbell 10:51; L McWillie 11:59); 3 Inverness Harriers 33:49 (E Cole 11:33; L Clarkson 11:28; K MacKay 10:48); 4 Fraserburgh RC 34:06; 5 Peterhead AAC 35:05; 6 Moray RR 35:24

Fastest U17: MacKay 10:48; M McDonald (I'ness) 11:21; McCallum 11:36

U15: Maclean 10:17; D Hastie (P'head) 10:33; Campbell 10:51

U13: Logie 10:39; Paton 10:52; Fraser 10:57