

Inter Area Race Walking Fixture 25 September 2010

The majority of the team decided to travel by rail, due to road works on the M25 and the uncertainty of meeting heavy traffic at the end of a long journey, which for some, meant a round trip in excess of 400 miles and a very early start. Due to holidays, injury, and the IOM unable to commit to a second long trip to the mainland on successive weekends, plus Johanna Jackson being on her way to the Commonwealth Games, we could only field a small team.

The team may have been small, and with no u15 girls or u13 boys to help with the scoring, but what was lacking in numbers, was more than made up with a determination to do well. In the u13 girls 2,000m Becky Chambers of (City of Sheffield) gave an excellent performance for a young athlete and despite suffering her first defeat of the season, never gave up and took second place in a very creditable 11.04. u15 boys Dan Chaib (City of Sheff.) put in a solid performance for fourth place, in 18.04 .

The u17 men 5,000m, was our strongest event and the three athletes did not disappoint, taking the first three positions. Nathan Duncan (Cleethorpes AC) 25.05, Jamie Higgins (Leeds AC) 25.14 and Ben Woolas (Kingston u Hull) 26.25, who despite suffering a painful intercostal injury with two laps to go, leaving him unable to use one of his arms, held on to third place. These young men have a very bright future, if they keep their feet on the ground, and continue to work hard and listen to their coaches.

U17 Women 5,000m, u20 and Senior 1 hour race, saw Kayleigh Edge (Redcar WC) in the u17 ladies, finish in fourth position in 30.05. A very good time, as she has only been in the sport a short time, and had set off around 5.00am in the morning for the train.

In the Senior 1 hour race we had Karen Wears (Redcar WC) who put in a scintillating performance to win her race, completing 10,362m in the hour.

In the mens section Paul Evennett (Redcar WC) walked superbly to record 12,312m in the hour, lapping the field, showing all his hard work is now paying off, and his technique is excellent, which is a great credit to him. Adrian Edwards another relative newcomer, from (Lancashire WC) completed 10,847m in great style and promises to be a real threat for next season, especially over the longer distances.

The final points table Midlands 59 points. North 41 points and South 71 points. The Midlands had a team of 19, the South 18, the North 9, which showed how well the small team did, and with the addition of some younger age group athletes, could easily have finished in first place.

Our grateful thanks to Northern Athletics for enabling us to compete and give our athletes invaluable experience

Russ Jackson Hon Sec NARWA