

Cardiff Cross Challenge 24 January

Several late unavailability's made for an excellent opportunity for many new faces in a Senior North of England team this weekend. The debutants proved they were more than up to the task with a variety of excellent performances. The worst weather of the year threatened many with difficult driving conditions being the norm of the weekend.

Senior Men Gateshead winner Jean Ndayisenga was again in winning form as he posted a strong performance to win impressively for Birchfield and the Midlands. GB International Rob Bugden chased him home for the Southwest Counties. For the North of England Lee Turner (Trafford) followed up his impressive 9th place outing at Belfast with another top-drawer performance by finishing 5th on the uneven and muddy terrain at Cardiff. Doggedly battling to the end were Senior Debutants John McCole (Liverpool H) and Nick Swinburn (Morpeh) in 10th and 11th places respectively separated by only 9 seconds. The North team all finished within a minute of each other.

Senior Women

Jenny Clague was a late replacement for an original team that suffered dropouts on Wednesday. Julia Russell (Hallamshire) & Jenny Clague both ran a strong 1st 2 of 3 laps before Jenny found the conditions getting the better of her. Julia continued to push on to place 15th in the quagmire of the Cardifffields. Harriet Canter (Lincoln Wellington) battled admirably on her debut to place 22nd.

Report Rob Cameron